

Roll Call

A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, August 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting was held as an electronic meeting under the authority of Executive Order 2020-154 (COVID19) issued by Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor David Anderson
Vice Mayor Patrese Griffin
Eric Cunningham
Jeanne Hess
Erin Knott
Chris Praedel
Jack Urban

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

None

Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.

Invocation

The invocation was given by Bishop Daniel Cunningham of The Empowerment Center.

Announcements

Mayor Anderson announced former City Commissioner Lance Ferraro passed away on Saturday, August 1st.

Mayor Anderson and Vice Mayor Griffin read statements regarding recent shootings in the City. Copies of these statements were included with the papers for this meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda

By unanimous consent the City Commission adopted its meeting agenda as presented.

2020-0211

Presentation and
Discussion on the Public
Safety Action Plan

City Manager Ritsema expressed concern about the increasing level of gun violence and asked Public Safety Chief Karianne Thomas to speak to this issue.

Chief Thomas reported there had been 41 shootings and 8 persons killed by gun violence in 2020, with 23 of those shootings and 4 deaths having occurred since June 1st. In addition, there had been 78 reports of shots fired since June 1st. Chief Thomas stated the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety needed the community's help to address this issue.

City Manager Ritsema delivered a presentation entitled, *Commitment to an Equitable and Responsive Public Safety Department and City Government* in which he provided an update to the Public Safety Action Plan. A copy of the updated Public Safety Action Plan was included with the papers for this meeting.

Deputy City Manager Patsy Moore reviewed the expanded role being pursued for the Citizens Public Safety Review and Appeals Board (CPSRAB).

Dorla Bonner, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, provided an update on work being done in the areas of training for Public Safety Officers and building stronger relationships with the community.

City Manager Ritsema reviewed actions being taken in response to the motions approved by the City Commission on June 15th, including skill sets for new hires

into the Public Safety Department, and data analytics. City Manager noted the plan was a work in progress. City Manager Ritsema stated there had been over 1,800 views of the transparency page since it was created in June, and he reported the data link was the most clicked link on the page.

Commissioner Cunningham noted there were a lot of moving parts to the Action Plan, and he asked that this item be placed on a City Commission agenda so that the entire Commission could check in on the plan.

In response to questions from Commissioner Praedel, Assistant Chief David Boysen reported District Court would be hearing its first trials next week after being closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic; Circuit Court would not have any jury trials until October; the police were not able to lodge any new offenders at the county jail; low bond amounts were being given to keep numbers down at the jail, and parole and probation employees were working from home. Assistant Chief Boysen stated KDPS was not able to have a Group Violence Intervention (GVI) call-in at the beginning of March, when the gun violence started to grow, and outreach workers had not been in the field because of COVID-19. Assistant Chief Boysen indicated KDPS would start doing individual GVI call-ins that week. Assistant Chief Boysen reported over half of the shootings and homicides in 2020 were group involved, and he stated solving homicide cases was more difficult this year compared to 2019 because people were not willing to press charges or come forward as witnesses due to a lack of trust in the police.

In response to a question from Commissioner Praedel, Chief Thomas stated Public Safety Officers (PSO's) were never really off-duty, and the trauma that was affecting the community affected them too. Chief Thomas stated officers felt a lack of support as a profession, and she expressed concern for their safety and well-being. Chief Thomas remarked she was questioning how to give officers the tools they needed to do their job.

Vice Mayor Griffin reported a young man boy had just been shot on Lulu Street near her house.

In response to questions from Vice Mayor Griffin, Chief Thomas explained KDPS would saturate an area with officers if there was a shooting and retaliation was expected, but the biggest challenge in doing this was staffing – having adequate resources to deploy. Chief Thomas indicated officers were retiring early at rate she had never seen before, and the KDPS was trying to regroup and strategize. Chief Thomas stated many of the shootings were coming from cars, which made it difficult to enforce. Chief Thomas explained that officers had not been directed to not enforce because of Black Lives Matter. However, officers were more at risk because of the national climate, and they had been encouraged to weigh the risk versus the reward when pursuing enforcement – was it worth the risk to press hard with regard to a misdemeanor, for example.

Vice Mayor Griffin noted there were many community members doing the work of group violence intervention. Vice Mayor Griffin stated the City needed to invest more in this work, even when initiatives like GVI were not able to operate.

In response to a question from Commissioner Hess, Assistant Chief Boysen stated the GVI outreach workers were approximately seven people involved with local non-profits. Assistant Chief Boysen noted they were a key part of the GVI strategy.

2020-0211

Presentation and
Discussion on the Public
Safety Action Plan
(cont'd)

2020-0211

Presentation and
Discussion on the Public
Safety Action Plan
(cont'd)

Commissioner Cunningham initiated a discussion about systematically building accountability into KDPS.

City Manager Ritsema stated he was accountable to the City Commission, and the City Commission was accountable to City residents. City Manager Ritsema indicated there would be some direct accountability to citizens through the sharing of data with the Citizens Public Safety Review and Appeals Board (CPSRAB). City Manager Ritsema stated the City Administration wanted to be accountable, transparent, and honest about what was going on, and they wanted to make sure the data provided was relevant. City Manager Ritsema stated he would share CPSRAB meeting minutes with the City Commission, and that information could precipitate questions and discussion.

Commissioner Cunningham stated the City Commission needed to have wholistic accountability for each PSO, and he suggested CPSRAB be given a role in the day-to-day accountability of KDPS. Commissioner Cunningham referenced the traffic stop study as an example of an action that led to good changes at KDPS but lacked follow-up because there was no accountability. Commissioner Cunningham stated the City Commission was responsible for each department and should set 15-20 goals or metrics for departments to reach. Commissioner Cunningham requested that the Commission be allowed to act as an appellate body to CPSRAB and have consenting power over citizen complaints. Commissioner Cunningham indicated receiving CPSRAB meeting minutes was not enough, as discussions would not happen unless Commissioners maintained a high degree of focus. Commissioner Cunningham questioned how differences of opinion between KDPS, CPSRAB, and the City Manager would be reconciled.

City Manager Ritsema stated CPSRAB was an administrative board created by the City Manager. City Manager Ritsema indicated he took CPSRAB input seriously, and he reported his decisions back to the board. Regarding KDPS policies, City Manager Ritsema stated there was an iterative process with CPSRAB. City Manager Ritsema stated the City Commission would be able to see what CPSRAB was seeing, which was another level of accountability.

Commissioner Cunningham indicated the level of accountability suggested by the City Manager was not acceptable, as the City Commission needed to know what was happening, needed more accountability regarding citizen complaints, and needed to take responsibility for outcomes. Commissioner Cunningham stated he wanted direct, relevant information without extraneous details. Commissioner Cunningham recommended that CPSRAB have oversight regarding KDPS policies and procedures. Commissioner Cunningham stated the City needed to be responsive in real-time, and he suggested monitoring citizen complaints for consistent complaints that might identify areas to investigate. Commissioner Cunningham asked if there was a community engagement process for KDPS policy changes.

Deputy City Manager Moore noted CPSRAB was very involved with the equipment selection and policies for body cameras.

Chief Thomas stated the unbiased policing and consent to search policies taken to CPSRAB for review and feedback.

Commissioner Cunningham stated CPSRAB should have consenting responsibilities with regard to policies: if KDPS and CPSRAB did not agree then

the City Manager could mediate; and if the City Manager was not able to negotiate a solution the question should be put to the City Commission.

City Manager Ritsema stated he was not sure how this consent was meant to work, and he would need to check with the City Attorney regarding how this suggestion related to the City Charter and the Commission/Manager form of government.

City Attorney Robinson stated CPSRAB was a creation of the City Manager, which functioned like a sounding board. City Attorney Robinson stated there was no requirement for CPSRAB and the City Manager to agree, and ultimately it was the City Manager's decision how to proceed.

Commissioner Cunningham asked whether the City Manager was saying "no" to granting CPSRAB consenting approval for KPDS policies and procedures. Commissioner Cunningham stated there needed to be accountability and he asked if the only alternative was for the City Commission to its own appointed body.

City Manager Ritsema stated he was trying to be transparent, not obstinate. City Manager Ritsema expressed a commitment to improvement but stated he did not have an answer to the alternatives question at that moment.

Commissioner Cunningham indicated he also wanted CPSRAB to have consenting approval over promotions and new hires. Commissioner Cunningham indicated the City was not meeting the standard of having a police force that looked like the community it served, and he stated there needed to be accountability regarding this standard. Commissioner Cunningham requested an update on new hires.

Chief Thomas stated KDPS was always looking for diverse and local hires. Chief Thomas noted the department never filled all its vacancies. Chief Thomas explained that her team was continuously looking at each step in the process to see how the process itself was affecting applicants across all demographics Chief Thomas reported that this evaluation had led to changes in the application process. Chief Thomas stated it was the City Manager's job to hold her accountable.

Commissioner Cunningham stated cultural competency was the number one skill set a PSO recruit should have, and he asked if there was an opportunity for the community to help define "cultural competency" and what it looked like in the City's hiring process. Commissioner Cunningham stated it was also important for the people reviewing PSO applications to be culturally competent themselves and to know what cultural competencies were desired in new officers. Commissioner Cunningham asked that the City Commission be able to hold people accountable and that CPSRAB have an accountability role in officer promotions. Commissioner Cunningham asked people to think of alternatives if his ideas were out of step with the City Charter.

City Manager Ritsema stated he was always open to talk about the hiring process and how that data is reported out.

Commissioner Urban stated it was great to have this conversation together, in public. Commissioner Urban observed that most of the questions were about the relationship between KDPS and CPSRAB. Commissioner Urban stated trust needed to be a priority, which required timely communication. Commissioner Urban stated it was not enough to circulate CPSRAB minutes; the meetings needed to be videotaped.

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Presentation and
Discussion on the Public
Safety Action Plan
(cont'd)

2020-0211

Presentation and
Discussion on the Public
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(cont'd)

Vice Mayor Griffin requested a timeframe for the City Manager to respond to the City Commission regarding the questions about CPSRAB and accountability.

City Manager Ritsema stated he would need to fold this work into the Action Plan and add it to the CPSRAB section.

Vice Mayor Griffin stated there was a feeling in the community that speeding was not being enforced, and she noted that enforcement was not profiling. Vice Mayor Griffin stated people were seeing officers in the community; what were they doing, and what opportunities were there for the community to have input on how they were policed?

Chief Thomas reported peoples' driving patterns and habits had changed with COVID-19, and the biggest complaint citywide was the lack of traffic enforcement. Chief Thomas explained there was one officer in the Traffic Division, and there was not enough staffing to dedicate more officers to traffic enforcement. Chief Thomas stated traffic stops were down over the past 90 days and calls for service were up significantly. Chief Thomas stated one of the concerns is that more traffic stops will look like officers are profiling.

Mayor Anderson reported he had been at a traffic event involving 100-200 people where there was speeding and exhibition driving that was out of control. Mayor Anderson stated people had come to the conclusion there would not be any traffic enforcement, and he expressed concern that people were going to get hurt.

Commissioner Cunningham recommended the City Commission create a Community Relations Advisory Board to help with this process.

Mayor Anderson explained the City operated with a constitution – the City Charter – which could only be changed by the citizens. Mayor Anderson noted the Charter was very clear that the City Commission was responsible for holding the City Administration accountable. Mayor Anderson observed that in the past when City Commissions have had concerns about specific areas, they have created subcommittees, and he suggested the creation of a subcommittee that could delve deeply into these topics and bring back recommendations to the City Commission.

Commissioner Praedel remarked this discussion had not been what he envisioned it would be. Commissioner Praedel stated Commissioners were getting answers to questions, but there had not been an opportunity to fully discuss these topics, and not all Commissioners had participated. Commissioner Praedel expressed frustration that there was never enough time to have a full discussion with the entire Commission. Commissioner Praedel stated it was not working to have dialogue with groups of just 2-3 Commissioners. Commissioner Praedel remarked that the City Commission needed to work together with the community to solve these issues.

Vice Mayor Griffin thanked the Mayor for lifting up power of the City Commission. Vice Mayor Griffin stated people might get tired during this meeting, but the community had been tired for a long time.

The meeting was recessed 9:14 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 9:21 p.m.

Next, when an opportunity was given for general public comments, the following people addressed the City Commission:

Public Comments

The following people expressed support for the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety (KDPS) and Chief Thomas and opposition to defunding KDPS:

Michael, City resident
 Elizabeth Niles, City resident
 Larry VanPopering, non-resident and City business owner
 Roger Ulman, Pastor of Calvary Chapel in the Edison Neighborhood
 Robert Eisenhardt, non-resident
 Cindy Galbraith, non-resident and City business owner
 John Novak, non-resident
 Joel Humphries, non-resident
 Gena Gilligan, City resident
 Carol Baas, non-resident
 Matthew Gilligan, City resident
 Amie Remmert, City resident
 Pam Dunfee, non-resident
 Toni Myer, non-resident
 Sally Reynolds, City resident
 Raymond Ryan, City resident
 James Reed, City resident
 David Lingg, non-resident
 Christina Wolthuis, non-resident
 Shirley Amos, non-resident
 Brandon Valentine, non-resident
 Michael, a non-resident
 Heather Turner, a business owner in the City
 Nick Turner, a business owner in the City
 Richard Stewart, City resident

The following people expressed concerns about increasing gun violence, drug trafficking, reckless driving, and other crimes and the need for more police enforcement, especially in the Northside Neighborhood:

Jason Newton, non-resident and City property owner
 Terry Walker, City resident
 Ann Martinez, City resident
 Josephine, non-resident and City property owner
 Reminia Williams, City resident
 Eddie Trent, City resident
 Stephanie, City resident
 Remenyi Williams, City resident
 Wendy Fields, City resident
 Madeline Alexander, non-resident
 An anonymous City resident
 Jackie Eatmon, City resident
 Liz White, City resident
 Angela, City resident
 Mattie Jordan-Woods, City resident
 Kiara, City resident
 Will Roland, City resident
 Deshon, City resident

Public Comments
(cont'd)

The following people expressed support for the proposed housing equity ordinance and/or requested that the City create public safe sleeping zones:

Emily Demorest, City resident
Casey Coker, City resident
Joe Kaiser, non-resident

The following people expressed opposition to the traffic chicanes that were recently installed in the Northside Neighborhood and suggested speed bumps instead:

Stephanie, City resident
Nathaniel Stegall, City resident
Sarah Taylor, City resident
Alice Taylor, City resident

The following people asked the City Commission to adopt the Ithaca Resolution that was presented by the Greater Kalamazoo Renters Union:

Parker James, City resident
Erin Bensinger, City resident
Andrew Argo, City resident
Kay Lanting, City resident
Ryan Smith, non-resident
Emily Connor, City resident
Elliot Gonzales, non-resident
Margaret Wilson, City resident
Kevin Hayden, City resident
Hillary, a City resident

The following people expressed support for agenda item H-1, an ordinance and resolution creating Social Districts and Commons Areas in downtown Kalamazoo:

Nancy Schultz, non-resident and owner of Fuze Kitchen and Bar
Tori Calby, representing Greenleaf Hospitality
Matt O'Connor, owner of the Coney Island building
Bob Lewis, representing the Millennial Restaurant Group
Kenneth Newby, City resident and downtown business owner
Dave Szell, downtown business owner

Tom Jangula, City resident, spoke about anti-Semitic comments made at a rally in Bronson Park in July and the lack of response from the City Commission. Mr. Jangula stated the Anti-Defamation League would be making an investigation.

Melissa Ray, non-resident, expressed concern about violence, corruption, and the lack of leadership in Kalamazoo. Ms. Ray asked Mayor Anderson, Chief Thomas, and City Manager Ritsema to prioritize the safety of the community and address issues of racism and inequality.

Andy Argo, City resident, stated a hate group called The Proud Boys would be holding an event at the Arcadia Creek Festival Site in August, and he asked the City to address the issue.

Charlae Davis, City resident and the Executive Director of ISAAC, stated systemic racism existed in every institution, and she encouraged people to be involved in the work of community collaboration to dismantling systemic racism.

Linda, a City resident, asked about the easement with Bronson Hospital and expressed concern about the impact of the easement on the watershed.

Terri Walker, City resident, stated Interfaith Homes and Fox Ridge Apartments needed to be boarded up because there were a lot of problems there.

Jeremy Terpening, City resident, expressed support for the creation of a Public Information Officer position at KDPS, and he suggested KDPS hire social workers to resolve problems in the community.

Jeff Messer, City resident, asked the City Commission to consider holding their meetings as hybrid in-person/electronic meetings.

Matt Smith, City resident, stated the City Commission needed to pass a black reparations agenda.

Zachary Lassiter, City resident, stated he filed a Freedom of Information Act request for police body cam video from the June protests. Mr. Lassiter reported he did not receive a response, so he filed an appeal. Mr. Lassiter asked about the status of his appeal.

Bryant Cooper, City resident, spoke about the decline of the Northside Neighborhood and the need for more education and opportunities in that community.

Joe, a City resident, spoke about how KDPS officers beat and used tear gas on residents.

Consent Agenda items were presented as follows with a recommendation to approve the items and authorize the City Manager to sign all documents on behalf of the city:

- approval of a Contract Supplemental and Change Order with SWT Excavating for 2019 New Service Lines.
- approval of a contract with Mall City Mechanical, Inc for the Stockbridge Facility HVAC/Boiler upgrades in the amount of \$928,500.
- approval of a memorandum of understanding with the Kalamazoo Regional Education Service Agency, Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU), for YOU to administer the Summer Youth Employment Program in the amount of \$825,000.

Public Comments
(cont'd)

Consent Agenda

2020-0212

2020-0213

2020-0214

2020-0215
Resolution 20-41

- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** setting a public hearing on August 17, 2020, to consider a request from Graphic Packaging International, LLC. for a PA 198 Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate (IFEC) for 12 years for real property valued at \$191,000,000.

2020-0216

- approval of an easement with Bronson Methodist Hospital at 400 E. Lovell Street to allow construction of a segment of the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail.

2020-0217

- approval of a recommendation to postpone until August 17, 2020 consideration of the acquisition of eight tax-foreclosed properties from the Kalamazoo County Treasurer under first right of refusal, in an amount not to exceed \$199,730.89.

Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Praedel, moved to approve the consent agenda requests and authorize the City Manager to sign all documents on behalf of the City.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Commissioners Cunningham, Hess, Knott, Praedel, Urban, Vice Mayor Griffin, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

Regular Agenda

Regular Agenda items were considered next.

2020-0218
Ordinance 2011 and
Resolution 20-42
Establishing Social
Districts and Commons
Areas

Deputy City Manager Jeff Chamberlain explained a recently adopted state law allowed for creation of social districts, and outdoor commons areas within those districts, where people could have open containers of alcohol. Deputy City Manager Chamberlain stated the idea behind the legislation was to help bars and restaurants, which currently had limited seating capacity. Deputy City Manager described the location of the proposed social districts.

In response to a question from Commissioner Hess, Andrew Haan, Executive Director of Kalamazoo Downtown Partnership, stated the law passed on July 1st was an economic recovery tool to help the hospitality industry. Director Haan reported 40% of downtown businesses were concerned about permanent closure, and 91% of customers indicated they felt more comfortable gathering outdoors. Director Haan explained the proposed commons areas would allow for more social distancing in an outdoor setting. Director Haan stated the rules in the resolution were not set in stone; they could be adjusted as necessary.

In response to a question from Commissioner Praedel, Director Haan confirmed the commons areas would include the Kalamazoo Mall, Bates Alley, and Michigan Avenue. Director Haan indicated the commons areas would have good signage, and there was a plan to address maintenance issues. Director Haan confirmed the hours for the commons areas would be Sunday-Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 midnight.

Mayor Anderson noted the ordinance was an emergency measure, which would require five affirmative votes to adopt.

Commissioner Hess, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, moved to adopt an **ORDINANCE** amending Chapter 4A “ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES” to permit the creation of Social Districts and Commons Areas.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Commissioners Cunningham, Hess, Knott, Praedel, Urban, Vice Mayor Griffin, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

Commissioner Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Urban, moved to adopt a **RESOLUTION** designating Social Districts containing Commons Areas and establishing a management and maintenance plan.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Hess noted the focus of this strategy was to keep people employed.

With a roll call vote this motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Commissioners Cunningham, Hess, Knott, Praedel, Urban, Vice Mayor Griffin, Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

In response to a question from Commissioner Cunningham, Director Haan reported six downtown businesses or fewer had closed recently, with some of those closures related to the pandemic and some not. Director Haan stated the downtown was at a crisis point, and the current priority was to keep vacancies down.

City Manager Ritsema discussed the July 30th meeting regarding traffic calming measures in the Northside Neighborhood and noted there were no definitive answers as this was the first time discussing options with the community. City Manager Ritsema indicated he was working with KDPS on more traffic enforcement. City Manager Ritsema stated he was committed to working with KDPS and the City Commission.

City Clerk Borling reported all polling locations would be open on August 4th, and he encouraged people to turn in their absentee ballots or vote in person.

In response to a question from Mayor Anderson, City Clerk Borling confirmed absentee ballots needed to be in the Clerk’s Office by 8:00 p.m. in order to be counted.

Finally, an opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments from City Commissioners.

Commissioner Cunningham stated the conversation earlier in the meeting was not about defunding KDPS or changing their day-to-day activities, and he noted the Commission did not have the authority to dictate how the Public Safety Chief or City Manager handled day-to-day operations. Commissioner Cunningham explained the conversation was about the City Commission being accountable for the actions of the City Manager and Public Safety Chief, and he stated a system for accountability needed to be put in place. Commissioner Cunningham indicated

2020-0218

Ordinance 2011 and
Resolution 20-42
Establishing Social
Districts and Commons
Areas

City Manager’s
Report

City Commissioner
Comments

City Commissioner
Comments (cont'd)

issues of violence would not be solved by marches and prayers, as many of these issues started in homes and other environments. Commissioner Cunningham stated the time to influence people was when they were young. Commissioner Cunningham remarked there was no correlation between the conversation earlier in the meeting and an increase in violence.

Commissioner Urban stated he was glad the Commission had the discussion about Public Safety, and he indicated many such discussion would be needed moving forward.

Commissioner Praedel asked City Clerk Borling to talk about the hours at polling locations and at City Hall the next day and about polling locations that had changed. Commissioner Praedel expressed regret for not speaking up about anti-Semitism at the July 20th meeting. Commissioner Praedel stated Commissioners Urban and Cunningham were social justice champions, and there was no place for anti-Semitism in the community. Commissioner Praedel urged people to show love for each other on August 15th, when a hate group would be holding a demonstration in the City.

In response to Commissioner Praedel, City Clerk Borling stated polling locations would be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and City Hall would be open the same hours for people to register to vote. City Clerk Borling reported the polling location for Precinct 6 had moved from Friendship Village to KRESA's West Campus, and the polling location for Precincts 1 and 3 had moved from First United Methodist Church to Faith Temple Church of God.

Commissioner Hess remarked on the funeral of U.S. Representative John Lewis. Commissioner Hess stated there was no place for anti-Semitism in the community. Commissioner Hess expressed support for Chief Thomas and KDPS, and she expressed trust in the City Manager form of government. Commissioner Hess remarked Kalamazoo was more than KDPS, and she talked about the complexity of the current environment.

Commissioner Knott commented on the need for people to model wearing masks.

Vice Mayor Griffin reported the 17-year old who was shot earlier was listed in stable condition. Vice Mayor Griffin stated 211 was able to give information regarding the eviction diversion program. Vice Mayor Griffin stated the public comments made it clear there were two experiences in the community regarding safety, and that needed to change. Vice Mayor Griffin remarked on the need for systemic shifts and for the City to invest in its communities and children. Vice Mayor Griffin observed that some commenters earlier in the meeting had used coded language, which should shock people as much as overtly racist comments. Vice Mayor Griffin stated there were multiple issues taking place at the same time, and they all needed to be addressed.

Mayor Anderson stated there was \$1.3 million available for eviction diversion through the CARES Act for Kalamazoo County residents, and this funding was being channeled through the Kalamazoo County Continuum of Care and Housing Resources Incorporated. Mayor Anderson noted there was an additional \$720,000 available for City residents. Mayor Anderson thanked all of the people who called and offered comments.

The meeting adjourned on August 4th at 12:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on November 16, 2020

Approved by: _____
David F. Anderson, Mayor
Dated: November 16, 2020

Adjournment