

	A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.
Roll Call	COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Vice Mayor Don Cooney David Anderson Erin Knott Matt Milcarek Shannon Sykes Jack Urban COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell Also present were City Manager James Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.
Commissioner Excused	Commissioner Milcarek, seconded by Commissioner Sykes, moved to excuse the absence of Mayor Hopewell. With a voice vote the motion passed.
Invocation	The invocation, given by Reverend Steve Charnley, First United Methodist Church, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
Proclamation	Commissioner Urban proclaimed November 2016 <i>American Diabetes Month</i>. Richard Hewitt, Advocacy Chairman of the Greater Michigan Chapter of the American Diabetes Association, received the proclamation.
Adoption of the Agenda	By unanimous consent the City Commission adopted its meeting agenda as presented.
Consent Agenda	Consent Agenda items were presented as follows with a recommendation to approve the items with authorization for the City Manager to sign on behalf of the city: - approval of a cooperative contract purchase of a Caterpillar 420F2 Wheeled Backhoe and appurtenances from Michigan Caterpillar, local authorized dealer through the State of Michigan's MiDeal Program, in the amount of \$143,105.41. - approval of a cooperative contract purchase of a Doosan DL 250 Front End Loader from Carleton Equipment Company, authorized dealer through the National Joint Powers Alliance, in the amount of \$160,926.51. - approval of a cooperative contract purchase of a Doosan 140 Tracked Excavator from Carleton Equipment Company, authorized dealer through the National Joint Powers Alliance, in the amount of \$194,120.72. - approval of the minutes from the City Commission meetings on September 6, September 19, September 26, October 3, October 17, and October 24, 2016.

- approval of a recommendation to hold until November 21, 2016 adoption of a resolution vacating a portion of Ampersee Avenue and an adjacent public alley.
- approval of a recommendation to hold until November 21, 2016 approval of the sale of 636 Ada Street to Charlotte J. Ojediran for \$120.00.
- approval of a recommendation to hold until November 21, 2016 approval of the sale of the west half of 442 Drexel Place to Christopher and Maria Vogt for \$120.00 and the sale of the east half of 442 Drexel Place to Bhaskar Pisipati for \$120.00.
- approval of a recommendation to hold until November 21, 2016 approval of the sale of 1115 Jefferson Avenue to Roderick G. O'Brien for \$120.00.

Commissioner Knott, seconded by Commissioner Urban, 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.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Knott, Milcarek, Sykes, Urban, Vice Mayor Cooney

NAYS: None

When an opportunity was given for general citizen comments, the following people addressed the City Commission:

Frank Warren, City resident, spoke about how a girl gave funds to the Honor Flight. Mr. Warren expressed opposition to moving the veteran and war monuments within Bronson Park.

Nehemiah Scudder, City resident, spoke about the first meeting of a support group called "Prisoners Anonymous."

Gunnars Kaire, City resident, expressed concern and opposition to the City's plan to widen Vine Street between Oak and Davis Streets. Mr. Kaire stated the money would be better spent improving Locust Street.

Zachary Lassiter, City resident, encouraged people to vote. Mr. Lassiter alleged that Commissioner Milcarek had violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act in 2015 and had recently used his City email account to campaign on behalf of a candidate.

Norma Berry, City resident, expressed opposition to the plan to widen Vine Street between Oak and Davis Streets and stated she was frustrated that residents were first informed of the project the previous week when the project had been planned for four years.

Consent Agenda
(cont'd)

Citizen Comments

City Commissioner
Comments

Next, an opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments and concerns of City Commissioners.

Commissioner Milcarek stated he shared the concerns of Vine Neighborhood residents about the Vine Street widening project. Commissioner Milcarek indicated he was more concerned with the section of Vine Street between Westnedge Avenue and Oak Street, which was used as a school bus standing/waiting area. Commissioner Milcarek stated the accusations made against him were false.

Commissioner Urban urged people to vote and stated he was glad he served on a non-partisan public body.

Commissioner Knott requested information on the Vine Street widening project and offered remarks about the NAACP Freedom Banquet on November 5th. Commissioner Knott thanked City Clerk Borling and his staff for their hard work to prepare for the Presidential Election and for offering extended hours for absentee balloting.

Commissioner Sykes spoke about political campaigners and their commitment to democracy, and she urged people to vote.

Vice Mayor Cooney urged people to vote and invited everyone to a peace and unity service on Wednesday night at 6:30 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Vice Mayor Cooney expressed condolences to the families of Kendall Jackson and Daniel Slater who were killed in traffic accidents the previous week.

Closed Session

Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Milcarek, moved that the City Commission go into closed session to discuss labor negotiations.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Vice Mayor Cooney stated it was anticipated that the Commission would return to open session following the closed session.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Knott, Milcarek, Sykes, Urban,
Vice Mayor Cooney

NAYS: None

At 7:32 p.m. the City Commission went into closed session

At 7:47 p.m. the City Commission returned to open session.

Collective
Bargaining
Agreement with
AFSCME

Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Knott, moved to approve a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Kalamazoo and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees for the period November 9, 2016 through October 2, 2019.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Knott, Milcarek, Sykes, Urban,
Vice Mayor Cooney

NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on November 21, 2016

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: November 21, 2016

Adjournment