

A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, June 1, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell
 Vice Mayor Hannah McKinney
 David Anderson
 Don Cooney
 Sean McCann
 Barbara Miller
 Stephanie Moore

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

None

Also present were City Manager Ken Collard, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.

Invocation

The invocation, given by Pastor Bobette Hampton, Fresh Fire African Methodist Episcopal Church, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of
Guests

City Manager Collard introduced Tony Wright, newly elected President of the Kalamazoo Municipal Employees' Association (KMEA). Mr. Wright introduced the KMEA officers and board of directors.

Proclamation

Commissioner Cooney, on behalf of Mayor Hopewell, read a proclamation *Celebrating the 17th Year Anniversary of Metropolitan Kalamazoo ACT-SO Program*. Noah Kramer was present to receive the proclamation.

Adoption of the
Agenda

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

Communications

City Manager Collard invited the public to attend meetings of various boards and commissions.

Public Hearing re:
The Kalamazoo
Mall Maintenance
Assessment

At 7:10 p.m. Mayor Hopewell opened a public hearing regarding a recommendation to adopt RESOLUTION #4 approving the 2008 Kalamazoo Mall Sidewalk Maintenance Assessment at a per front foot cost of \$14.336.

At 7:11 p.m. Mayor Hopewell closed the public hearing.

Resolution 09-43
Approving the
2008 Kalamazoo
Mall Maintenance
Assessment

Commissioner McCann, seconded by Commissioner Miller, moved to adopt to adopt **RESOLUTION #4** approving the 2008 Kalamazoo Mall Sidewalk Maintenance Assessment at a per front foot cost of \$14.336.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, McCann, Miller, Moore, Vice Mayor McKinney, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

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:

Resolution 09-44

- adoption of a Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services, Liquor Control Commission **RESOLUTION** to transfer a Class C-SDM License at the business located at 1332 West Michigan Avenue (University Road House) to a new building at the same location with the same address.

Resolution 09-45

- adopt a **RESOLUTION** to accept an education grant from the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office Certified Local Governments Grant Program in the amount of \$35,171 to be used to plan and implement a Window Rehabilitation Training Workshop in July 2009 and to authorize the City Manager to sign all documents on behalf of the City of Kalamazoo.
- first reading of an ORDINANCE to rezone 214 and 230 S. Sage Street from Zone CO (Commercial, Office District) to Zone RM-24 (Residential, Multi-Dwelling District) under the contract zoning provision of the State of Michigan; and, schedule a public hearing for June 15, 2009.
- authorization for the City Manager to sign a proposed Temporary Access Agreement granting Groundwater and Environmental Services, Inc., on behalf of ExxonMobil Oil Corporation, temporary access to perform environmental testing activities on the city's right-of-way.
- acceptance of a grant from the Mayors' Riverfront Endowment Fund for \$20,000 to help fund the general operations at Mayors' Riverfront Park.
- acceptance of donations to help fund the Milham Park/Blanche Hull Master Plan capital improvement project from: a) the Friends of Recreation for \$7,520; b) John and Carol Booden for \$200; c) Donald VanderKooy for \$100; and d) Donald C. Meitz for \$25 and to increase the project budget in this amount for a total budget of \$27,845.
- approval of the minutes from the following City Commission Meetings: the Neighborhood Meetings on March 16 and April 20, 2009; the Special Meeting on March 27, 2009; and the Business Meetings on March 2, March 16, April 6, and April 20, 2009.

Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, moved to approve the consent agenda requests.

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, McCann, Miller, Moore, Vice Mayor McKinney, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS: None

City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Borling reported the following items:

- The following lawsuits had been received and referred to the City Attorney's Office:
 - G.R.I.N., L.L.C. v City of Kalamazoo
 - Lester Moore, pro per v City of Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo County
- The City Commission has received as informational minutes of the following advisory boards and commissions:

Community Development Act Advisory Committee

- Thursday, February 12, 2009
- Thursday, March 12, 2009
- Thursday, April 02, 2009
- Thursday, April 30, 2009

Community Relations Board

- Thursday, February 12, 2009

Dangerous Buildings Board

- Thursday, February 05, 2009
- Thursday, March 05, 2009

Employee Retirement System Board of Trustees

- Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Environmental Concerns Committee

- Wednesday, February 18, 2009
- Wednesday, March 18, 2009
- Wednesday, April 15, 2009

Friends of Recreation Board

- Monday, January 19, 2009
- Monday, February 16, 2009
- Thursday, March 12, 2009

Kalamazoo Historic District Commission

- Tuesday, February 17, 2009
- Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Kalamazoo Historic Preservation Commission

- Tuesday, January 13, 2009
- Tuesday, February 10, 2009
- Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Kalamazoo Municipal Golf Association

- Tuesday, February 17, 2009
- Thursday, March 12, 2009

Kalamazoo Transit Authority Board

- Friday, January 09, 2009

City Clerk's Report
(cont'd)

- Friday, February 06, 2009
- Friday, March 27, 2009

- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
 - Tuesday, February 03, 2009
 - Tuesday, March 03, 2009
 - Tuesday, April 07, 2009
 - Tuesday, May 05, 2009

- Planning Commission
 - Thursday, February 05, 2009
 - Thursday, March 05, 2009
 - Thursday, April 02, 2009

- Zoning Board of Appeals
 - Thursday, February 12, 2009
 - Thursday, March 12, 2009

- The City Commission had received as informational, 2008 Annual Reports from the following advisory boards and commissions:
 - The Civil Service Board
 - The Community Development Act Advisory Committee
 - The Community Relations Board
 - The Downtown Development Authority
 - The Environmental Concerns Committee
 - The Friends of Recreation Board
 - The Historic District Commission
 - The Historic Preservation Commission
 - The Investment Committee of the Retirement System
 - The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
 - The Pension Board
 - The Zoning Board of Appeals

- The following Special Event requests were approved in the month of May:
 - a request from the Kalamazoo Gay Lesbian Resource Center & WMU's Office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay & Transgender Students to use Milham Park on May 9, 2009 from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. for the Kalamazoo Pride Dog Show.
 - a request from the Kalamazoo Public Library to use Bronson Park on May 27, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the Party in the Park reading event.
 - a request from Kalamazoo Institute of Arts to use Bronson Park and City Streets from June 5, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. to June 6, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. for the Kia Art Fair.
 - a request from the Fraternal Order of Police to use Bronson Park on June 12, 2009 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for a Fallen Officers Memorial Service.

- a request from Galilee Baptist Church to use LaCrone Park on July 23, 2009 from 2:00 to 10:00 p.m. for a Family Vacation Bible School Celebration Night.
- a request from the West Main Hill Neighborhood Association to use Henderson Park and City Streets on August 11, 2009 from 12:00 to 9:30 p.m. for the West Main Hill/USTA Picnic.
- a request from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to use Bronson Park and City sidewalks on September 12, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the 2009 Out Of The Darkness Community Walk.
- a request from The Alzheimer's Association, Michigan Great Lakes Chapter, to use Bronson Park and City sidewalks on September 19, 2009 from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. for the annual Memory Walk.
- a request from Gazelle Sports to use Milham Park on September 26, 2009 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the 2009 Metro Trek event.
- a request from The Children's Hospital at Bronson to use City sidewalks on October 4, 2009 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for the Walk Across Kalamazoo fundraising event.

Citizen Comments

When given a final opportunity for comments, the following citizens addressed the City Commission:

Monica Westover, non-resident, spoke regarding allegations of wrongdoing by current and past City and County officials. Documents submitted by Ms. Westover were filed with the papers for this meeting.

Fred Lawrence, City resident, spoke about general economic conditions, the movement of production facilities to other countries, executive compensation, capitalism, pension systems, and the proposed construction of an arena in downtown Kalamazoo.

Dustin Harback, non-resident, expressed support for the construction of an arena in downtown Kalamazoo.

Derek Byrd, City resident, spoke regarding festivals that were being organized by Sky Productions. Mr. Byrd stated the festivals were scheduled to be held during the summer at 417 Forest Street.

Nicholas Clarkson, City resident, described the festivals being organized by Sky Productions and Sky Festivals. Mr. Clarkson distributed information regarding a zoning variance necessary for these festivals to be held at 417 Forest Street.

Citizen Comments
(cont'd)

Mark Cornell, non-resident, asked the City Commission to assist his employer.

Caldin Street, City resident, expressed concern about the closing of the Felpausch grocery store and the large number of blighted properties in the community.

Eddie Anderson, City resident, spoke regarding the summer music festivals being organized by Sky Productions.

City Commissioner
Comments

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

Commissioner Moore suggested the City Commission adopt a resolution of support for the location of a grocery store in the Northside Neighborhood, and she expressed support for the festivals being organized by Sky Productions. Commissioner Moore also congratulated the 2009 high school graduates.

Commissioner Cooney thanked the representatives from Sky Productions for their efforts to help young people and enhance the Vine Neighborhood. Commissioner Cooney spoke about the economy and the need for business leaders to focus on social and environmental sustainability, and not just the financial health of their businesses.

Mayor Hopewell reported he and the City Manager had met with the leadership of the Northside Association for Community Development about a grocery store in the Northside Neighborhood, and he had met with representatives from Sky Productions. Mayor Hopewell also reported he had participated in a conference call with the White House regarding health care.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on July 6, 2009

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: July 6, 2009