

A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday November 9, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall.

Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Bobby 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.

Board of
Canvassers'
Report

78536

City Clerk Borling read into the record the following report from the Kalamazoo County Board of Canvassers:

The Kalamazoo County Board of Canvassers has certified the following individuals were elected to the Kalamazoo City Commission on November 3, 2009: Bobby J. Hopewell, having received a sufficient number of votes was elected Mayor; Hannah J. McKinney, having received a sufficient number of votes, was elected Vice Mayor; Don Cooney, having received a sufficient number of votes was elected City Commissioner; David Anderson, having received a sufficient number of votes, was elected City Commissioner; Barbara Hamilton Miller, having received a sufficient number of votes, was elected City Commissioner; Stephanie Moore, having received a sufficient number of votes, was elected City Commissioner; and Terry L. Kuseske, having received a sufficient number of votes, was elected City Commissioner.

Approval of City
Commission
Minutes

78537

Commissioner McCann, seconded by Commissioner Miller, moved to approve the minutes from the following City Commission meetings: the Special Meeting on October 26, 2009 and the Regular Meetings on September 21 and November 2, 2009. With a voice vote this motion passed.

Adjournment
Sine Die

Mayor Hopewell adjourned the meeting, *sine die*, at 8:02 p.m.

Oaths of Office

City Clerk Borling administered the Constitutional Oath of Office to newly elected City Commissioners David Anderson, Don Cooney, Terry L. Kuseske, Barbara Hamilton Miller, and Stephanie Moore; newly elected Vice Mayor Hannah J. McKinney; and newly elected Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell.

At 8:06 p.m. Mayor Hopewell called to order the first meeting of the 48th City Commission of the City of Kalamazoo.

Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Bobby Hopewell
Vice Mayor Hannah McKinney
David Anderson
Don Cooney
Terry Kuseske
Barbara Miller
Stephanie Moore

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

Invocation

The invocation, given by Reverend Matt Laney, First Congregational United Church of Christ, was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of
Guests

Mayor Hopewell noted the presence of the following guests:

- Anna Whitten, Board of Trustees, Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC)
- Mattie Jordan-Woods, Executive Director, Northside Association for Community Development (NACD)
- David Buskirk, Chair, Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners
- Deb Buchholtz-Hiemstra, Vice Chair, Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners
- Reverend John McNaughton
- Former State Representative Lorence Wenke
- Dr. Janice Brown, Kalamazoo Promise
- Pete Strazdas, Mayor, City of Portage
- Ed Sackley, Council Member, City of Portage
- Sandy Lipsey, Circuit Court Judge, former State Representative, and former Vice Mayor, City of Kalamazoo
- Lance Ferraro, former City Commissioner
- Linda Teeter, former City Commissioner
- Robert B. Jones, State Representative and former Mayor, City of Kalamazoo
- Richard Fuller, Kalamazoo County Sheriff
- Nassim Ansari, Kalamazoo County Commissioner
- Claudette Reid, Council Member, City of Portage
- Mary Brown, former State Representative
- Larry DeShazor, State Representative and former Council Member, City of Portage
- Ken Nacci, Executive Director, Kalamazoo Downtown Development Authority (DDA)
- Bob Miller, Associate Vice President for Community Outreach, Western Michigan University (WMU)

Resolution and Gift
Honoring Former
Commissioner
Sean McCann

Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Miller, moved to adopt a **RESOLUTION** honoring former Commissioner Sean McCann for dedication and service to the City of Kalamazoo.

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With a roll call vote, the motion passed.

Resolution and Gift
Honoring Former
Commissioner
Sean McCann
(cont'd)

78538

Congratulatory
Remarks

YEAS: Commissioners Anderson, Cooney, Kuseske, Miller, Moore, Vice Mayor McKinney, Mayor Hopewell

NEAS: None

Mayor Hopewell and Vice Mayor McKinney presented the resolution and a gift to former City Commissioner Sean McCann in recognition of his service on the Kalamazoo City Commission from November 1999 through November 2009.

Next, when given an opportunity to offer congratulatory remarks, the following citizens addressed the City Commission:

Pete Strazdas, non-resident and Mayor of the City of Portage, congratulated the Commissioners on their election and re-election. Mayor Strazdas stated the election of two new mayors and the appointment of two new City Managers in 2005 was a transformational moment for the region.

Robert Jones, City resident, stated it was an honor to be a member of the community and remarked that the 48th City Commission had a unique opportunity and ability to take Kalamazoo "to the next level."

David Buskirk, City resident, and Deb Buchholz-Hiemstra, non-resident, spoke on behalf of the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners and stated the community was blessed to have the current members serving on the Kalamazoo City Commission.

Nick Boyd, City resident, congratulated Commissioners on their election and re-election.

Mayor Hopewell recognized the presence of City Commission candidates Nick Boyd and Michael Parkinson-Kilbourne.

Next congratulatory remarks were offered by City Commissioners.

Commissioner Kuseske thanked Sean McCann, Linda Teeter, Mary Brown, Robert Jones, Kelly Doyle, Narda Beauchamp, his campaign volunteers, City Manager Collard, Deputy City Manager Jerri Barnett-Moore, and the voters. Commissioner Kuseske highlighted his experience on various boards and commissions and the connections he made and education he received during his time of service on these boards. Commissioner Kuseske expressed his commitment to continue working with community partners, City Commissioners, and City staff to make Kalamazoo the best place it could be. Commissioner Kuseske stated he would educate himself on the issues and listen to citizens before casting votes as a Commissioner.

Commissioner Moore stated it was a humbling and honoring experience to be reelected, and she thanked Commissioner McCann for his leadership and friendship. Commissioner Moore thanked the community for participating in the election, and she

Congratulatory
Remarks (cont'd)

thanked Yolanda Dunnigan, Terecita Potts, her Mothers of Hope friends, Angie Anderson, her mom, Dorphine Payne, and fellow City Commissioners. Commissioner Moore stated the past two years had been challenging and stated she was grateful for the opportunity to serve as a City Commissioner. Commissioner Moore congratulated John Hoadley and One Kalamazoo on a job well done. Commissioner Moore encouraged citizens to be active in their neighborhoods and to seek the success of Kalamazoo's young people. Commissioner Moore thanked Robert Jones, Mattie Jordan-Woods, Reverend Dr. Addis Moore, Reverend Dr. Matthew Wright, Pastor Lenzy Bell, Bill Reeves, her church family at Mt. Zion Baptist Church and Galilee Baptist Church, and her Facebook family.

Commissioner Miller stated she met Sean McCann through the Michigan Political Leadership program and helped with his election campaigns. Commissioner Miller expressed appreciation to former Commissioner McCann for always listening to her, even when he disagreed, and she wished him well as a husband, father, and candidate for State Representative. Commissioner Miller thanked her family, friends, and campaign staff, including her youngest campaign volunteer, Maggie Swafford from Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School.

Commissioner Anderson stated it was a daunting task to receive the gift of being elected to the City Commission, especially considering the issues the City would face in the coming years. Commissioner Anderson expressed appreciation to the voters for the confidence they placed in City Commissioners. Commissioner Anderson encouraged citizens to be involved and engaged in City government between elections and stated success would come from the intent and desire of all residents, not just the Commissioners. Commissioner Anderson recognized the presence of his wife, Corrie Terry, and his mother, Amy Anderson.

Commissioner Cooney congratulated Sean McCann and thanked him for his service to the community. Commissioner Cooney thanked the citizens of Kalamazoo for giving him two more years on the City Commission and indicated his time on the Commission was a sacred trust, an opportunity, and a great responsibility. Commissioner Cooney thanked his wife, Kathy Cooney, and his campaign partner, Mike Kilbourne. Commissioner Cooney stated there were people in the City who were hurting badly, and he described the need for a "holy discontent" with the status quo. Commissioner Cooney stated the City Commission would work hard to make Kalamazoo a City of justice, but it was this work was the work of everyone in the community.

Vice Mayor McKinney stated she was honored to be re-elected and expressed appreciation for her fellow-Commissioners. Vice Mayor McKinney noted the Commissioners did not always agree on issues, but they shared a love for Kalamazoo and a vision of Kalamazoo as a special place. Vice Mayor McKinney thanked her husband and daughter, and she expressed appreciation for

Congratulatory
Remarks (cont'd)

celebratory comments from the City of Portage, the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners, and State Representative Jones. Vice Mayor McKinney remarked on Kalamazoo's ability to turn around a bad situation and noted the importance of community partners working together. Vice Mayor McKinney indicated she would work hard with all of the other people who shared a vision for Kalamazoo.

Mayor Hopewell commended citizens for participating in the democratic process. Mayor Hopewell stated he represented the might of a great community. Mayor Hopewell thanked his family and his campaign staff. Mayor Hopewell described how he had met Sean McCann and remarked on his servant's heart and service to the community. Mayor Hopewell recognized and thanked the City Commission appointees and expressed appreciation for his fellow Commissioners. Mayor Hopewell remarked the City's challenges were opportunities, and the community would come together as one to meet those challenges. Mayor Hopewell stated the vote on the Metro Transit Millage and the Anti-Discrimination Ordinance were examples of citizens meeting challenges through unity. Mayor Hopewell described the Commission seats as being on loan from the citizens, with the Commissioners' payback being good service to the community. Mayor Hopewell committed to paying back the loan every day. Mayor Hopewell thanked Kalamazoo citizens for the opportunity to serve, and he asked them to join Commissioners on the journey.

Citizen Comments

Next, an opportunity was given for citizens to make general comments, but no comments were offered.

City Commissioner
Comments

A final opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments and concerns of City Commissioners, but no comments were offered.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on November 30, 2009

Approved by: _____

Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor

Dated: November 30, 2009