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| | <p>A business meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, July 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall, 241 W. South Street.</p> |
| Roll Call | <p>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Vice Mayor David Anderson Robert Cinabro Don Cooney Barbara Miller Stephanie Moore Jack Urban</p> <p>COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mayor Bobby Hopewell</p> <p>Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.</p> |
| Commissioner Excused | <p>Commissioner Cinabro, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, moved to excuse the absence of Mayor Hopewell. With a voice vote the motion passed.</p> |
| Invocation | <p>The invocation, given by Pastor Greg Jennings Sr., was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> |
| Proclamations | <p>Commissioner Cinabro proclaimed July 23, 2014 <i>The Day of the Bat</i>. Mr. William Craft of Phoenix Reborn Films received the proclamation.</p> |
| Adoption of the Agenda | <p>Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, moved to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. With a voice vote the motion passed.</p> |
| Communications | <p>City Manager Ritsema provided the following communications:</p> <p>The Legacy Cost Task Force would meet on Monday, July 28, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room at Mt. Zion Baptist Church.</p> |
| Public Hearing re: an Ordinance to Amend Section 35-4 Pertaining to PILOTS | <p>At 7:06 p.m. Vice Mayor Anderson opened a public hearing to receive comments on an ORDINANCE to amend Section 35-4 of the City Code of Ordinances, which governs the granting of payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) to housing developments receiving financing from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.</p> <p>At 7:07 p.m. Vice Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing.</p> |
| Ordinance 1923 Amending Section 35-4 Pertaining to PILOTS | <p>Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Cinabro, moved to adopt an ORDINANCE to amend Section 35-4 of the City Code of Ordinances, which governs the granting of payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) to housing developments receiving financing from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. With a voice vote the motion passed.</p> |

At 7:08 p.m. Vice Mayor Anderson opened a public hearing to receive comments regarding a recommendation to take the following two actions: 1) Adopt an ORDINANCE to contract rezone 1031, 1101 and 1107 Lafayette Avenue from Zone CN-1 (Commercial, Neighborhood District) and Zone RM-15C (Residential, Multi-Dwelling District-Campus Area) to Zone CC (Commercial, Community District); and 2) Adopt a resolution to vacate Lafayette Avenue between W. Michigan Avenue and 1111 Lafayette Avenue.

Assistant City Planner Rob Bauckham provided a brief overview of the Lafayette project and reviewed the limits that would be placed on the properties through the rezoning contract.

When given an opportunity to comment on the proposed ordinance and street vacation, the following people addressed the City Commission:

Jennifer Wheeler, non-resident and owner of rental properties on LaFayette Avenue, expressed opposition to the vacation of Lafayette due to her tenants' concerns about restrictions on traffic flow.

Gary Wheeler, non-resident and owner of rental properties on LaFayette Avenue, expressed opposition to the vacation of Lafayette and stated there would be accidents with people turning left onto Howard Street. Mr. Wheeler indicated none of his tenants supported the changes associate with this proposed project.

Assistant City Planner Bauckham stated traffic flow was considered in the design of this project and indicated traffic safety was the driving force behind the recommendations. Assistant City Planner Bauckham reported there had been over 30 accidents at LaFayette and West Michigan over the past few years and stated motorists would be able to turn left onto West Michigan Avenue from Euclid Avenue. Assistant City Planner Bauckham noted motorists would also have a new ingress/egress to the neighborhood via the extension of Redwood Avenue to Howard Street.

At 7:19 p.m. Vice Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Cinabro, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, moved to take the following two actions: 1) adopt an **ORDINANCE** to contract rezone 1031, 1101 and 1107 Lafayette Avenue from Zone CN-1 (Commercial, Neighborhood District) and Zone RM-15C (Residential, Multi-Dwelling District-Campus Area) to Zone CC (Commercial, Community District); and 2) adopt a **RESOLUTION** to vacate Lafayette Avenue between W. Michigan Avenue and 1111 Lafayette Avenue.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioner Urban expressed support for the motion but noted there might be accidents at Howard and Redwood.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Anderson, Assistant City Planner Bauckham reported the Planning Commission had considered the project at three different meetings and had approved the rezoning and street vacation at the third meeting.

Public Hearing re: an Ordinance to Rezone Parcels on Lafayette Avenue

Ordinance 1924
Rezoning Parcels on Lafayette Avenue

Resolution 14-33
Vacating Lafayette Avenue between West Michigan Avenue and 1111 Lafayette

Ordinance 1924
Rezoning Parcels on
Lafayette Avenue

In response to a question from Commissioner Cooney, Assistant City Planner Bauckham stated the Wheelers were concerned about traffic flow in and out of the neighborhood where they owned rental properties.

Resolution 14-33
Vacating Lafayette
Avenue between West
Michigan Avenue and
1111 Lafayette (cont'd)

Commissioner Cooney stated he wished the residents' concerns had been brought up at the Planning Commission meetings.

In response to Commissioner Cooney, Assistant City Planner Bauckham stated the neighborhood property owners had raised concerns at the first Planning Commission meeting, when there was no traffic plan. Assistant City Planner Bauckham explained the Planning Commission requested a traffic plan from the developer at the first meeting, which was presented at the second Planning Commission meeting, but neighborhood residents had not attended the second or third Planning Commission meetings.

With a roll call vote the motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Cinabro, Cooney, Miller, Moore, Urban,
Vice Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

Consent Agenda

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

Resolution 14-34

- approval of a one-year contract with Etna Supply Company of Grand Rapids, Michigan in the amount of \$269,022.09 for the purchase of water maintenance and construction materials.
- approval of a contract with CL Mahoney LLC in the amount of \$322,770, to replace two boilers and one chiller at Public Safety Headquarters.
- approval of a recommendation to: 1) offer for first reading an ordinance to rezone a 270-foot segment of old S. Park Street from Zone RS-5 (Residential, Single-Dwelling District) to Zone CO (Commercial, Office District), and set a public hearing for the August 4 meeting; and 2) introduce a resolution to vacate the same street segment.
- adoption of a **RESOLUTION** from the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Liquor Control Commission to allow One Well Brewing LLC to purchase a Small Wine Makers license and Micro Brewer license and an outdoor service area to be used at the new business location of 4213 Portage St.
- acceptance of funding from The Buist Foundation in the amount of \$4,000 to send 50 Kalamazoo youth to the "Think Big in Education and Leadership" event and to purchase equipment for the COPS Division.

- acceptance of funding from Terry Skartsiaris for \$1,000 and increase the general fund appropriation, to fund the installation of one memorial park bench and associated concrete flatwork at Crane Park.
- approval of the following appointments and reappointments to the Environmental Concerns Committee:
 - the appointment of **Olga Button** for a term expiring on June 30, 2017.
 - the reappointment of **James Jeakle** for a term expiring on December 31, 2015.
 - the appointment of **Paul Manstrom** for a term expiring on June 30, 2014.
 - the reappointment of **David Nesius** for a term expiring on December 31, 2014.
 - the reappointment of **Brian Petersen** for a term expiring on December 31, 2017.
 - the appointment of **James Timmons** for a term expiring on January 1, 2017.

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

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Cinabro, Cooney, Miller, Moore, Urban, Vice Mayor Anderson

NAYS: None

City Manager Ritsema presented the following reports and updates:

- Departmental Reports and Project Updates
- *Inside the City* newsletter, July 2014 Edition
- June 2014 Purchases

Aaron Stevens, Principal of Abraham & Gaffney, P.C., delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled *City of Kalamazoo Audit Presentation, December 31, 2013*.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Anderson, Mr. Stevens explained recent changes to accounting rules addressed how pension liabilities needed to be reported, and the rules regarding the reporting of Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liabilities would follow suit in a few years.

Consent Agenda
(cont'd)

City Manager's Report

Presentation on the
FY2013 Audit

Citizen Comments

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

Yolanda Neals, non-resident, expressed concern about a police/citizen interaction she witnessed on July 10th involving officers Moran and Hoyt on Paterson Street. Ms. Neals stated she had requested the video and audio recording of the incident and expressed concern that the recordings had to be “reviewed” before they could be given to her. Ms. Neals asked that Commissioners also review the audio and video recordings.

Tim Graham, City resident, suggested the City look to the business sector for examples of how the City could reinvent itself and foster innovation, and he suggested the City form an “innovation task force.”

Asha Khazad, City resident, spoke regarding divisions in the community and stated society should do away with distinctions like rich/poor, black/white, male/female. Mr. Khazad stated money was neutral, and wealthy people were not inherently evil.

Chris O'Neill and T.J. Waldofsky, City residents, thanked the Commission for approving the liquor license for One Well Brewing.

Jim Ferner, non-resident, thanked the City for repairing the sidewalk on Lovell Street and inquired about a letter to the Commission from the Environmental Concerns Committee regarding the City's Complete Streets Policy.

Dennis McKee, non-resident and a representative from Consumers Energy, spoke regarding the upcoming replacement of residential electric meters in Kalamazoo.

In response to a question from Commissioner Miller, Mr. McKee stated there had been discussions about the City putting communication modules on City water meters, eliminating the need for water/sewer meter readers.

Commissioner Moore expressed concern about job losses with meter readers.

Mr. McKee stated Consumers Energy was committed to finding places for displaced meter readers and noted the new meters would be installed at no additional cost to customers.

In response to a question from Commissioner Urban, Mr. McKee indicated the new meter technology would enable variable pricing programs in the future.

In response to a question from Commissioner Moore, Mr. McKee stated the energy efficiency programs offered by Consumers Energy were statewide program and not based on zip codes, and Consumers worked with Community Action Agencies to identify needs in individual communities.

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

Commissioner
Comments

Commissioner Moore stated it was important to address Ms. Neals' request and stated she also had witnessed the first incident. Commissioner Moore announced the Northside Early Childhood Education Group was enrolling three- and four-year olds in preschool at four sites in the Northside Neighborhood. Commissioner Moore invited the community to the Black Arts Festival. Commissioner Moore expressed appreciation to Sherry Thomas-Cloud, who was working hard to restore financial stability to the Douglas Community Association. Commissioner Moore remarked on the success of the "Sistas Can We Talk?" event and stated a similar event would be held on August 1st at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Commissioner Moore invited people to the Mothers of Hope Ultimate Family Reunion on August 2nd at Spring Valley Park

Commissioner Miller noted MLive reporter Emily Monacelli and her husband had a new baby boy, and she remarked on the Employee Recognition and Appreciation Event.

Commissioner Cooney invited people to the Ultimate Family Reunion on August 2nd at Spring Valley Park.

Vice Mayor Anderson thanked everyone for their support during his first Commission meeting as chair.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on August 18, 2014

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: August 18, 2014