City of Kalamazoo
Local Officers’ Compensation Commission
Minutes from the Meeting of September 23, 2009

A meeting of the Local Officers Compensation Commission (LOCC) was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2009 at 4:04 p.m. in the Community Room in City Hall.

Members Present: Barbara Blissett, Bradley Cosgrove, Edgar Gordon, Natalie Patchell, Dave Pawloski, and Creed Stegall

Members Absent: Barbara Larson

Others Present: City Clerk Scott Borling, City Attorney Clyde Robinson

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Stegall, moved to approve the minutes of the LOCC meeting on October 16, 2007. With a voice vote, the motion passed.

Election of Chairperson

By consensus the LOCC selected Commissioner Gordon as Chair.

Introductions and Overview

Commissioners introduced themselves, and City Clerk Borling provided an overview of the LOCC and the compensation philosophy that had guided the work of previous Commissions.

Discussion of Compensation Levels

Commissioners discussed the amount of time spent by City Commissioners on their official duties, the fact that City Commissioners did not have City vehicles or expense accounts, and the importance of using elected officials’ salaries in comparable jurisdictions as a benchmark.

City Clerk Borling distributed an memo entitled, 2009 Budget Second Quarter Report – Executive Summary, which recommended a $2 million reduction in General Fund operating budgets for Fiscal Year 2010 (FY2010). City Clerk Borling indicated position eliminations were likely in order to achieve a budget reduction of this magnitude.

Commissioner Patchell, seconded by Commissioner Pawloski, moved to keep the salaries of the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Commissioners at their current levels.
Prior to a vote on the motion, Commissioners discussed their desire to express appreciation to Kalamazoo’s elected officials for their service, but Commissioners agreed it was not feasible to grant compensation increases when City departments would be experiencing significant budget reductions.

With a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Report of Determination

City Clerk Borling displayed a draft Report of Determination. Commissioners worked together to edit the Report to reflect the Commission’s salary determination, to communicate the reasoning behind the determination, and to convey their appreciation for Kalamazoo’s elected officials.

Commissioner Blissett, seconded by Commissioner Cosgrove, moved to approve the Report of Determination and submit the Report to the City Clerk. With a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Next, an opportunity was given for citizen comments, but there were no citizens in attendance.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

Approved by the Local Officers’ Compensation Commission on: April 28, 2011