MEMBERS PRESENT: Jacob Andrews, Morris Brooks, Sara Buchanan, Nathan Dannison, Curtis Gardner, Oliver Howell, Erica Patton, Vernon Payne, Tonia Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Strick Strickland (excused)

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Patsy Moore (Deputy City Manager); Martin Markos (Executive Assistant), Chief Karianne Thomas, Deputy Chief Jeff VanderWiere, Lieutenant Matt Elzinga

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chair Payne.

Minutes: Chair Dannison motioned to approve minutes from January 2018; supported by Ms. Buchanan. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Deputy Chief Jeff VanderWiere introduced Chief Karianne Thomas to the board. Chief Thomas reviewed the KDPS hiring process; highlighting changes made to the process over the years. Chief noted the changes regarding potential hurdles/roadblocks to applicants, stating that they process has and continues to be streamlined in order to get the best/most qualified candidates. Chief answered all questions to the satisfaction of the board.

Citizen Comments:

Chief Scott Merlo (Western Michigan University Public Safety) made a brief comment regarding keeping WMU students/cadets in Kalamazoo and hiring Chief Thomas would help with that, noting Kalamazoo is in good hands.

Board Comments:

None.

Next Meeting: March 13, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:01 p.m.