

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 2:00 p.m. – 6:06 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners John Gisler, Jeff Heppler, Scott McGraw, Stephanie Moore, Larry Provancher, Julie Rogers, Michael Seals, Dale Shugars, John Taylor, Roger Tuinier and Kevin Wordelman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: John Faul, Thom Canny, Tracie Moored, Lisa Bradshaw, Lisa Henthorn, Mary Balkema, Diane Erikson, Steve Burnham, Lucinda Stinson, Lotta Jarnefelt, Tina Keifer, Dr. Stoltman, Ryan Post, David Rachowicz, Paul Matyas, Vern Johnson, Lynne Norman, Dina Sutton

Chairman Taylor convened the Committee of the Whole at 2:00 p.m.

1. Budget Discussion

Ms. Tracie Moored, Finance Director distributed Administration's recommendation for the 2016 budget.

Chairman Taylor stated he would like to get Commissioners input and comments on this recommendation.

Commissioners stated their preference of salary schedule for employees.

Commissioner Heppler arrived at 2:09 p.m.

Chairman Taylor asked Commissioners to give their recommendations of new funding requests.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Shugars arrived at 3:03 p.m.

Commissioner Tuinier arrived at 3:36 p.m.

Discussion ensued on several budget items.

Chairman Taylor recessed the meeting from 3:55 to 4:03 p.m.

Commissioner Moore arrived at 4:05 p.m.

2. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Moored stated claims for September 15, 2015 totaled \$2,922,335.43. She indicated Commissioner Heppler did have a claim and would need to make a disclosure statement. She also indicated there was one budget adjustment.

3. Public Housing Commission Update

Mr. David Anderson, Public Housing Commission Chair provided an update to the Board. He reviewed what the Housing Millage would support.

Mr. David Artley, Public Housing Commission member reviewed Public Housing Umbrella Reporting by the Program Service numbers as distributed.

Commissioner McGraw inquired about expenses of the Public Housing Commission and Mr. Anderson provided answers.

Commissioner Seals inquired about the requirement of tenants contributing 30-50% of their income towards rent and Mr. Anderson indicated that the goal was to make people self sufficient and maintain housing.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he felt the millage should be paid from County funds and not Public Housing Commission funds.

Commissioner Rogers stated she concurred with Commissioner Wordelman.

Commissioner Shugars stated he thought the millage should be paid for by funds through the Public Housing Commission.

Chairman Taylor stated he would meet with any Commissioner to discuss and a recommendation would be made to the Board at the next meeting.

4. Amendment to Board Bylaws Continued Discussion

This item was removed from the agenda.

5. Corporate Counsel Evaluation

Chairman Taylor asked the Board to complete the evaluation for Mr. Canny and return to Administration and Administration would compile the information and bring it back to the Board.

6. HCS Relocation

Chairman Taylor stated the Board received an email/report from Plaza Corp. and a response from Administration.

Mr. John Faul, Interim County Administrator stated he was displeased with how Administration had been treated by Plaza Corp. He stated Plaza Corp., with outside community input provided information directly to the Board members without Administration having access to the information. He reaffirmed Administration's recommendation to renovate the Administration Building to accommodate Health & Community Services.

Mr. Andy Wenzel, Plaza Corp., stated they had been working with staff on this project for the last nine months and was quite surprised by comments made by Mr. Faul. He stated after the last Board meeting Plaza Corp. looked at the information and prepared a new proposal and due to time constraints the information was sent to the Board late last evening.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel advised the Board to cease discussions with Plaza Corp. and other community members outside the meeting forum and requested the Board speak directly with Board Leadership or Administration and at the next meeting during closed session Administration and the Board would discuss further.

7. Any other items

There were no other items.

8. Executive Session

There was no executive session.

9. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Taylor adjourned the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

John Taylor, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners