

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

PLACE: Room 207A, County Administration Building

TIME: 3:35 p.m. – 6:33 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Stephanie Moore

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Moored, John Faul, Thom Canny, Lisa Henthorn, Mary Balkema, Lisa Robert, Tim Snow, Terra Mickolatcher, Rachel Grover, Sue Darling, Ruth Gruizenga, Steve Burnham, Jean Michaud, Paul Matyas, Rick Fuller, Sue Sayles, Kristine Cunningham, Dina Sutton

Vice Chairman Heppler convened the Committee of the Whole at 3:35 p.m.

1. Land Bank Authority Interviews (3)

Commissioners introduced themselves and interviewed:

- Mr. Steven Hassevoort
- Ms. Heather Isch
- Mr. Chan Pratt

Chairman Taylor arrived at 3:42 p.m.

Commissioner Tuinier arrived at 3:55 p.m.

Commissioner Shugars arrived 4:13 p.m.

Chairman Taylor asked Treasurer Balkema her opinion and she indicated Mr. Hassevoort or Ms. Isch would be acceptable.

Commissioner Rogers inquired what the makeup was of the Land Bank Authority and Board and Treasurer Balkema indicated there was a Banker/funder, whomever the City of Kalamazoo selected, an epidemiologist, a former business owner and herself.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about the Vibrant Board and Ms. Isch's role, she indicated it was beneficial.

Commissioner McGraw inquired if the Land Bank had interviewed the candidates and Ms. Balkema indicated Ms. Isch and Mr. Hassevoort had not been interviewed but were both active with the Land Bank Authority.

Commissioner Gisler stated he would like to know who the City was appointing.

Commissioner Provancher stated he liked Mr. Pratt and felt he would be a good fit to the Board.

Commissioner Rogers stated it was not the advisory board's role to interview applicants.

Commissioner Rogers stated she liked Ms. Isch and her knowledge and experience.

Chairman Taylor took a show of hand and the Board decided to appointment Ms. Heather Isch at the next meeting.

2. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Tracie Moored, Finance Director stated claims for September 20, 2016 totaled \$2,798,596.24. She indicated there was a release of funds to the Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority for the July/August surcharge distribution in the amount of \$268,167.58.

Commissioner Shugars inquired how much was being collected for the 2 cent surcharge and Ms. Moored indicated approximately \$1,000,000.

3. Technology Funds: Juvenile Home Security

Ms. Moored reviewed her memo as included in the packet. She indicated the Juvenile Home was in need of upgraded security system in the amount of \$600,000.

Discussion ensued.

4. Brownfield Plan – Village of Schoolcraft

Ms. Rachel Grover, Resource Coordinator and Mr. Joe Agostinelli, BRA Chair presented the proposed Brownfield Plan for 400 S. 14th Street in the Village of Schoolcraft.

Commissioner Gisler stated the Village of Schoolcraft was very supportive of this project.

Commissioner Rogers stated she was supportive of this project as well as the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Commissioner McGraw inquired about the contaminants on the property and Mr. Agostinelli stated it was being burned and asphalted over.

5. Public Housing Commission (PHC) Update

Mr. David Anderson, PHC Chair reviewed his memo as included in the packet. Mr. Anderson introduced individuals from Lockhart Management & Consulting, LLC and Housing Resources who would be working on administrative services, housing and support services providers.

Commissioner Gisler thanked Mr. Anderson and the PHC for their work.

Commissioner McGraw wanted to know what the criteria/measurements were being utilized and he indicated a grant received from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation afforded the opportunity to hire someone to evaluate the program.

Commissioner Tuinier inquired how the first 100 families were going to be selected and Mr. Anderson indicated families needed to contact Housing Resources and a prescreening would be done at that time.

Commissioner Seals stated he was impressed with the work being done thus far.

Discussion ensued.

6. 2017 Budget Overview

Ms. Moored stated the funding for the \$12,200 Diversity Training and the offset was taken from an insurance expenditure reduction.

She indicated Administration was done presenting the budget and was prepared for approval at the Annual Meeting on October 4.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about the Sustainability Policy Updates and Ms. Moored indicated those were distributed at the last meeting.

Ms. Moored indicated Administration would immediately start working with Department Head's on prioritizing the new funding requests and once Strategic Planning, Millage Surcharge and PPT were done recommendations from Administration would be brought forward to the Board.

Commissioner Rogers thanked the Treasurer for the information on the Land Bank and would like to have earlier discussions on allocation of funds to the Land Bank.

Ms. Moored indicated Finance would meet with the Land Bank Authority staff in the spring of 2017 and would bring those recommendations to the Board.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Seals stated he had met with Ms. Moored regarding funding the Veterans position.

Ms. Moored indicated HCS would need to find those funds within their budget.

Mr. Faul stated there were 2 components to the Veteran's Affairs office, one was two funds: Soldier & Sailor Relief Fund and Burial Fund and approximately \$20,000 from the Burial Fund was transferred to Soldier & Sailor Relief Fund. He stated he was hesitant to create a new position when there was a vacancy and agree with Administration's recommendation and look at new funding in the spring.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he felt there was a need and suggested a millage.

Commissioner McGraw stated he would not support any new millages.

Commissioner Provancher stated he too felt there was a need and would support creating the position.

Commissioner Rogers stated she was supportive of this position, however, she wanted supporting data.

Chairman Taylor stated he did not feel the Board should dictate to Department Heads how to manage their priorities and funding.

Commissioner Seals moved and it was duly seconded to direct Finance to find funding to create a Veterans Service Coordinator Position.

Commissioner Gisler stated this was a good example that the Board and Administration knows there is a need however, a Strategic Planning process was needed and necessary.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he understood and appreciated Commissioner Seal's frustration, however, he needed additional information before supporting funding this position at this time.

Commissioner Tuinier stated he too understood Commissioner Seal's frustration and had concerns that the issue was shut down.

Mr. Faul stated he was unaware the office was shut down. He stated he would confirm if this was accurate.

Commissioner Rogers concurred with Commissioners Gisler and Wordelman and she too would not be able to support this motion.

Chairman Taylor pleaded with Commissioner Seals to withdraw his motion and he would work with

Administration to come up with a plan.

Ms. Moored stated other Department Head's and Elected Officials were not being allowed to weigh in and plead their case for their new funding requests.

Commissioner McGraw called the question and it was supported.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Seals, Provancher
Nays: Commissioners Gisler, Heppler, McGraw, Rogers, Shugars, Taylor, Tuinier, Wordelman
Abstains: None
Absent: Commissioner Moore

The motion failed.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he would like to hear from the Veteran's Affairs Board.

Commissioner McGraw stated he would like Dr. Stoltman and Mr. Faul to look into the issue and report back to the Board.

Commissioner Shugars stated the County needed to look at other models.

Discussion ensued.

7. Administrative Performance Appraisal Process

Chairman Taylor stated he had been working with Ms. Kristine Cunningham on an evaluation tool for the Interim County Administrator, Controller and Corporate Counsel.

Ms. Cunningham stated it was a 360 degree review and was being compiled by Labor Counsel.

Commissioner Rogers stated she would like open reviews and discussion by the Board. Mr. Canny stated whoever was being reviewed could request to be done in closed session.

8. Any other items

Vice Chairman Heppler indicated he would like the Board to approve a Fire Prevention Week Resolution at the next Board meeting; he distributed a copy of said resolution.

9. Executive Session

Commissioner Seals moved and it was duly seconded that the Board of Commissioners, functioning as a Committee of the Whole, go into a closed session pursuant to Section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing issues to discuss settlement strategy in connection with a pending Worker's Compensation claim since an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the litigation or settlement position of the County.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: All members present
Nays: None
Abstains: None
Absent: Commissioner Moore

The motion carried.

10. Adjournment – no later than 6 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Taylor adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

John Taylor, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners