



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

MINUTES

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

OCTOBER 3, 2017

PLACE: Room 204, County Administration Building

TIME: 3:00 p.m. – 5:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners John Gisler, Tracy Hall, Ron Kendall, Scott McGraw, Stephanie Moore, Mike Quinn, Julie Rogers, Michael Seals, Dale Shugars, Roger Tuinier and Kevin Wordelman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Moored, Thom Canny, Kristine Cunningham, Lisa Henthorn, Amanda Morse, Lotta Jarnefelt, Pat Crowley, Jeff Getting, Matt Hansen, Megan Buwalda, Mary Balkema, Rick Fuller, Judge Bell, Dina Sutton

Chairman Shugars convened the Committee of the Whole at 3:00 p.m.

1. Review of Transfers and Disbursements

Ms. Amanda Morse, Deputy County Administrator stated claims for October 3, 2017 totaled \$2,604,039.76.

2. Aeronautics Board Interviews

The Board of Commissioners introduced themselves and interviewed the following:



- Linden Buck
- Kayleen O'Donnell

3. Purchase and Sale Agreement with 303 RSM, LLC

Mr. Thom Canny, Corporate Counsel reviewed his memo as included in the packet. He indicated the parcel of land was between the Administration Building and the building owned by Plaza Corp.

4. Bronson Park Lease Extension

Mr. Canny reviewed his memo as included in the packet. He indicated the County wished to extend the lease of Bronson Park with the City of Kalamazoo through January 4, 2019.

Commissioner Seals inquired when the projects were to be completed.

Mr. Jeff Chamberlain, Deputy City Manager of Kalamazoo, indicated there was not a specific time frame for the construction as they were still in the fund raising mode. However, the next steps would be to meet with architects and begin work on the Master Plan.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about rental fees the City assessed at a recent 9/11 event at Bronson Park.

Chair Shugars thanked Mr. Chamberlain for partnering with Kalamazoo County. He stated he appreciated all the development downtown Kalamazoo and was excited about the future.

5. Stepping Up Initiative Resolution

Commissioner Julie Rogers reviewed her memo as included in the Packet. She indicated the Stepping Up Initiative was to help increase counties' efforts to reduce the number of adults with mental and substance use disorders in jails. She indicated the County along with Community Mental Health currently did a fantastic job and this would allow the County to apply for grants.

Sheriff Rick Fuller, Mr. Jeff Patton, Executive Director, Community Mental Health, and Judge Curtis Bell addressed the Board concerning the proposed Stepping Up Initiative.

Commissioner Tuinier inquired if more inmates were being diagnosed with dual diagnosis and Mr. Patton indicated he did not feel the numbers were increasing, but, more awareness was being made as well as the closure of the State Hospitals also contributed to those numbers.

Commissioner Seals thanked the community partners for working on this issue. He thanked them for the services being provided.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he supported the Resolution, however, he did have concerns with individuals with mental illness carrying firearms.



Sheriff Fuller indicated the Resolution did not require any general fund dollars was merely a support of the Initiative.

Vice Chair Moore stated the passing of the Resolution would afford an opportunity for grant funds.

Discussion ensued.

6. Hurricane Relief Resolution

Commissioner Scott McGraw reviewed the Resolution as included in the packet.

Commissioner Rogers stated she was supportive of the Resolution, however, she did have concerns with the separation of State and Church.

Commissioner McGraw indicated the church was merely collecting the items as a coordinating agency.

Commissioner Rogers stated she did not feel it was the place of the County Board of Commissioners to determine which non-profits to support or not support.

Commissioner Quinn stated he had concerns with singling out one Church.

Commissioner Gisler stated it was his understanding that Salvation Army was involved as well.

Commissioner McGraw stated there were various entities that were collecting items. The Bridge Church was coordinating the effort and would be delivering the items to the various areas.

Vice Chair Moore stated she felt this was a good gesture and a call for support from the community. She indicated it was an opportunity for the Board to support and encourage the community to donate.

Commissioner Gisler asked if there was a need to do another Resolution for Hurricane Maria for Puerto Rico.

Commissioner Wordelman stated he did not want to set a precedent to do Resolutions for every disaster.

Chair Shugars stated he would encourage the community to be the champion for these events and the Board of Commissioners would support those endeavors.



7. Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund Resolution

Treasurer Mary Balkema reviewed the Resolution as included in the packet. She indicated she was opposed to Senate Bill 386. She indicated all 83 County Treasurer's opposed this Bill. She was asking the Board to support a Resolution opposing SB386.

Commissioner Gisler stated he would support this Resolution.

Commissioner Wordelman stated SB386 would allow those individuals who fall through the crack be able to keep their homes. He indicated he felt legislation should play out and would not be able to support this Resolution.

Mr. Canny provided a clarification on the process.

Commissioner Rogers indicated she would not likely support this Resolution.

8. Kalamazoo County Transportation Authority Update

This item was removed from the Agenda.

9. Any other items

Commissioner Wordelman stated he distributed a Draft Sustainability Policy.

Commissioner Rogers stated she appreciated the collaboration from Commissioner Wordelman, however, she felt a robust Sustainability Policy was necessary.

Commissioner Wordelman stated his intent was to be broader and have room to work with, however, it was his intent in 2018 to bring a Resolution forward.

10. Executive Session

Commissioner Rogers 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 Sections 8 (c) and (h) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing issues related to the County's labor negotiations and to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state statute.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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



The motion carried.

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

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Shugars adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Dale Shugars, Chairman
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners

