

Roll Call	<p>A work session of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, January 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Proposed FY2017 Budget.</p>
	<p>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Bobby Hopewell Vice Mayor Don Cooney David Anderson Erin Knott Matt Milcarek Shannon Sykes Jack Urban</p>
	<p>COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None</p>
	<p>Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.</p>
Communications	<p>An opportunity was offered for general communications, but none were offered.</p>
Discussion Items	<p>Discussion items were considered next.</p>
Methods for Evaluating and Selecting Foundation for Excellence Programs	<p>City Manager Ritsema provided introductory remarks for a PowerPoint presentation entitled <i>City Commission Work Session, January 23, 2017</i>. A copy of this presentation was filed with the papers for this meeting.</p> <p>Community Planning and Development Director Laura Lam reviewed the Foundation for Excellence (FFE) timeline, the FFE plan for 2017-2018, Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs as it related to the work of the City, and a diagram showing how the FFE fit with other City initiatives.</p> <p>Chief Financial Officer Tom Skrobola reviewed the Priority Based Budgeting tool and highlighted modifications to the tool that would enable it to be used for scoring FFE programs. CFO Skrobola also reviewed the results of the City Commission's "FFE \$1,000 Prioritization Exercise."</p> <p>Deputy City Manager Jeff Chamberlain facilitated a discussion of the proposed models for evaluating FFE programs and integrating the FFE with existing City programs.</p> <p>Commissioners discussed the process and challenge of scoring and prioritizing FFE programs, including whether the prioritization of result and the broad result categories would cause program scores to be diluted.</p> <p>In response to Commissioners' questions, City Manager Ritsema explained the results from the City Commission's "FFE \$1,000 Prioritization Exercise" would be used to prioritize the PBB community results, and he noted there were definitions for each of the result areas, which would help with program scoring. City Manager Ritsema suggested that concerns about the dilution of program scores could be addressed by considering both the raw scores and the weighted scores.</p> <p>Commissioner Urban spoke of the need to consider the perception of citizens and the FFE donors regarding the use of aspirational project</p>

dollars. Commissioner Urban stated FFE projects and programs should not duplicate existing programs in the community.

Mayor Hopewell remarked that PBB was the strongest program/project prioritization tool the City had ever used.

In response to questions from Commissioners, Director Lam stated over 100 programs would be scored for the Commission prior to the March 4th retreat. Director Lam indicated the information available from Imagine Kalamazoo 2025 showed strong community support for core services, but citizens were interested in programs that would impact more than one community result area.

Discussion took place regarding the tension between taking time to thoroughly evaluate and pilot potential programs for wise investment of FFE dollars and the need to have some quick successes and take advantage of "low hanging fruit."

In response to a question from Commissioner Sykes, City Manager Ritsema explained the FFE program scoring, the development of program metrics, the reporting of program results, and the creation of feedback loops would help identify where there were holes in the City's response to community needs.

In response to a question from Commissioner Milcarek, Director Lam stated the IK2025 plan would be completed in 2017, which would be followed by the development of goals and action items. Director Lam noted the IK2025 plan would inform other City plans like the Consolidated Plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Commissioner Urban suggested the project scoring process used by the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) as a model for scoring FFE projects, and he asked whether the City would be able to identify for the community the projects being funded by the FFE.

In response to Commissioner Urban, Deputy City Manager Chamberlain reported the City Manager's Office was developing back office systems to track and report on FFE projects.

Commissioner Milcarek remarked that for practical reasons 2017 FFE dollars would be used to boost existing programs and fund shovel ready projects, and City needed to set peoples' expectations accordingly.

Mayor Hopewell compared the current situation with the receipt of funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in 2009-2010. Mayor Hopewell noted that ARRA funded both shovel-ready projects and projects that required planning and development.

Commissioner Sykes asked whether there would be separate scoring for big ideas generated through Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo (SPK).

Discussion took place about the use of FFE funds to address and end poverty.

Methods for Evaluating
and Selecting
Foundation for
Excellence Programs
(cont'd)

Methods for Evaluating and Selecting Foundation for Excellence Programs (cont'd)

Mayor Hopewell suggested that 2017 FFE funds be used to boost support for programs identified through the SPK process.

Commissioner Cooney expressed agreement with Mayor Hopewell and suggested that SPK participants use 2017 to develop a plan to end poverty, which would incorporate the big ideas mentioned by Commissioner Sykes.

City Manager Ritsema reminded Commissioners that shovel ready projects would be identified through the FFE program scoring process. City Manager Ritsema provided information on the March 4th City Commission retreat and noted the work session would include a discussion of moving from the City Commission Priorities to PBB as a way to express goals and measure performance.

Citizen Comments

When an opportunity was given for general citizen comments, the following people addressed the City Commission:

Chris Sinclair, City resident, stated the Kalamazoo Animation Festival International (KAFI) was transformational and indicated it would be great if this event would return to Kalamazoo.

Adam Roth, City resident, asked about the application process to receive funding.

Larry Schlack, City resident, stated the City was on the right track and indicated he would be making suggestions for the FFE.

James Greene, City resident, asked how citizens could submit proposals for ending poverty.

Zach Lassiter, City resident, remarked that some projects looked good but were not good, and he asked Commissioners to consider that some of the City's greatest areas of need did not have advocates.

Mayor Hopewell explained that Imagine Kalamazoo 2025 was the process for citizens to use to have input and share their ideas for Kalamazoo. Mayor Hopewell clarified there was no intent for the City to become a granting agency like the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. Mayor Hopewell noted that the City was not the organization behind KAFI.

Commissioner Comments

Finally, an opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments and concerns from City Commissioners.

Vice Mayor Cooney stated the SPK plan needed to be developed by the community, and he recommended the plan and process use by Nashville, Tennessee.

Commissioner Sykes stated the recent transition of leadership in the federal government had created fear in some parts of the community, and she urged Commissioners to have ongoing discussions about easing these fears.

Commissioner Urban remarked on the need for the City to build and keep the community's trust during implementation of the FFE.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on March 6, 2017

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: March 6, 2017

Adjournment