

CONSENT AGENDA NO. _____

**STATE OF KANSAS)
WYANDOTTE COUNTY)) SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY, KS)**

**REGULAR SESSION
April 4, 2024**

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in Regular Session Thursday, April 4, 2024, with seven members present via Zoom and on site: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burns, Commissioner Second District; Hill, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Lopez, Commissioner Sixth District; Stites, Commissioner Seventh District; and Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District and Mayor Pro Tem, presiding. Townsend, Commissioner First District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; Davis, Commissioner Eighth District; and Garner, Mayor/CEO; were absent. The following officials were also in attendance: David Johnston, County Administrator; Angela Lawson, Acting Chief Counsel; Monica Sparks, Interim UG Clerk; and Brittne MacDonald, UG Clerk's Office.

Tom Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large District 2, said tonight however, I will be acting as Mayor Pro Tem due to the unavailability of Mayor Garner. Before I call the meeting to order, I want to announce that some commissioners, staff, and the public are attending remotely via Zoom, by phone, or on-site. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones, please, when not speaking to avoid background noise.

During the meeting, please make sure that you announce yourself by name and title every time you speak so the public that is observing knows who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants and is current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General's Office.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said I will now call the meeting to order. Clerk, roll call, please.

Roll call: Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites, Bynum, Burns, Burroughs.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said the invocation is being given by Chaplain Jared Altic, Wyandotte County Christian Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said I'll ask the Clerk, are there any revisions to tonight's agenda?

Monica Sparks, Interim Clerk, said yes, Mayor Pro Tem, we have one revision, which is an addition to the Consent Agenda. Item No. 4, Nomination to Boards and Commissions. This represents the only revision to the agenda this evening.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said this evening first part of our agenda, the Mayor's Agenda. I believe we have one. We have five proclamations, and I would ask that the Clerk please read the proclamation.

VI. MAYOR'S AGENDA

Item No. 1 - 2134... PROCLAMATION: MICHAEL DENNIS CASSIDY DAY

Synopsis: Proclamation proclaiming March 17, 2024, as Michael Dennis Cassidy Day, submitted by Tyrone A. Garner, Mayor/CEO.

Ms. Sparks read a synopsis of the following proclamation.



Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Michael Dennis Cassidy was born August 19th, 1946 to Robert Cassidy and Charlotte (Mosely) Cassidy in Kansas City, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Mike and his six siblings were raised in Kansas City, a proud Irish Catholic Wyandotte County family. He graduated from Bishop Ward High School in 1964 and moved on to attend Rockhurst College where he received a bachelor's degree in political science; and

WHEREAS, Mike had long been fascinated by the heavens, science fiction, and things that moved faster than the speed of sound. As a child this fueled his desire to be an astronaut leading him to join the Air Force in 1971 and eventually landing him in the back seat of the F-4 Phantom as a Weapons System Officer and was forever assigned the callsign "Crash."; and

WHEREAS, while stationed abroad their son Ryan was born in 1975 before eventually settling in the Wichita, Kansas area in late 1979 when Mike transitioned from the Air Force to the Kansas Air National Guard (KANG) where he took the position of Instructional Weapons Systems Officer (IWSO). A short time later, in 1980 he moved to Mulvane, Kansas where his Wife still resides today. Mike continued to serve with the KANG until his retirement in 1991. He always remembered his active time in the military as a landmark of his essence. Working with some of the finest individuals to serve and protect our country was one of many proud points of his life; and

WHEREAS, in the mid-1990s Mike began his employment at Bombardier Aerospace/Learjet where he took to the skies once again, this time in the capacity of Flight Test Engineer. This new position found him working alongside a new group of highly trained individuals he both respected and enjoyed while addressing extreme weather conditions, tough aircraft certification deadlines, and new everyday challenges working on some of the most sophisticated business jets of the day. Retiring from Bombardier/Learjet in 2018 marked the end of a second successful career in the aerospace industry; and

WHEREAS, after retiring, Mike enjoyed spending time with wife, kids, grandchildren, brothers, sisters and friends. Mike loved traveling to see his family, be it the "Kansas City Irish Fest" or working on a project together. He spoke of them with equally high regard for their intelligence, kindness, humor, and love. His pride knew no bounds for his children and his grandchildren. He wondered who they would become as he watched them grow as individuals and fiercely loved them all; and

WHEREAS, retirement didn't stop him from making friends and he found new camaraderie and ways to carry on his patriotism with the "40&8" honor society that preserved the ideals he held with the people he has served and flew with. Always finding new ways to be of service; and

WHEREAS, Michael Dennis Cassidy was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Charlotte (Mosely) Cassidy; brothers-in-law, Richard Uzzell, Wayne Hutchinson, and David Meyers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tyrone Garner, Mayor/CEO of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, do hereby proclaim March 17, 2024, as:

"Michael Dennis Cassidy Day"

in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.

TOM BURROUGHS, MAYOR PRO TEM

Action: Proclamation was read.

Item No. 2 - 2137... PROCLAMATION: JORGE FREGOSO TORRES AND REBECA CORTES VALDEZ WEEK

Synopsis: Proclamation proclaiming April 1-6, 2024, as Jorge Fregoso Torres and Rebeca Cortes Valdez Week, submitted by Tyrone A. Garner, Mayor/CEO.

Ms. Sparks read a synopsis of the following proclamation.

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Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Rebeca Cotrés Valdez, professor at the University of Guadalajara in the Center for Art, Architecture, and Design has accepted the challenge of honoring her late husband Dr. Jorge Fregoso Torres' commitment to bringing his knowledge of Mexican architecture, art, and design to Kansas City, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Rebeca Cortés Valdez has prepared to deliver a full week of public presentations from April 1st—April 6th, 2024, representing both her work and that of her late husband; and

WHEREAS, Rebeca Cortés Valdez has collaborated with Sisters Cities Association, Guadalajara Committee, Kansas City Museum, UMKC School of Architecture and Design, Arts Tech-KC, Latinx Educational Collaborative, UNESCO Creative City of Music-KC, UMKC School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Mattie Rhodes Center, Consulado de México in Kansas City, KCKCC Art Gallery, Latino Arts Foundation, Arts as Mentorship, International Architects Atelier, Buttonwood Art Space, UMKC Cockefair Chair Committee, Wyandotte County Historical Society and Museum.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tyrone Garner, Mayor/CEO of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, do hereby proclaim April 1-6, 2024, as:

“Jorge Fregoso Torres and Rebeca Cortés Valdez Week”

in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, and urge all citizens to recognize Jorge Fregoso Torres and Rebeca Cortés Valdez Week. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.

TOM BURROUGHS, MAYOR PRO TEM

Action: Proclamation was read.

Item No. 3 - 2135... PROCLAMATION: BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK

Synopsis: Proclamation proclaiming April 11-17, 2024, as Black Maternal Health Week, submitted by Tyrone A. Garner, Mayor/CEO.

Ms. Sparks read a synopsis of the following proclamation.

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Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Black women in the United States are 2-3 times more likely than white women to die from pregnancy-related causes; and
- WHEREAS,** Kansas has the worst Black Maternal Mortality rate within the first 42 days after pregnancy among states with available data and a Black maternal mortality rate of 102.4 deaths per 100,000 live births; and
- WHEREAS,** the high rates of maternal mortality among Black women & birthing people span across income levels, education levels, socioeconomic status, access to prenatal care, general overall health, and mental health; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Kansas City, KS recognizes that the crisis is driven by structural racism embedded in institutions and contributes to unacceptable and preventable disparities in Black maternal health outcomes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Kansas Birth Equity Network and its diverse stakeholders including parents, maternal and child health organizations, birth workers, healthcare providers, researchers, and faith-based organizations, founded in 2021 share the mission of creating birth equity in the state of Kansas through intentional and quality perinatal, paternal, and infant care; and
- WHEREAS,** Black Maternal Health Week is an opportunity to acknowledge the tragic deaths of Black women and birthing people; the impact on Black families in our city, state, and across the nation; stand in solidarity to eliminate these disparities; uplift community-based responses to address the crisis; promote Black maternal health initiatives; and renew our commitment to address the Black maternal health crisis; and
- WHEREAS,** we affirm our commitment to ameliorating these unacceptable disparities and building health care, educational, and community systems that are equitable and safe for Black families; affirm the need to acknowledge the historical and systemic exploitation of Black people; and encourage all to listen to and believe Black women & birthing people seeking health care in our city.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tyrone Garner, Mayor/CEO of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, do hereby proclaim April 11-17, 2024, as:

“Black Maternal Health Week”

in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, and urge all citizens to recognize Black Maternal Health Week. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.

TYRONE GARNER, MAYOR/CEO

Action: Proclamation was read.

Item No. 4 - 2136... PROCLAMATION: SEVEN DAYS OF KINDNESS

Synopsis: Proclamation proclaiming April 10-18, 2024, as Seven Days of Kindness, submitted by Tyrone A. Garner, Mayor/CEO.

Ms. Sparks read a synopsis of the following proclamation.

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Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, SevenDays® **Make a Ripple, Change the World** We overcome hate by promoting kindness and understanding through education dialogue; and

WHEREAS, SevenDays® provides opportunities encouraging all people to participate in activities that promote and practice kindness; and

WHEREAS, SevenDays® 2024 will commemorate its 10th anniversary by focusing on teaching kindness making a ripple to change the world; and

WHEREAS, SevenDays® 2024 begins its events on Wednesday, April 10 with the Kindness Breakfast, a celebration of youth and announcement of the fourth annual Ripple of Kindness Award recipient as well as our new, Community Kindness Festival on Sunday, April 14 at the Jewish Community Center; and

WHEREAS, SevenDays® continues its daily themes of Love, Discover, Others, Connect, You, Go and Onward as we bring people from walks of life together to overcome hate with acts of kindness; and

WHEREAS, the memories of three wonderful and unique people, Reat Underwood, Dr. William Corporon, and Terri LaManno, will be honored through kindness understanding; and

WHEREAS, SevenDays® expands its acts of compassion, acceptance, and understanding to those who gather; and

WHEREAS, we fully support and encourage all in Kansas City, Kansas including residents, businesses, organizations, and visitors, to come together during the SevenDays® to act more kindly and be more understanding of differences, thereby making the world a better place one ripple at a time.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tyrone Garner, Mayor/CEO of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, do hereby proclaim April 10 through April 18, 2024, as:

“SevenDays® of Kindness”

in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, and urge all citizens to engage in acts of kindness throughout the week and remember the events of April 13, 2014, not only for the losses of that day but also for the significance of the powerful and enduring vow to overcome hate with kindness. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.

Tom Burroughs, Mayor Pro Tem

Action: Proclamation was read.

Item No. 5 - 2133... PROCLAMATION: FAIR HOUSING MONTH

Synopsis: Proclamation proclaiming the month of April 2024, as Fair Housing Month, submitted by Tyrone A. Garner, Mayor/CEO.

Ms. Sparks read a synopsis of the following proclamation.

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Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** the Fair Housing Act, enacted on April 11, 1968, was adopted to prohibit discriminatory housing practices, undo racial segregation patterns, and provide equal access to housing opportunities for all; and
- WHEREAS,** in Kansas City, KS, the combined Federal, State, and local civil rights laws protect people from housing discrimination based on race, religion, color, sex, disability, national origin or ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity, or familial status; and
- WHEREAS,** decades of intentional and unintentional actions, combined with enduring systemic inequities, have created a need for displacement prevention and mitigation policies; and
- WHEREAS,** despite existing fair housing protections and strategies, historically disenfranchised communities continue to face barriers in accessing safe, stable, and suitable housing; and
- WHEREAS,** Fair Housing month is an opportunity to reflect on our progress and to acknowledge the remaining challenges we have yet to overcome; and
- WHEREAS,** we celebrate the passage of the Fair Housing Act, let us recommit ourselves to eliminating discrimination in housing by dismantling the barriers to housing choice; acknowledging the intersection of health, economic, and housing inequities; dedicating resources to meaningfully address disparities; adopting policies that support our community's most vulnerable residents; measuring the impacts of our efforts; and creating more housing that welcomes and celebrates people of all abilities, races, cultures, and incomes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tyrone Garner, Mayor/CEO of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024, as:

“Fair Housing Month”

in Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, and urge all citizens to recognize Fair Housing Month. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.

TOM BURROUGHS, MAYOR PRO TEM

Action: Proclamation was read.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs, said Commission members, we do have the privilege this evening of having a SevenDays Board member Bill Timaeus, to be here tonight to receive the proclamation.

Bill Timaeus, SevenDays Board Member, said Mayor Pro Tem and others in the Unified Government, thank you. On behalf of Mindy Corporon and the SevenDays Board, we just want to you to know how grateful we are for your support over the years. it has been, as the proclamation noted, 10 years since these vicious murders occurred at the Jewish Community Center and Village Shalom. And from that time, Mindy has led us in an extraordinary effort to reach especially young people. We deal with teenagers a lot, we have a Kindness Youth Leadership Team that has actually planned the April 14 event, and we hope to see you at, but our

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work has now spread from the Kansas City area into more than a dozen different states where we are affecting the lives of teenagers and others to get rid of this anti-semitic nonsense and the other kinds of hate that we encounter. So, thank you for your support. Thank you, Mayor Pro Tem for having the proclamation read in full and we thank you for that.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said Committee, this now takes us to Item No. 6 on our agenda this evening, and that's community input and recommendations. Clerk, do you want to read public information or would you prefer I read. **Ms. Sparks** said I can read it.

Item No. 6 - 211539... COMMUNITY INPUT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Synopsis: Public forum to allow citizens to express concerns and present solutions relating specifically and solely to the Unified Government's span of interest and control. Participants will be limited to three minutes in duration. Citizens appearing in the Municipal Office Building will be given priority, followed by a limited number of participants who have registered online through the Unified Government Clerk's Office. Those who have registered online may not be given an immediate opportunity to participate due to time constraints to be determined by the Mayor Pro Tem. If time allows, persons listening online who wish to make comments will be recognized. All interested participants should know that Mayor Pro Tem has also placed a maximum time limit of 45 minutes to host & conclude these discussions. In the interest of time, there should be no expectation for the requested participant's guaranteed inclusion to be recognized for comment and participation.

Dr. Alma Rosas Hall said good evening, thank you for giving the time to speak. I am a resident of Kansas City, Kansas. I'm advocating for the immigrant community of our city and our county. I'm reaching out to express our concerns regarding decisions that made by the elected leadership and the Unified Government of various organizations within our community. Our primary concerns, I'm nervous so I do apologize. My primary concern is the lack of communication and representations for our diverse community that resides here. Additionally, we are troubled by the high taxes and limited cultural awareness determined by some of the UG leadership. As an immigrant to this country, I have experienced many challenges with governmental leadership. This leads me to question who is holding our elected officials accountable for the fiscal and

ethical responsibilities. It is crucial that the decisions made by our leaders are transparent and are in the best interest of all the members in our community. Many, some of us in the immigrant community have faced a rhetoric and retaliation when speaking about our concerns. Life in this country is not easy for those of us who live and work hard every day for every penny. Along with that, trying to acclimate to this new culture. It is essential that elected officials prioritize the well-being of all residents, regardless of the background and status. We demand that our elected officials uphold the ethics that they promise to follow and consider the hardships faced by many of our members in our community when making decisions that affect all of us. If you are truly representing our community, when you understand the struggles of working multiple jobs and worrying about the basic necessities such as rent, utilities and health care. Please consider the impact of your decisions on the taxpaying community and members. And remember that we're all counting on you to advocate for all the interests of our community. Thank you.

Eric Andersen said a resident here in Wyandotte County, right here on 14th Street. So, I'm here to ask, how can we reach a medium or happy path where the taco trucks on Central Avenue are able to have the later hours of operations they need to properly conduct their business. The majority of their income does come later at night or later in the evening. How can those taco trucks be able to work with the city and have those later hours. I know that there's—it's always kind of difficult to figure out how to do the initial communications on doing things right. As a small business owner, I've been there and done that, and how to get to work with the city properly. I know that there are members of the taco trucks who are trying to do their absolute best with working with the city. As a perfect example, one of the members who is here today, there was a meat market in my neighborhood that has been abandoned for over eight years. It has been falling apart, in disrepair, and quite frankly a blight to the neighborhood. But he has pulled proper permits. He has purchased it. He's paid all of his taxes. He is renovating it and completely repairing it from the ground up. And he's been able to do that because of one of the taco trucks that are now being limited on their hours and therefore losing the majority of their income. I know there's not going to be a deliberate or direct solution found here tonight, but I would love to be able to help communicate and work with the city and the taco trucks so we can all have a winning path forward. Thank you.

Norma Renteria said good afternoon, I work for food truck Taco Lachona. I believe food trucks should have an extended curfew. And I believe this because us food trucks, we sell more at night than at day, and we do record that through our sales. And by your Commission and your city limiting our income, it's harder for us to pay you guys raising our taxes. Sorry, let me rephrase that. By your Commission and your city limiting our income, and by you limiting our income and raising our taxes, you're taking away our livelihood because you guys are putting more to the taxes and us food trucks with less hours, we earn less money and we don't make enough to pay taxes. On top of that, most of us have kids. Sorry. I'm really scared. **Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs** said you take your time. **Ms. Renteria** said not only that, but businesses are really expensive. Our food is really expensive, the materials that we need are really expensive. Everything in this generation, as you guys know, have been—the prices have been sky high. Most of us, we just don't have to give and you guys are asking for more than what we have.

Francisco Valencia said me and my wife, we are food truck owners at 18th and Central. We've been working there for one year since May last year and we follow every single regulations you guys can ask for. You know, we pay taxes, we pay LLCs, and now with the time being cut by 8 o'clock, we won't be able to support our families, we won't be able to support our employees, and that hurts the owner big time. I just want to know, how can we do as owners to have our hours back? I'm not going to say 2-3 o'clock in the morning. So at least over the weekends, 12 to 1am in the morning is when the people come out to eat, you know. In the one year I've been there, we never had no issues. There is no shooting, there is no fighting. There are some crazy people driving around but there's nothing we can do about that. We actually been helping the people around the neighborhood, like the homeless. They always come late at night. We always feed them. They are always hungry, they always ask me for money. We don't give them no money, we give them some food. They always want to help. You know, we feed them with a couple tacos, and a drink, and they're happy to help us. During this wintertime, like the city never cleaned out the street, they never removed the ice. They never clean the street. So we clean it. I clean it myself with the rest of the people in the area. I bring my own machine, clean it up the street. Clean up removing the ice, that way people can get an in and out. You know, we clean up the end of the night. We pay our taxes, we pay insurance, we pay everything the city requires. So, my question is, how can we operate a little bit later during the night? They don't have to be

every night, at least over the weekends, that's when the people come out. 8 o'clock, the sun is still up. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining. **Mr. Valencia** said and the people like to eat late. Me as Hispanic, I like to eat late. We eat at 10, 12, 1 o'clock in the morning. And then we have a lot of different people come out. We had the news coming up to the corner one night, like, I think, in June or July of last year. And it was so popular, the city bring—I got some people coming in from Olathe, Overland Park. A lot of people come and spend money in Kansas City. So I just need to know, how can we do this? How can we get hours back, like, you know, couple more hours during the night? Thank you.

Alan Jaimes said I work with my mom at her food truck. It's Angela's Mexican food. **Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs** said, Alan, you may want to pull that microphone up and talk into it. **Mr. Jaimes** said I've been working with her for two years now, but she's been open for about three now. Recently, after the whole thing, it's been like three weeks now, right? It's been hard to just think about the taxes that we're going to have to pay here soon in two weeks. It's hard to generate the money when we have to close so early. After it all happened, we've been closing at like 11—we started opening at 11am and seeing if we earned the same income. But it's just not the same, because after 8 is when all the work comes in and it's just we are up on 46th & Parallel. And we weren't really part of the State Avenue noise and whatnot that we heard about. And my mom she's trying to buy out the property, but it's also the APM rule also goes for the private property. So, it's kind of hard to think like we didn't really do much and we're still getting affected by it.

Edgar Galicia said I am the Executive director of the Central Area Betterment Association. I am here in this occasion to announce the unfair treatment of Wyandotte County based mobile vendors and what they're receiving. It seems to me, the appreciation for the benefits these small businesses bring to our community is not being appreciated. Our request is for the Unified Government to conduct a study on how important and effective is the social and financial impact of food trucks to any city's economy before you sacrifice their well being and destroy these family's economy. With that said, with that said study, you will find out that mobile vendors are not the same as farmers markets, and that under clear and comprehensive regulation, food trucks are a strong investor in community. The challenges are regulation, permitting, fees, and other

requirements for food trucks to operate under fair conditions. Restricted regulations reduce opportunity for these entrepreneurs, especially for those systematically disadvantaged to enter into the food industry. Reexamination of regulations will create equitable and fair regulation, provide sufficient resources, and offer efficient systems and processes for food truck owners to operate. Not well-established parking regulations are deterrent to all businesses. However, studies have shown that well regulated food trucks complement restaurants as both industries grow side by side. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining. **Mr. Galicia** said regulations should focus on protecting the public's health and safety, not competing. Understanding the food trucks are the pipeline of the establishment of bigger businesses. These food trucks are the pipeline of larger businesses. And we have seen that time and time again. Our request is for the Commission to leave the time of operation restrictions under the understanding that the streets for all regulation was based on the operation of farmers market, not food trucks, and that is documented. Conduct the study with the participation of the UG departments as well as a community component, like organizations like CABA. We are more than ready to participate as we have been working on making sure our Central Avenue businesses are cared for holistically at the same time as we grow our market and our market offering. **Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired. **Mr. Galicia** said please help these families. Please help us be fair to everybody.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said can I get your name, please and residents, could you speak up just a little bit? We want to make sure we hear you. I'm sure it's very important that we hear what you have to say tonight.

Dr. Alma Rosas Hall translating for **Dumar Mendoza**, said good evening. We're here because we want to extend—we want to request the extend of time so we can make sales for business. And the location is Central & 18th Street. The reason why we're asking this is because, due to the time of 8 o'clock, it is very difficult for us to make money, to make enough revenue, so we can pay our staff and also to make money to pay for the expenses to run the business. And since the requested time is 8 o'clock, we have noticed that there's not enough revenue in comparison to where there was no time limit. So in order for our businesses to succeed we are requesting, humbly requesting, that you change that time or take a consideration to make sure that we're able to create enough revenue so we can have our businesses survive. Thank you so much.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said please let's not applause. We want to be respectful of all speakers. Thank you.

Sara Flores said hello and good evening. Our food truck is (inaudible), we're here to request the extend of the hours too. My mother has built her dream and bought a food truck. She started with a little tent, and she wasn't ready with all this when the hours they were late. And that was her dream to open a food truck. And now she's here with the food truck, and that's her source of income to pay her house, her taxes. We have all our permits, we have everything in order, and that's where all her money comes from so she can support her household too. And that's all we pleading for the hours to be extended. Like everybody said, and all the food trucks community has said, after 8:00 is when all our business comes through. We're not asking for anything else than a little bit more time for our income to come through. We always clean up ourselves. Like other food trucks that, you know, we bring a lot of business, and we pay our taxes. We do the right things, and we have everything in order so we wouldn't deal with no problems, and all we are asking is for you guys to let us keep our business. If we don't extend our hours, our business might not make enough money for us to have what we need as income. Also, like everybody else said, we do help out like the homeless too. We were down on State & 47th. The Fire Department is close to there. They love our food truck. They come and eat, they always support us. And we're not doing anything illegal. We're not doing anything, no noise, no mess. We always clean up after ourselves and that's all we're asking. Thank you.

Jorge Vasquez, Kansas City, Kansas, said just a few blocks from 18th & Central. I just want all the commissioners to know that I haven't heard anything about security for what's going on at 18th & Central and probably other areas. Security for the longer hours, but I still have yet heard. Evil comes out past—evil's here 24 hours, but more past 8 o'clock or whatever it is. So, maybe a little bit of concern for the security for the longer hours and stuff. I still haven't heard anybody talk about security. Thank you.

Pamela Penn-Hicks, Wyandotte County resident, said for years this community has stood before this Commission asking for a fair shake. Time and again we have been rebuffed, told that things take time, money is scarce, and that we don't vote or show up. But when we do show up

and start asking questions and stand up for our constitutional, civil and human rights as citizens, we are called unruly, ignorant and worse. Well, public servants the gig is up, you do have to follow the laws, state and federal. You're going to be held accountable for the truth. You're going to be transparent and inform the public you represent on issues that affect us. You will no longer be allowed to tax and spend without consequences. You will not be allowed to act like thugs and warn and threaten the community advocates and stand up for this community. It is time for you all to understand that you will be asked questions about the issues that concern us all, your decisions and how and with whom our money is spent. We will assess, analyze, critique, criticize and offer suggestions and solutions. Your job is to listen, evaluate, reassess and respond truthfully, ethically, transparently, accountably and respectfully to the people you serve. Don't get it twisted, we are your constituents. You work for us. We demand the truth, transparency, accountability and respect from our government that we deserve.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said Clerk, any other speakers. **Ms. Sparks** said no other speakers signed up to speak this evening. **Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs** said do we have anybody online? **Ms. Sparks** said we do have some in the audience, if you want to take those first. **Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs** said yes, please.

Carolyn Wyatt, Wyandotte County resident, said I'm here tonight to talk about the stormwater fees. I think that if you have vacant lots, shouldn't be charged stormwater fees. This water for years has been running in the ground, and from the ground it goes to the sewer, and from the sewer it goes to the river. So why are we charged for something that has been going on for as long as the earth's been here. So that's just extra money taxed to the community for the UG. I don't know who gets this money. But I know the person in this department, Public Works, is Jeff Fisher, and we all know what happened with Jeff Fisher and what's going on. And you can't just sit here and not do nothing. Everybody's been taxed, overtaxed in this community. The community voted for you to be here, and you should do the right thing for the community. Not let somebody come in put all these taxes on the community, real estate, and think it's okay. Because time is going to come again when we have to vote, and we're not just going to sit by and keep voting the same way. Things will change. County Administrator, you've been here for a

little while. You never say anything. We expect you to talk, to stand up for this community. You've been here long enough. Everybody been here long enough. You've been watching before you came on the seat, you were watching before you came. So, you already know what's going on in Wyandotte County. We don't appreciate it. We won't stand for it. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining. **Ms. Wyatt** said all these taxes is ridiculous. We're trying to live, people trying to live out here. So you got to think about that. We need some voting people also. Everybody's going to vote in here. They're going to remember what happened. So, we expect you to do the right thing. We need an audit. We need an audit of that one department, Public Works. We need to audit that department, a lot of money goes there. You have accountable where it all goes. The streets are bad. Don't ride and leave here, go 5th Street and go down to the freeway. You got to figure out what side you going to ride on. Don't go out Parallel leaving 5th Street. You got to figure what side you going to ride on. They're going to throw it down there and they go to step on it, or they expect us to ride on and push it down. It gets all on our cars, all on our wheels. It's too much money in that department. Start somewhere, Parallel, 5th Street at 70. Do something. **Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired. **Ms. Wyatt** said he's getting paid all this money in this department. Take care of our streets. Thank you.

CeCe Manck, Wyandotte County resident, said no statute, code, ordinance, policy, unification of a government or a home rule trumps our constitutional rights. Our first amendment rights afford us the right to come here and confront you of our grievances and to address our regression, whatever. It gives us the right to come here and to confront you about whatever y'all doing, spending our tax money. Nobody can tell you anything different. You took an oath, you know your constitutional rights like you know our constitutional rights. You know we have the right to be here and say what we need to say. Our Second Amendment rights afford us the right to remain the people over the government because we created you, you didn't create us. Our fourth amendment rights were violated because we have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and y'all crush all that here. Y'all try every way and at every turn. And when she gave y'all the opportunity, each one of y'all had an opportunity to vote on that. Each one of y'all had an opportunity to say, I'm not going to walk all over my community's constitutional rights, and every last one of y'all ignored it. Some of y'all called and said, "I support Andrew Davis."

How are you going to support crushing the people who voted for you, the people who pay for you, and the people who pay their salaries. You owe her nothing, you owe us.

Fannie Hill, Wyandotte County resident, said Administrator, you broke my heart. I just knew you were going to set it right. When you said they've been really getting you guys. I was excited about that because I didn't even ask you what you meant, because I knew that long as you knew they were getting us, you were going to sit down with them and tell them where to stop. I didn't question you when you said that, because I knew you were going to sit down with them and tell them this has to stop. That's all we wanted, it just to stop. We didn't ask you what they've been doing, it didn't matter. We just trusted you, and it's only gotten worse since you've been here. It has truly gotten worse. This place is the worst ever. This place is in a mess. There needs to be a house sweeping. Everything that's been here too long needs to be swept out because it's a shame that you all sit here. People come here begging, crying and pleading, and you just sit there and continue to raise taxes. Commissioner Burroughs, I was kind of surprised at you too. I was kind of surprised because when I told you what they did to us, I felt like you justified it all. You explained to us why they had to raise the taxes because of COVID, this, that, next one thing another. You just blamed it all the way, and then you blamed it on us because we don't show up at a meeting. We should not have to be show up to be treated fairly. We elected you all because we trusted you to treat us fairly. You mean you can't treat us fair because we don't show up. I apologize. We should have been here. We should not have put that kind of trust in you all. We should have—we dropped the ball just like you did, and I apologize for not being here, but I didn't feel like I needed to be because I had you looking out for me. And you all have not done a very good job of looking out for us. I mean, to tax us the way you did, knowing that you want to raise our taxes three years, my taxes went up \$1,600. I looked at another ladies in Parkwood, \$2,230 something dollars in one year. And now—oh, I got my reduced. And now you don't went back again and you raised it again, and then again next year. I mean, you knew you was going to do that the next two years. Did you have to hit us that hard? **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining. **Ms. Hill** said the appraiser said, “I didn't do it.” The appraiser said you guys did. You know what they said to me when I lowered. You're not going to do that to me. She said, the last two years you did 22% and 23% times the mill levy, and this time you hit us, 49% and 50% times it. That is criminal, injustice. But you know, I'm going to share and I'm going to sit down.

Because one thing the Lord said me, don't look for justice from you all. unjust men write unjust laws, and then they write laws to justify the unjust law. You don't recall, oh, that's a loophole. That's not a loophole. You wrote that unjust law. And when you give a man too much power, he either becomes corrupt or abusive, and you all have abused the power terribly and I'm ashamed that you all have done such a thing. There's no excuse for it. You have enough money. You have more than enough money. Lord knows, I prayed about it. I swore they got enough money. You know what the Holy Spirit said to me, they got more than enough to run this city efficiently. **Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired. **Ms. Hill** said you all agree, there's a spirit of greed in this land, and it's going to destroy the people who don't take heed to it.

Maria Bell said she's here because she's also trying to talk about the extension for the time period, because at 8 o'clock, we're just starting off our mobile sales, and we're seeing how complicated it is to start it with all the taxes and also how many insurances and all that has to be paid off. It's a lot of money. It's also a lot of time, because we're putting our time and effort into it. So, every extension of that time is actually being counted, and every employee also is being affected by it. It's not just working out of work. It's just like, we're like a family business. We been at it. We use it to pay our home, we use it to pay electric bills and everything. Then also, the rise of taxes is not helping so much. We're very thankful for your attention and everything. And we also check for every commercial person or every person that has this time to extension, we thank them also. Thank you for your time.

Lisa Walker-Yeager, Kansas City, Kansas, said I'm going to ditto everything they said, because it's true. I want to look at some avenues that we can correct this, because the problem is, is that we have to fill with new homes and new people to come to the community. And right now, I'm going back into the mortgage broker business, okay, but I can't entice somebody to move over here, because we can't regulate their payment because of the taxes. And I don't know if you know for sure, so if you have a set payment, let's say \$600 low payment, and then your taxes have went up to 180. Like my daughter's taxes went up to 180, now they're about to go up again. So, her taxes are going to be more than what her house note is. That's what you got to look at. How are you going to entice more people to come to Wyandotte County if there's no incentives. You're giving all the corporate incentives, but you're killing us by living here. You

agree, and you allow the school thing, the \$420 million to come, and y'all didn't even bother to allow them to ask the homeowners, knowing that they're not even—they're about to lose everything. Now we're also—our actual bills in BPU are ridiculous. There's nowhere we can run. There's nowhere, and that's a problem, because what we have to do is figure out how we're going to be able to feel and get more people to come to our community. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining. **Ms. Walker-Yeager** said in order to supplement some of these taxes and I'm going to say sales tax. The Royals was denied because everybody concentrated on one thing, destroying the properties, the businesses, but they didn't realize the money was coming from sales tax, not property taxes. So, they didn't have a good thing to exploring, only 3/8%. So, I would rather you raise the sales taxes so somebody purchased something, then that will be but don't hit us where we can't. You got all these businesses coming here, most of them are going to be on bonds. Who's going to pay for these bonds that they get, keep doing bonds on bonds, on bonds when there's HUD funding out here. **Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired. **Ms. Walker-Yeager** said so please look at this. You all are getting old. You're going to be on a fixed income. That's real talk, I just want y'all to understand that.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said Clerk, is there anyone else? **Ms. Sparks** said I don't see anyone else in the audience. We do have another hand. **Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs** said Clerk, before we get started, where are we on the 45-minute time limit? I want to be respectful. Thank you.

Katie Ramirez said I've had the wonderful opportunity to work with CABA, Central Avenue Betterment Association. We do make a lot of noise on the Central Avenue. We provide a lot of the events that you may have heard about, like the Dia De Los Muertos, recently Cinco De Mayo, and diversity. Pretty much anything fun and with food, you name it, we do it. With that being said, we have had the opportunity to work with a lot of small business owners, especially those that are just wanting to start. That makes it very impossible when there is no communication from anyone that's in the government at all to us. We have been recently been giving a lot—given a lot of loopholes that makes it a little bit harder for us. And the loopholes are fine, understandable in some way, but the communication lacks a lot. We were randomly bombarded with three different sheets that they have to fill out now. Not everyone applies to it,

but it makes it a little bit difficult when they already are paying a fee. And then, apart from that, they also have to pay other fees. And then, apart from that, if they do want to go further with their business, they are met with standards like these, where they have to close at 8, and, you know, close up shop early. That really makes it hard for them to even try to have any motivation to start these businesses, because you get fees, you get all these rules, and that just almost makes it seem impossible for them. And every time I see anyone that wants to come in, I'm talking about big face full of smiles, you know, they're just excited. And you see the motivation, and once everything just kind of starts to settle in, and they see how little you guys don't have their back, it really crushes them. It's sad to see how everyone has to come here and voice their opinions just for you guys to hear them out. So, yeah, that's all I had to say.

Ms. Sparks said is there anyone else in the audience?

Andrea, Wyandotte County resident, said it's Andrea, you can call me Andrea. Thank you. My question is, who's paying Cerner. Who's paying the BPU bills out there? Because I know between two of us it quadrupled last month, and I'm going to tell you what, no. Y'all let all that build up. Think about it. We're not trying to win, because it's not a war in this city. We are simply trying to live just like you, you, you, you, and all these empty seats here and whoever's online. We are trying to live here. Lot of us bred, born, brave, whatever we're here. We're your residents. Are we going to do this together, or y'all going to stay unified and we're going to be over here and we're struggling. I hope to gosh, I hope to Gosh, y'all understand what a karmic realm is because oh boy. Oh, hell. I'm afraid for you. Who's paying them Cerner bills, because I'm going to tell you what, why is the water sprinklers going when it's pouring rain. Why about eight floors lit up? Come on now, you know we're going to get stuck with that. No, thank you. No, thank you. Oh, and the blue line on the bottom, I appreciate that. Just because you guys want to send a message, we got messages too.

Ms. Sparks said any other hands—any other speakers in the audience. Mayor Pro Tem, we do have hands raised online. Our first speaker is Susan Stevens, Miss Stevens, you'll need to unmute. You'll have three minutes. Please state your name and residence for the record.

Susan Stevens, Kansas City, Kansas, I'm speaking about us helping these wonderful taco truck businesses that are like, are one of the things that makes our community so special. I love having my local taco truck just a couple blocks walk from my house. It's just, I mean, it's amazing. And you know, Forbes magazine even named our city as the taco capital of the USA because the unique thing about our city is we have our Mexican community comes from practically every region of Mexico. That's why we're the taco capital. We have the most diverse tacos, I mean cuisines from every region of Mexico right here. And as everybody's been mentioning, these are people living here, working here. They're generating income, and then they're—we're needing all these taxes, and they're paying taxes. It's bringing so much revenues into our city, and so we're turning around and trying to squash these small businesses. I don't understand the rationale. I think that there could be some city—if there are some issues, any issues at all, with the later hours, I really believe that there are ways to work this out, and then the time limit can be lifted so that they can actually be selling when they're getting most of their customers, like late at night. You know, the people who work late hours and this is their chance to go and get some tacos or get some good food. So, I really urge all of you to change that bad law that suddenly been surfaced these businesses. And just confer, get together with the whole community of these food truck owners, and you can work out a way to solve whatever the problems are. I know you can and keep these people, these families, in business. Thank you.

Ms. Sparks said our next speaker is identified as higher bilinguals. You'll need to unmute, state your name and residence for the record, please.

Gabriel Munoz said I'm the founder and Executive Director of the Toolbox Small Business Resource Center here in Wyandotte County. I apologize I could not be there today in person, but we and thank you, Commissioners, Mayor, for allowing this time to speak. But we are a small business resource center dedicated to helping assist dreamers with opening up their businesses. Any aspiring entrepreneur, we as free of assistance, we assist them with opening up and going through all the permitting licensing process for free. And so, we've been fortunate to work with quite a few different food truck owners. There's recent implementation of the hours of operations has greatly affected quite a few of the food trucks that we have worked with. And so, we'd like to ask the commissioners to consider changing this policy and implementing something that's going

to be more flexible. Quite a few other food trucks that we have worked with serve individuals who work in the construction field. And quite a few of these construction workers do not get off till after 7 or 7:30 and so this is why by time they get home and get cleaned up and they go get something to eat, they're not coming out after 8 o'clock. So you've taken away the income from a lot of these business owners. In addition to that, it's affecting these family owned businesses income, you know, can KCK be named as the taco capital of the US has been leveraged by create the creation of the taco trail. It's something that folks speak about all around metro areas to bring and come visit. Instead of limiting these food truck owners, we should be empowering this. We should be using this as a tool to bring more revenue to the county. **Ms. Sparks** said you have one minute remaining. **Mr. Munoz** said and so we'd love to, you know, see how we can work together to create rules and regulations that are going to make this more impactful for our community and to help our small businesses here. So thank you.

Ms. Sparks said Mayor Pro Tem, we reached our 45-minute limit.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said that does conclude our public comment part of the agenda. I would like to thank those who expressed concerns and presented possible solutions this evening, and I will close the public comment. Please watch our agenda so that we will have other public comment. We can't help if we don't know, and there's many of us that are interested in what you have to say. So, thank you for taking the time to present your issues to us, and many of us have taken copious notes this evening. So don't think that—hopefully you don't think your time is wasted or not considered or respected. So, thank you very much for attending and sharing your thoughts with us.

Action: Public form was held.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said Committee that takes us to our Regular Consent Agenda. Does any member of the Commission or County Administrator wish to set aside any item on the Regular Consent Agenda? Items not set aside, all items on the Regular Consent Agenda will be voted on by one vote.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Item No. 1 - 2121...RESOLUTION: APPROVING 2024 INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COALITION PROPOSAL

Synopsis: Approval of a resolution authorizing the Unified Government Inter-Departmental Working Group projects for grant pursuit in 2024, submitted by Gunnar H. Hand, AICP, Director of Planning and Urban Design.

On March 25, 2024 the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Burroughs, voted unanimously to approve and forward to full commission.

Action: RESOLUTION NO. R-14-24 “A resolution approving the 2024 Inter-Departmental Grant Coalition Proposal.” **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bynum, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites, Bynum, Burns.

Item No. 2 – MINUTES

Synopsis: Minutes from the Special Session meeting on March 7, 2024

Action: **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bynum, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites, Bynum, Burns.

Item No. 3 – WEEKLY BUSINESS

Synopsis: Weekly business materials dated February 8th and 15th, 2024.

Action: **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bynum, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites, Bynum, Burns.

Item No. 4 - 2144...NOMINATIONS: BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (ADDED PER AGENDA UPDATE)

Synopsis: Law Enforcement Advisory Board: Appointment of Joe Ward - 4/1/2024 to December 2025, submitted by Mayor Garner.

Action: Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bynum, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites, Bynum, Burns.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

No items.

IX. STANDING COMMITTEES’ AGENDA

No items.

X. ADMINISTRATOR’S AGENDA

No items.

XI. COMMISSIONER’S AGENDA

No items.

XII. LAND BANK BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ CONSENT AGENDA

No items.

XIII. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

No items.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said thank you. I believe that concludes our business for this evening, no other business coming before the governing body. I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

XIV. ADJOURN

Action: Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bynum, to **adjourn**. Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Hill, Kane, Lopez, Stites, Bynum, Burns.

Mayor Pro Tem Burroughs said thank you committee. Thank you public for your participation this evening, the meeting is adjourned.

**MAYOR PRO TEM BURROUGHS
ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 7:58 PM
April 4, 2024**

Monica Sparks
Interim Unified Government Clerk

BM

April 4, 2024