



Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas

Public Works and Safety Meeting

5th Floor Conference Room

701 N. 7th Street Trafficway, Kansas City, KS 66101

Commissioner Tom Burroughs, Chair

Commissioner Mike Kane – Commissioner Chuck Stites –

Commissioner Bill Burns – Commissioner Phil Lopez –

MINUTES

Monday, September 23, 2024

5:00 PM-6:54 PM

Attendance:

Committee Members Present:

- Commissioner Burroughs (Chair)
- Commissioner Lopez
- Commissioner Burns
- Commissioner Stites
- Commissioner Kane

Committee Members Absent:

- None

Staff Present:

- Brittnie MacDonald (Clerk)
- Monica L. Sparks (Unified Government Clerk)
- Casey Meyers (Senior Counsel)
- Phil Lockman (Director of Community Corrections)
- Jeff Miles (Director of Water Pollution Control)
- Sarah Shafer (Senior Engineer, Public Works)
- Shelly Kneuvean (Chief Financial Officer)
- Alan Howze (Assistant County Administrator)

Call to Order:

Commissioner Burroughs called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

Revisions to Agenda:

The Clerk reported there was an agenda update issued, adding Item No. 3 to the Comment Agenda.

Approval of Previous Minutes: (No audio until 3:50 when discussion begins)

Commissioner Kane moved to approve the minutes from the July 24, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burns.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

- Ayes: Lopez, Burns, Stites, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None

Committee Agenda:**Item 1: ORDINANCE: AMENDING CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATED TO DISORDERLY CONDUCT, DEFINITION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA, AND INTERFERENCE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT (Discussion Begins: 4:16)**

Casey Meyers, Senior Attorney, presented amendments to the Code of Ordinances. The amendments included changes to the definition of disorderly conduct based on a 2024 Kansas Supreme Court case, updates to the definition of drug paraphernalia, and changes to interference with law enforcement, all to align with state statutes. The overall goal of these amendments is to ensure local ordinances are consistent with current state statutes and recent court interpretations.

Key Points:

- Disorderly Conduct Amendment:
 - A. Based on a 2024 Kansas Supreme Court case (Griffy v. City of Wichita)
 - B. Previous language was deemed unconstitutionally overbroad
 - C. Amendment aims to bring the ordinance into compliance with the court ruling
- Drug Paraphernalia Definition:
 - A. Specifically excludes fentanyl test strips from being considered drug paraphernalia
 - B. Allows people to test substances for the presence of fentanyl without legal penalty

- Interference with Law Enforcement:
 - A. Added a new section covering knowingly fleeing from a law enforcement officer on foot or bicycle
 - B. Applies when an officer has reason to stop the person and has given a visual or audible signal to stop
 - C. Does not apply to fleeing in a motor vehicle (which is covered under eluding charges)

Commissioner Burns moved to approve the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

- Ayes: Lopez, Burns, Stites, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None

Item 2: RESOLUTION: APPROVING COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FISCAL YEAR 2024 REPORT (Discussion Begins:11:28)

Phil Lockman from the Department of Community Corrections presented two reports (adult and juvenile) on evidence-based practices and policy updates over the last year.

Key Points:

- Reporting Period:
 - A. Covers fiscal year 2024
 - B. Spans from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024
 - C. Approved data by department leadership on July 18, 2024
- Funding:
 - A. Adult side receives approximately \$1.9 million
 - B. Juvenile side receives approximately \$4.2 million
 - C. Report is required by the Department of Corrections
- Staffing Status:
 - A. Previously had vacancies (3 ISO positions and 1 ISO position was on military leave in January-March period)
 - B. Currently have about 5 open positions, which has improved from previous years' staffing challenges
- Demonstrate compliance with state law and Department of Corrections requirements

Commissioner Stites moved to adopt the resolution and advance to the October 3, 2024, Board of Commissioners meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kane.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

- Ayes: Lopez, Burns, Stites, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None

Item 3: RESOLUTION: APPROVING EPA CHANGE GRANT AND APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CENTRAL AVENUE BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION (ADDED PER AGENDA UPDATE) (Discussion Begins: 19:20)

Jeff Miles, Director of Water Pollution Control, and Sarah Shafer, Senior Engineer, presented information on a \$20 million EPA grant opportunity for CSO 55 project. The presentation included Katie Ramirez and Edgar Galicia with the Central Area Betterment Association, community partnership with CABA, Todd Peterson with CSI, and Black and Veatch, to go over details on the project scope and potential use of funds. The grant aims to reduce infrastructure costs for ratepayers while promoting community engagement and environmental improvements.

Key Points:

- Grant Overview:
 - A. Total potential grant amount: \$20 million
 - B. No federal matching funds required
 - C. Focused on environmental and climate justice activities
- Project Specifics (CSO 55):
 - A. Addresses sewer separation and green infrastructure
 - B. Manages 35 million gallons of stormwater
 - C. Total project cost estimated at \$60 million
 - D. Aims to reduce pollution in waterways
- Community Partnership:
 - A. Central Area Betterment Association (CABA) selected as statutory partner
 - B. Approximately \$1 million allocated to CABA for community engagement
 - C. \$500,000 for project-related support
 - D. Requires community-led facilitation, engagement, and outreach project

- Grant Requirements:
 - A. Three-year period of performance
 - B. Deadline for application: November 21, 2024
 - C. Rolling award process
 - D. Project Components:
 - E. Surface storm water treatment facilities
 - F. New trail system for pedestrians and maintenance path
 - G. Workforce development
 - H. Community education and outreach
- Jersey Creek referred to as US Army Corps of Engineers Study on the ecosystem restoration or naturalization of Jersey Creek
 - A. The Mayor's directive was not to pursue or do any type of activities in or around that area without coming back to the Commission for approval, with a very explicit terms and not included in this grant application
- Next Steps:
 - A. Detailed discussion at the October 28th Public Works Committee meeting
 - B. Potential approval at the November 7th full commission meeting to meet the deadline for submittal

Commissioner Burns moved to set the matter over to the next Public Works and Safety meeting on October 28, 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kane.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

- Ayes: Lopez, Burns, Stites, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None

Adjournment: (Discussion Begins: 1:54:48)

Commissioner Stites moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burns.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

- Ayes: Lopez, Burns, Stites, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.

MLS