CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.6

Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

Mayor Tyrone Garner
Commissioner At-Large Dist. 1 Melissa Bynum – Commissioner At-Large Dist. 2 Tom Burroughs –
Commissioner Dist. 1 Gayle E. Townsend – Commissioner Dist. 2 Bill Burns –
Commissioner Dist. 3 Christian Ramirez – Commissioner Dist. 4 Dr. Evelyn Hill –
Commissioner Dist. 5 Mike Kane – Commissioner Dist. 6 Phil Lopez –
Commissioner Dist. 7 Chuck Stites – Commissioner Dist. 8 Andrew Davis

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MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

Thursday, August 21, 2025
5:02 PM – 10:33 PM

Attendance:

Commissioners Present:

- Mayor Tyrone Garner
- Commissioner Burroughs
- Commissioner Bynum
- Commissioner Burns
- Commissioner Townsend
- Commissioner Kane
- Commissioner Hill
- Commissioner Stites
- Commissioner Davis

Commissioners Absent:

- Commissioner Ramirez
- Commissioner Lopez

Staff Present:

- Monica L. Sparks, Unified Government Clerk
- David Johnston, County Administrator
- Angela Lawson, Acting Chief Legal Counsel
- Reginald Linsdey, Budget Director
- Michael Peterson, Deputy Budget Director
- Sam Her, Lead Budget Analyst
- J. Renee Ramirez, Director of Human Resources
- Troy Shaw, Executive Director of Public Works
- Christian Cooley, GIS Director
- Russ Owens, Fleet Manager in Public Works
- Jeff Miles, Director of Environmental Services
- Diana Miles, Solid Waste Recycling Director
- Krystal McFeders, Interim Strategic Communications Director
- Ruth Jones, Director Area Aging on Agency
- Betty Yule, Nutrition Manager
- Phyllis Wallace, Human Services Director
- Kay Sharp, Community Development Director
- Deasiray Bush, Director of Public Transportation
- Chelsee Chism, Economic Development Director
- Rodney Lucas, Interim ACA and Interim Planning Director
- Randy Greene, Historic Preservation
- Matthew Willard, County Appraiser
- Kevin Bibbs, Information Technology Director
- Crystal Sprague, Director of 311 and Performance Innovation
- Theresa Duke, Legal Department
- Shelley Kneuvean, Chief Financial Officer
- Adrian Alemifar, Senior Analyst Budget Department

Call to Order:

Mayor Tyrone Garner called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

Notice and Consent to Meeting:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, is scheduled to be conducted in a hybrid format on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. for a budget workshop in the Fifth-floor conference room of the Municipal Office Building, 701 N. 7th Street, Kansas City, Kansas.

CONSENT TO MEETING of the governing body of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, accepting service of the foregoing notice, waiving all and any irregularities in such service and in such notice, and consent and agree that we, the governing body, shall meet at the time and place therein specified and for the purpose therein stated.

Mayor Garner stated this was a continuation of budget workshops for the 2026 budget, following up on the previous workshop to allow the commission to make an informed decision on the 2026 budget recommendation from the County Administrator.

David Johnston, County Administrator, turned the meeting over to continue Public Works Department presentations.

GEOSPATIAL SERVICES DIVISON (Discussion Begins 04:05)

Reginald Lindsey, Budget Director, presented the Geospatial Services budget:

- 82% of the budget is personnel costs
- 17% of contractual services including aerial photography ($20,000),
- ESRI software ($170,000)
- Oblique aerial photography ($60,000)
- Cloud computing services ($60,000)

Discussion:

Christian Cooley, GIS Director, explained the division serves as enterprise GIS support for all Unified Government departments, providing software support, aerial photography data, real estate parcel mapping for tax assessment, and street/address data for 911 services.

Commissioner Burroughs asked about the difference between aerial photography and oblique aerial photography.

Christian Cooley explained that aerial photography is corrected for precise mapping measurements, while oblique photography provides side views of buildings and structures at higher resolution, useful for utilities, appraisers, and code enforcement.

FLEET SERVICES DIVISION (Discussion Begins 09:40)

Budget Director Lindsey presented Fleet Services with a $5.4 million budget and 27 FTEs, funded through an internal service fund. The division maintains 1,300 vehicles, with 54% personnel costs and 36% operating costs.

Russ Owens, Fleet Manager, reported 25 current FTE positions with 17 technicians maintaining 1,300 UG vehicles. He noted implementation of a new parts salvage program from totaled vehicles to reduce costs.

Commissioner Bynum praised the department's efficiency in keeping repairs in-house, saving significant labor costs.

Commissioner Townsend complimented the cleanliness and organization of the fleet facility.

Mayor Garner commended the professionalization of the fleet operation under Owens' leadership, noting the efficiency and professional appearance of the facility.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION (Discussion Begins 18:00)

Budget Director Lindsey presented Environmental Services with a $58 million budget (58% of Public Works total), 129.5 FTEs, and a proposed 4% rate increase. The division operates as an enterprise fund with no tax levy funding.

Mr. Miles, Director of Environmental Services, reported participation in over 30 community outreach events with a goal of 50 for the year. He emphasized the division operates without general fund support and contributes $5.8 million annually in pilot payments (10% of budget) to the city general fund.

Mr. Miles highlighted significant staffing challenges, operating at 129 positions compared to a previous peak of 184, with a 20% overall vacancy rate and 40% vacancy in the collections group. He noted $380,000 spent in overtime, mostly forced overtime. Mr. Miles explained the consent decree compliance efforts and thanked Mayor Garner for a recent facility tour.

Commissioner Bynum asked about consent decree compliance status.

Jeff Miles reported substantial compliance with one minor project issue and noted potential need to reassess the decree due to inflation impacts.

Commissioner Kane inquired about staffing shortages.

Jeff Miles confirmed 20% vacancy rate and expressed readiness to resume hiring after budget approval.

Commissioner Davis asked about recruitment challenges.

Jeff Miles explained innovative approaches including department rebranding from "Water Pollution Control" to "Environmental Services" and job title improvements, plus partnerships with IBEW and community colleges.

ILLEGAL DUMPING DISCUSSION (Discussion Begins 38:21)

Mayor Garner reported on a successful cleanup of K-32 area following Commissioner Burns' earlier complaint, with 34 dump trucks of debris removed in one day.

David Johnston, County Administrator, apologized for the delay in addressing the dumping issue and announced appointment of John Kelly as blight control coordinator with authority to direct departments.

Commissioner Davis requested specific budget proposals for blight control resources, emphasizing the urgency during budget season.

Multiple commissioners discussed need for cameras, enhanced penalties, and enforcement measures for illegal dumping.

Mayor Garner requested legal research on maximum fines for illegal dumping and potential enhanced penalties for offenses against UG employees and property.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION (Discussion Begins 1:07:57)

Reginald Lindsey, Budget Director, presented Solid Waste Management with a $13 million enterprise fund budget, 4.5 FTEs, and proposed $1.14 monthly rate increase (6%).

Diana Miles, Solid Waste Director, explained the division funds residential trash/recycling services, household hazardous waste, dumpster days, graffiti removal, and landfill maintenance through resident fees, not general funds.

Commissioner Bynum asked about feedback on the cart program.

Diana Miles reported the pilot program is exceeding expectations, with recycling nearly doubling and minimal complaints.

Commissioner Burns asked about resident access to landfill disposal.

Diana Miles confirmed residents can dispose of items at the landfill for a fee, also noting that dumpster day is on September 5 at no charge.

Angela Lawson, Acting Chief Counsel, reported current illegal dumping ordinance allows fines of $1,000-$2,500 per day with up to 12 months' jail time.

Commissioner Davis asked about timeline for citywide cart implementation.

Diana Miles projected phase two beginning no later than March 2026.

BUDGET OVERVIEW AND ANALYSIS (Discussion Begins 1:30:53)

Reginald Lindsey, Budget Director, presented budget growth analysis from 2020-2026, showing total budget growth from $394 million to $509 million, averaging 4.3% annual increase.

Reginald Lindsey detailed cost category growth, with personnel costs growing to $55 million (49% of total growth) and contractual services growing $23 million.

Mayor Garner raised concerns about sustainability of personnel cost growth and requested information on strategies other municipalities use to control costs.

Shelley Kneuvean, Chief Financial Officer, explained implementation of fully funded position budgeting rather than trend-based budgeting to control overspending, and elimination of unfilled positions.

J. Renee Ramirez, Human Resources Director, recommended workforce planning assessment with third-party assistance to right-size the organization.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS (Discussion Begins 1:48:54)

Adrian Alemifar, Senior Budget Analyst, presented Strategic Communications with an $800,000+ budget and 4 FTEs (currently 2 filled positions).

Krystal McFeders, Interim Strategic Communications Director, reported significant social media growth: Facebook has increased from 12,000 to 17,000 followers, newsletter subscribers to 38,000, and YouTube approaching 3,000 subscribers.

Krystal McFeders discussed need for broadcast system replacement, citing audio/video quality issues and end-of-life equipment.

Commissioner Bynum praised the department's exceptional work with limited staff.

Commissioner Burns raised audio volume issues with Unified Government TV broadcasts. Krystal McFeders confirmed this is a known equipment problem to be addressed in system replacement.

Unified Government Clerk, Monica L. Sparks, reported legal notice publication costs: $189,000 in 2023 and $236,000 in 2024.

AGING DEPARTMENT (Discussion Begins 2:13:30)

Adrian Alemifar presented Aging Department with 1.3 tax-levy funded FTEs out of 12 total positions (most grant-funded).

Ruth Jones, Director Area Aging on Agency, and Betty Yule, Nutrition Manager, reported serving 330 Meals on Wheels recipients and 225 congregate meal participants across 9 sites with no mandatory fees.

Betty Yule introduced the CHAMPS (Choosing Healthy Appetizing Meal Plans for Seniors) program, noting that it has been well received and is particularly popular among younger senior citizens (cost is $3.50 per meal).

Mayor Garner praised the comprehensive senior services and highlighted the importance of affordable senior housing development.

HUMAN SERVICES (Discussion Begins 2:30:27)

Adrian Alemifar presented Human Services with $800,000+ budget and 3.45 tax-levy funded FTE positions.

Phyllis Wallace, Human Services Director, reported managing a 10-year wait list for developmental disability services with approximately 230 Wyandotte County residents waiting**.**

TRANSIT DEPARTMENT (Discussion Begins 2:40:53)

Samuel Her, Senior Analyst Budget Department, presented Transit Department with $7.7 million city budget (33.2 FTEs) and $1.2 million county budget (11.8 FTEs) for senior paratransit.

Deasiray Bush, Director of Public Transportation, reported budget challenges including loss of federal ARPA funding and KC ATA contract increases. She highlighted the successful Iris program serving over 10,000 riders with 4.8 rating but noted it will end in February 2026 without additional funding.

Deasiray Bush described safety challenges on bus routes including fights, substance abuse incidents, and property damage, requesting security officer position.

David Johnston, County Administrator, confirmed IRIS (Integrated Referral and Intake System) was a pilot program that ended with expectation of continued local funding consideration.

Commissioner Bynum suggested dedicating Wyandotte fare box revenue to fund Iris program.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Discussion Begins 3:22:50)

Samuel Her presented Economic Development with $1.9 million budget and 6 FTEs, including increases for small business grants ($50,000), redevelopment consultants ($50,000), marketing studies ($50,000), and pre-approved building plans ($30,000).

Chelsee Chism, Economic Development Director, reported high demand from developers and businesses, noting three land bank positions and significant mowing budget transfer from Parks Department.

Mayor Garner asked about coordination with Wyandotte Economic Development Council. Chelsee Chism explained collaborative approach with joint developer meetings and complementary services.

Commissioner Townsend praised Chelsee Chism work on northeast development projects and stressed need for twice-monthly land bank lot mowing.

Commissioner Davis supported mowing budget increase, noting current $690,000 budget versus $1.3 million needed for twice-monthly service.

PLANNING AND URBAN DESIGN (Discussion Begins 3:46:16)

Samuel Her presented Planning Department with $1.5 million budget and 12 FTEs (currently 6 filled), focusing on zoning code reform and historic preservation.

Rodney Lucas, Interim Assistant County Administrator and Interim Planning Director, reported goals to fill four immediate positions: Director, Planner, Planning Tech, and Inspector.

Mayor Garner commended Rodney Lucas for eliminating bureaucratic complaints from developers and improving customer service.

Commissioner Davis confirmed continued progress on zoning code rewrite with MARC grant funding.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S BUDGET PRESENTATION (Discussion Begins 3:56:57)

David Johnston, County Administrator, presented the administration budget overview. The County Administrator's office consists of himself, three Assistant County Administrators (ACA), and two administrative assistants. The office oversees 44 Unified Government departments with 2,300 employees and manages close to a half billion-dollar budget.

Water Tower Signage

The Administrator reported a $75,000 budget increase for a special project regarding the water tower at the Legends. The tower signage was changed from "Welcome to Kansas City, Kansas" to a BPU sign without consultation with the Unified Government. After meeting with new BPU management, Jeremy Ash, a 50/50 cost share agreement of $75,000 for each agency was proposed to restore the "Welcome to Kansas City, Kansas" signage.

Discussion:

Commissioner Stites asked whether the Unified Government shared costs when BPU originally painted the tower to change the signage. The Administrator confirmed they did not, as it is BPU's asset and the Unified Government was not informed of the change.

Mayor Garner clarified the ownership structure, stating that BPU is an administrative agency of the Unified Government, and the water towers are technically the people's assets through the Unified Government.

Angela Lawson confirmed that BPU is an administrative agency of the Unified Government, with the Unified Government reserving certain powers including debt approval, real property sales, legal representation, and legal counsel services.

Commissioner Burns stated that BPU needs to be reminded that "we don't work for them" and emphasized its Unified Government property.

Commissioner Davis expressed concern about the $150,000 total cost and suggested exploring alternative funding sources such as transient guest sales tax dollars, and recommended negotiating to reduce the cost.

Commissioner Stites questioned the priority of the water tower project when taxpayers are facing high property taxes, stating that people are more concerned about lowering taxes than water tower signage.

Commissioner Burns suggested adding "a subsidiary of Kansas City, Kansas Unified Government" under the BPU signage as a cheaper alternative.

Mayor Garner noted the tower's importance as an iconic symbol for the community and the number one tourist destination in Kansas, visible from I-435 and I-70.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT BUDGET (Discussion Begins 4:09:39)

Michael Peterson, Deputy Budget Director, introduced the Human Resources budget of approximately $2.5 million, funding 16 FTEs, with 85% for personnel and 14% for contractual services. The department represents less than 1% of the tax levy budget.

J. Renee Ramirez, Director of Human Resources, presented with HR Manager, Shakeva Christian and HR Partner, Stasha Ferguson. The department serves 2,300 employees with responsibilities including employee relations, labor relations, recruitment, compensation, benefits, risk management, safety, workers compensation, and training.

Mrs. Ramirez noted that with 16 staff members for 2,300 employees, the HR ratio is 0.7 per 100 employees, significantly below the industry standard of 1.7, which would require 39 full-time employees. This staffing level causes heavy workloads, extended working hours, and employee burnout, but she commended her staff for their dedication.

Mayor Garner thanked the HR team for their service and inquired about debt reduction revenues from incentive businesses that had come online, referencing a previously approved 10% and 50% revenue allocation toward debt reduction. The Administrator stated they are finalizing those calculations and will provide them to the Commission the following week.

APPRAISER'S OFFICE BUDGET (Discussion Begins 4:14:13)

The Appraiser's Office budget was presented at just under $3 million, entirely county funded as a state-mandated office. The office will have 27 FTEs in 2026, reducing two administrative FTEs. Matt Willard, County Appraiser, explained they discover, list, and value approximately 68,000 real estate parcels and 5,700 personal property accounts annually.

Mr. Willard highlighted the planned implementation of an updated tax management system, expressing excitement about increased efficiencies and elimination of duplicate processes.

Property Valuation Process Discussion:

Mayor Garner requested an explanation of the appraisal process.

Mr. Willard explained that state statute mandates annual appraisal at fair market value, using three approaches: sales comparison, multiple regression analysis, and cost approach, all calibrated from local market transactions in Wyandotte County.

The Kansas Department of Revenue conducts annual compliance audits. For 2024, residential properties had a median ratio of 93% (within the acceptable 90-110% range), and commercial properties achieved 85% compliance. Mr. Willard reported achieving full statistical and procedural compliance for the first time in several years.

Property Tax Discussion:

Mayor Garner asked about factors in driving property appraisal increases.

Mr. Willard attributed increases to buyers and sellers agreeing on higher sales prices, primarily due to housing supply shortages. He noted that price appreciation has slowed, reflected in 2025 values.

When asked whether increased housing stock could lower appraisals, Mr. Willard stated it would require a massive amount of new housing to cause price decreases and resulting valuation decreases, but additional supply could help bring market balance.

Policy Recommendations:

Mr. Willard discussed potential legislative solutions, including a 3% cap on valuations that passed the Senate but not the House, and expansion of circuit breaker provisions (homestead exemptions) for seniors and disabled veterans. He noted the impact of the Kansas Board of Tax Appeals' interpretation of big box retail valuation statutes, which has shifted tax burden from commercial to residential owners.

Mr. Willard also mentioned that commercial machinery and equipment purchased after June 30, 2006, is exempt from taxation, representing millions of dollars annually no longer on tax rolls, effectively raising mill levies for other taxpayers.

Commissioner Burns commended Matt Willard for following state law rather than making personal decisions, and recommended residents contact state legislators about property tax concerns.

Monica L. Sparks, Unified Government Clerk, clarified that revenue neutral notices are mailed to all taxpayers when any of the 17 taxing entities in the county exceed revenue neutral, not just the Unified Government.

Commissioner Burns suggested printing future notices in red ink to indicate they are state mandated to avoid local government blame.

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT BUDGET (Discussion Begins 4:34:34)

The Technology Department budget of $11.4 million funding 33.75 FTEs was presented. The budget includes 311 call center, enterprise system support, and performance and innovation divisions. Technology Director, Kevin Bibbs appeared with Crystal Sprague, Director of 311 and Performance Innovation, and AJ Montes for cybersecurity.

Budget increases included telecommunications ($337,000), software ($331,000), cybersecurity insurance ($200,000), normal software increases ($155,000), and Adobe licenses ($40,000 for annual subscription model).

311 Call Center Discussion:

Commissioner Davis asked about 311 service improvements.

Crystal Sprague explained that only 18.6% of calls dialing 311 reach 311 operators, with 81% going directly to other departments. The 311 operators handle approximately 70,000 calls annually with five call takers and one manager using an antiquated free system.

Mrs. Sprague reported that waste management calls (30% of volume) were redirected to the vendor, freeing staff to assist other departments like Treasury, which handles 70,000 calls annually. She mentioned a $500,000 request for system updates that was not included in the current Capital Improvement Program.

Technology Innovation:

Mayor Garner asked about emerging technologies and AI implementation. Kevin Bibbs confirmed they are looking ahead with pilot programs, including one with the Clerk's office for automated meeting transcription to replace manual processes.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT BUDGET (Discussion Begins 4:44:36)

The Legal Department budget of $2.6 million funding 17.8 FTEs was presented. Angela Lawson detailed the department's wide range of responsibilities including legislative support, litigation, contract review, prosecution, and BPU representation.

The department reviewed over 4,000 KORA requests last year and 191 federal executive orders to date in 2025. Currently staffed with 12 attorneys and 5 support staff, with two open approved positions. Since 2020, the department has lost 18 attorneys due to turnover.

Discussion:

Commissioner Burns asked about starting salaries for new attorneys.

Legal Department representative Theresa Duke stated new law school graduates traditionally start under $80,000 (typically $77,000-$79,000), compared to the District Attorney's office starting salary of $83,000. Commissioner Burns recommended matching the DA's salary for competitive hiring.

Commissioner Davis inquired about settlement budget increases given litigation volume. Staff indicated no increase was included and would provide historical settlement data for the past five years.

Mayor Garner asked about outside counsel expenses.

Angela Lawson clarified that outside counsel costs are contained in the liability fund, not the Legal Department budget, and fluctuate based on departmental risk exposure. Deputy Budget Director, Michael Peterson reported $1.3 million budgeted across city and county general funds for attorneys and claims/judgments.

Commissioner Bynum and **Commissioner Davis** commended the Legal Department for their responsiveness and professionalism.

Mayor Garner thanked the legal team for their support of mayoral policy recommendations and professional collaboration despite occasional disagreements.

CLERK'S OFFICE BUDGET (Discussion Begins 4:54:11)

The Clerk's Office budget of just under $1.5 million funding 10 FTEs was presented. Monica L. Sparks, Unified Government Clerk, described the office as "the heartbeat of this organization," interacting with every Unified Government department.

Key Statistics and Responsibilities:

- Manages 22,000 boxes of records from 30 Unified Government departments
- 176 hours of commission meetings in 2024; 100 hours by July 2025
- Responsible for 37 boards, committees, and task forces
- Manages 17 taxing entities and revenue neutral notices
- Processes 100,000 pieces of incoming US Postal Service mail annually
- Two record center locations requiring consolidation for efficiency

Discussion:

Mrs. Sparks emphasized the critical need for a new tax management system, noting the current system is nearly 20 years old and showing failure signs. Revenue neutral notices that should take one day required assistance from the software company and 19 files for one taxing unit. Budget Director, Reginald Lindsay confirmed $200,000 allocated for 2026 to start the process, with an estimated total cost of $1.2-1.5 million and additional $1 million budgeted for 2027.

Mayor Garner asked about consolidating scattered departmental records under the Clerk's office to achieve cost savings from eliminating external storage rental costs. The Administrator agreed to examine this with the CFO and building/logistics staff.

The Clerk manages rebate programs that returned $933,000 to citizens in the current year ($465,000 in UG utility/sales rebates and $468,000 in state property tax rebates), falling short of the $1 million goal. Recipients of utility rebates also qualify for BPU pilot charge removal for the entire year.

Mrs. Sparks announced that the current meeting was being recorded by AI as part of a pilot program to address the minutes backlog, noting that every hour of meeting requires eight hours of transcription time.

Commissioners Kane, Bynum, and Townsend commended the Clerk's office for their dedication and service. **Commissioner Bynum** noted the Clerk's detailed presentation to the Administration and Human Services Committee on July 28, 2025.

BUDGET DEPARTMENT (Discussion Begins 5:12:11)

Reginald Lindsay, Budget Director, presented the Budget, Strategy and Research Department budget of $1.3 million funding 9 FTEs. The department is funded by city, county, and enterprise funds.

Budget increases included $54,000 for Questica budget software upgrades (behind since 2022), $25,000 for Priority-Based Budgeting director contract, staff development funding restoration, and $4,000 for publication cost increases.

Mayor Garner and **Commissioner Townsend** praised the budget team for their detailed work, late hours, and clear explanations of complex financial matters.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT BUDGET (Discussion Begins 5:15:22)

The Finance Department budget of $7.3 million funding for 64 FTEs was presented by Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Shelley Kneuvean. The department includes finance administration, accounting, delinquent tax sales, payroll, purchasing, and treasury operations.

Key Performance Metrics:

Dr. Kneuvean provided a comprehensive data sheet showing the department's annual workload:

- 56,104 paychecks issued
- 99,190 benefit payments processed
- Over 100,000 motor vehicle transactions annually
- 23 employees at two DMV locations

Discussion:

Commissioner Burns asked about payroll staffing.

Dr. Kneuvean reported the department reduced from five to three payroll employees due to Workday system efficiencies, processing bi-weekly civilian payroll and weekly police/fire payroll.

Mayor Garner addressed citizen complaints about DMV service, including long lines and limited hours.

Dr. Kneuvean reported a performance audit is nearing completion with recommendations for operational improvements. Plans include a Bonner Springs satellite location for renewals only (delayed to September pending state system changes).

Issues identified include:

- State retention of $34.25 per $35 transaction fee (UG keeps only $0.75)
- Heavy local subsidization of operations
- Security requirements limiting extended hours
- Previous reduction to four-day operations (since restored to five days per Administrator's direction)

Commissioner Davis asked about grant writer positions. Dr. Kneuvean explained no dedicated grant writer is currently funded, but departments work with finance to identify opportunities and prepare applications. The department has access to federal grant systems and iParametrics consulting services when needed. Monthly grant reporting will be implemented to track applications and awards.

Mayor Garner and **Commissioner Bynum** and **Commissioner Davis** commended the Finance team for their comprehensive information and service quality improvements.

Adjournment (Discussion Begins 5:30:55)

Commissioner Kane made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Vote: Motion carries 8/0

- Ayes: Burroughs, Townsend, Burns, Hill, Kane, Stites, Davis, Bynum
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Lopez

MAYOR GARNER ADJOURNED

THE MEETING AT 10:33 P.M.

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Monica L. Sparks, CMC

Unified Government Clerk

SLH