

**PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY  
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Monday, August 23, 2021**

The meeting of the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee was held on Monday, August 23, 2021, at 5:03 p.m., via Zoom or on-site. The following members were present: Commissioner Bynum, Chairman; Commissioners Markley, Ramirez, Kane, and Philbrook. BPU Board Member Tom Groneman was absent. The following officials were also in attendance: Alan Howze, and Bridgette Cobbins, Assistant County Administrators; Henry Couchman; Senior Attorney; Jeff Conway, Assistant Counsel; Casey Meyer, Senior Attorney; Troy Shaw, County Engineer; Brittainie Pruitt, Police Captain; John Droppelmann, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal; Mike Callahan, Fire Chief; Carol Godsil, Deputy UG Clerk; Allie Facio, UG Clerk's Office; and Alley Porter, Commission Liaison.

**Chairman Bynum** said before I call our meeting to order, I want to announce that due to COVID-19, committee members, staff and public are attending remotely by Zoom as well as on site. All participants joining by phone, please mute your phones when you're not speaking to avoid background noise.

During the meeting, please make sure 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 it's also current guidance from our Kansas Attorney General.

The public is allowed to participate by Zoom or submit comments by email prior to the meeting and those comments will be included in the record of our meeting. The public may also indicate their intent to provide remote public comment by contacting the Clerk's Office by 5 p.m., the Thursday before the meeting. The public does have an opportunity to provide brief comments, either by telephone or Zoom from the lobby of our municipal office building.

**Chairman Bynum** called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, and all members were present as shown above.

Approval of standing committee minutes from May 24, 2021, and June 21, 2021. **On motion of Commissioner Markley, seconded by Commissioner Kane, the minutes were approved.** Roll call was taken and there were five “Ayes,” Philbrook, Kane, Ramirez, Markley, Bynum.

Committee Agenda:

**Item No. 1 – 21981...PRESENTATION: HONORARY STREET SIGNS**

**Synopsis:** A presentation of requested honorary street signs for Pandarama Pre-schools Inc. on Nebraska Ave., between 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> St., submitted by Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works.

**Troy Shaw, County Engineer,** said recently Public Works received a completed petition from Panorama Preschool, Inc. to install honorary signs with the title Panorama Lane on Nebraska Avenue, between 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Street. I believe you should have a copy of that petition in your packet. Following the UG’s previously adopted honorary sign policy, the petition has been reviewed and all the requirements have been met. We’re now at the part of the process where the request is submitted to the standing committee to make a decision on the proposed sign.

I’m not going to say a lot more information. There are a couple of people from petitioners, Ms. Harper and Ms. Sipple here to answer any questions you may have about the information you have in your packet, but just passed on now for any comment that you may have or if you would like to hear from either of the petitioners, Ms. Harper and Ms. Sipple. They’re in the attendees tonight.

**Chairman Bynum** said excellent, thank you so very much. Are there any questions from the committee before we go to our participants? There were none.

**Chairman Bynum** asked Ms. Sipple, would you like to speak on this item? If so, I think we might have to move you over to the panelists. I see, in our attendees, I see Carolyn Sipple and Tiffany Harper. So, whatever we might need to do to allow these ladies to speak, I'd appreciate it. There's Carolyn. Thank you very much. If you want to unmute Ms. Sipple, we will give you several minutes, and you can tell us about the honorary street sign.

**Carolyn Sipple** said and thank you guys for allowing us to be with you in this discussion. I believe that my daughter can speak more about what we were trying to get accomplished as far as getting the street, the honorary street sign done. We have been in childcare since 1976 and I feel that we have accomplished a lot with the community, with Wyandotte County, with our children, the parents and the community to exemplify quality childcare, of being able to allow the children to explore and to be the best that they could be in order for them to receive the education that they needed. We have taken on the ages from 12 months–12 years old, for at least 30 of those years, because we combined our centers up on 7<sup>th</sup> & Nebraska.

We have done quite a bit of community projects and educational aspects with Missouri and Kansas, so that we thought it was just time to do something that would be a lasting blueprint in the community of Wyandotte County. We have serviced thousands and thousands of children, multiple families and we have communicated, we have allowed ourselves to join in with things that will enhance their ability to learn and to be all that they could be.

So, we have that so many families that backed us up, and some of them say, well, it was about time, so we wanted to bring this to fruition—that blueprint be established. **Chairman Bynum** said absolutely. Thank you so much and Tiffany Harper. I saw you. You are more than welcome to unmute and speak to us if you so choose.

**Tiffany Harper** said I'm really glad that my mom went first. First of all, thank you all very much, everyone who has allowed this to come this far. We are actually just in a position where, like she's started to say and alluded to, we're at a time where it seemed to be the right timing for us to make this sort of request. My parents left a legacy for myself and my husband, so we were the most recent owners of the school, and it was named The Learning Curve Center, right there on the corner but we kept remnants of Pandarama because we wanted to acknowledge and just show our gratitude and respect for the tenure that they have had there in that community.

She spoke to how the parents were really just like this is a good time, because my parents are transitioning to full retirement, and they've contributed, as she stated earlier, academically and to that community in so many different ways—I mean, even economically, they've made really incredible contributions. Staffing, volunteers, partnerships with all of the local businesses, and just major contributors. They've had a significant number of community partnerships, and we kept that going within the last five years alongside of them, but now the business is being sold; and

then, my parents are going into retirement and it's just an opportunity for us to all acknowledge their contributions to that community. She mentioned that there was a school before the one there located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> & Nebraska and it was on 13<sup>th</sup> & Parallel, but before that they were operating another school on 24<sup>th</sup> & Garfield.

So, they've been in and out of this urban core community doing business for more than 46 years. As a matter of fact, we'll probably have a really nice gala to acknowledge what they've done, and they've served over five generations of families. I know this because they stop me all the time to say, your parents were our educators or they were the owners of the preschool, and we've built relationships with these families. We've stayed in touch with them over years, and we're still in the lives of a lot of these children. I was their director at their program for more than 17 years and then owned the business under our own preschool name for five. So, I'm really proud to be able to make this request, but I would be really grateful, and I know that our family and so many other families would be greatly appreciative if this would be taken into great consideration, sincere consideration based on the letter that we've written at length to just describe the experiences that have happened there.

So, we're super grateful to be here, and just glad that you will consider it because it's a worthy consideration. They've both just done a lot and we've all fallen in love with the community and we're finding ways to weave ourselves back into Wyandotte County, even if we don't own the school, but there's been legacies of education and family, and compassion, and all of the things that really matter, because we've got to get back to families first. So, we're thankful and I think that's all for me. Thanks again. **Chairman Bynum** said sure. Thank you both so much for your comments. They are most appreciated. We have comments coming from Commissioner Philbrook and then, Commissioner Ramirez, please.

**Commissioner Philbrook** said so, I want to thank you for being part of the community for a long time. I don't have any little kiddos, so my kiddos wouldn't have been there, but I'm sure as you have shared that there's been a lot of families that have been part of your community in education, and I think that's a great idea to show some appreciation for a long-standing community folks. So, thank you for bringing that before us. Before I be quiet, I'm going to move for approval of this and I'm done.

**Action:** Commissioner Philbrook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Markley, to approve.

**Commissioner Ramirez** said I'm just echoing the comments of Commissioner Philbrook, you know, thank you for you and your mother's continued service to this community and to our children of the community. I've worked with children most of my life, now I work in education so I understand the importance of Pre-K and providing this essential service so that we can ensure that we—our children have that pipeline to education and a pipeline to a good future and career later in life. You know, we always talk about the school to prison pipeline and the best way to beat that is to ensure that we have good education and that starts with our little ones, that's Pre-K, so thank you for your continued support to the community. Thank you for supporting our little ones. It means a lot and I definitely, 100% support this honorary sign.

**Chairman Bynum** said excellent, thank you commissioner for your comments, and to Ms. Sipple and Ms. Harper. I will chime in on saying thank you from our Unified Government for your generations of young people that you've helped here in Wyandotte County, and we do have your application and letter in the packet. It's a legacy for sure, one that I'm honored to help be a part of bringing to some sort of permanence, with an honorary street naming so I think that's a wonderful thing we can do for these long, long, long standing families in our community who just generation after generation continue to give back to us. So, I would say from all of us, we thank you for everything. We have a motion and a second on the item. If there are no other comments or questions, I will ask for a roll call please.

Roll call was taken on the motion and there were five “Ayes,” Philbrook, Kane, Ramirez, Markley, Bynum.

**Chairman Bynum** said I believe, Troy, that this will now come forward to sit on a full commission agenda, correct? **Mr. Shaw** said, correct. It will go to full commission then if it's approved by full commission, we'll have the Street Department build and install the sign. **Chairman Bynum** said excellent. Thank you again.

## Item No. 2 – 21982...RESOLUTION: SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize agreements between the Unified Government and Turner School District No. 202 and the Unified Government and Piper School District No. 203 for the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department to provide a School Resource Officer at each district, submitted by Casey Meyer, Senior Attorney.

### KCKPD SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER AGREEMENT

- Piper and Turner School Districts
- We have been serving both Districts; this is an update to previous agreements
- Term: 10 year term, with ability to terminate by either party w/ 90 days notice
- One full time, on-duty law enforcement officer assigned to each District
- Reimbursement:
  - School year 2021-2022: \$30,000.00
  - School year 2022-2023: \$33,000.00
  - School year 2023-2024: \$36,000.00
  - School years 2024 through term of agreement: Officer's base salary + cost of living increases equal to FOP 4 MOU

**Casey Meyer, Senior Attorney**, said this is just a summary of what the agreement is. So, the resolution is seeking approval of the agreements which will allow our County Administrator to execute them but for now it's just between Piper and Turner. We've historically serviced them. This is just an update to those agreements that we've had with them for quite a while now. The term is going to be a 10-year term and either party has the ability to terminate with a 90-day notice and it provides one full time on duty law enforcement officer from KCKPD to each district. They will work in coordination with the staff there and superintendent to determine where they're needed and what they need to provide there. And then our reimbursement back from the district to the Unified Government is listed there. For this school year it's \$30,000. That's historically what we've been doing annually; and then in the next year 2022–2023, we're raising that to \$33,000 and then it goes up from there, just to become a little bit closer to equal to what our base officer's salary is eventually. And then if you guys have any questions about the specifics of the SROs and what they do, Captain Pruitt is here as well in case you have questions you want to ask her.

**Chairman Bynum** said thank you. Are there questions from the committee? I don't know whose hand went up first so this time we'll go, Commissioner Ramirez and then Philbrook.

**Commissioner Ramirez** said I think Casey, you mentioned the question I was going to ask just to give it, if Officer Pruitt could provide a description of what SROs do for the school districts in

the schools so that the community members who are watching can have a better understanding of what SROs actually do for the district.

**Brittainie Pruitt, Police Captain**, said we currently have the three SROs. Their main duty is to provide security for that school specifically. They can also work after school activities as well as needed, but they typically will attend any of the school board meetings as well. Then they will, generally speaking, walk the halls during passing periods, lunch breaks, being in and out of the classrooms when needed, and then just stand by if there is, you know, some sort of altercation disagreement within the school. That officer will handle that and will handle all the reports that do come out of that school as well.

**Commissioner Philbrook** said just for clarification, for instance, the first year '21 – '22, \$30,000, is that per school district? **Captain Pruitt** said correct. **Commissioner Philbrook** said okay, I just wanted to make sure. Okay, so Piper has to pay \$30,000 and Turner has to pay \$30,000 for one person each. **Captain Pruitt** said correct. **Commissioner Philbrook** said okay, just want to make sure thank you.

**Chairman Bynum** said Casey, along that same line, our Kansas City, Kansas police officers are making their full salary and benefits. This just happens to reflect the amount the school district is reimbursing us for. Is that correct? **Ms. Meyer** said that's right. **Chairman Bynum** said okay. Thank you very much. Any other questions from our committee?

**Action:** **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve.**

**Chairman Bynum** said excellent. Thank you. We have a motion and a second on this item. Are there any comments from the public before we vote? **Allie Facio, Clerk's Office**, said there were none.

Roll call was taken on the motion and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, Kane, Ramirez, Markley, Bynum.

### Item No. 3 – 21985... PRESENTATION: 2021 FIREWORKS REPORT

**Synopsis:** Presentation of the 2021 Fireworks Report, submitted by John Droppelmann, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal.

**Chairman Bynum** said and the third item is Fire Marshal, John Droppelmann, with the Kansas City Kansas Fire Department, here to make his annual fireworks report.



**John Droppelmann, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal,** said this is your summary of the different department events that occurred this past 4<sup>th</sup> of July season. Business Licensing, there were a total of 35 stands this year. You can see the fees that were charged—the fees charged per stand, depending on how large they are. Over 3,000 square feet has to pay a higher fee. That generated a little over \$39,000.

## BUSINESS LICENSING cont.

- All Stands are also required to have a \$1,000 cash bond (refundable), to ensure removal of stand, material, debris, signs, etc.
- All fireworks stands, debris and materials were removed by 7-7-2021.

The stands were also required to post their typical \$1,000 cash bond. That's to make sure that all the cleanup, everything's removed from around the stand by the end of the week, and all of them complied with that so the \$1,000 cash bonds for each one were refunded to them. That is not a part of that \$39,000 that you saw on the previous screen.

## BUSINESS LICENSING (revenues)

### • SALES TAXES

➤ Revenues to the UNIFIED GOVERNMENT for years:

|        |             |             |
|--------|-------------|-------------|
| ■ 2018 | \$30,169.00 | (45 stands) |
| ■ 2019 | \$32,721.00 | (41 stands) |
| ■ 2020 | \$51,163.00 | (34 stands) |

Here's a little bit, going back. This is what the Unified Government takes in on sales taxes. We don't have the 2020 ones because they won't be released until next year. So, as you can see in 2020, we took in a little over \$51,000 in taxes from the sale of fireworks in our city. That was based on 34 stands.

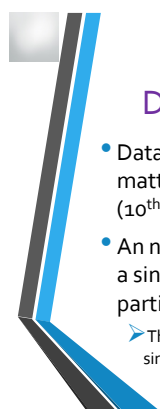
I will say that in 2020, I think every stand but two sold out of all their products. So, I don't know if the increase in revenue a reflection of more sales is, or less sales for more money, or what. I don't have any way of getting that information, but you can see—**Chairman Bynum** said Chief Dropplemann, I think in 2020, we just wanted to blow stuff up. **Chief Dropplemann** said that may be. Everybody wanted to get out, but it was a rush to buy that stuff, and come 7:00 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, pretty much every standard was out, and as we were going by doing the close outs. A lot of the constituents were out there wanting to know what stands still had some left and we

were trying to communicate that with them as best we could, without having them race around to the few stands that were left.



| UG INCOMING FUNDS FOR 2021        |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Business Licensing fees           | \$39,220.00        |
| <u>Sales Taxes (2020 figures)</u> | <u>\$51,163.00</u> |
|                                   | \$90,383.00        |

Between the Business License fees and sales tax that came in from last year sales, there's your total that the UG took in, in regard to the sale and distribution of fireworks.



### DEPARTMENT OF AIR QUALITY

- Data is recorded by our continuous fine particulate matter monitor, located at the JFK Core monitoring site (10<sup>th</sup> and State Avenue).
- An nine hour (9:00pm to 5:00am) period of fireworks activity had a single high hour reading of 313.7 mg/m<sup>3</sup> of fine particulates.

➤ The single 'one-hour' average for particulate matter was the highest since Air Quality began monitoring this data.

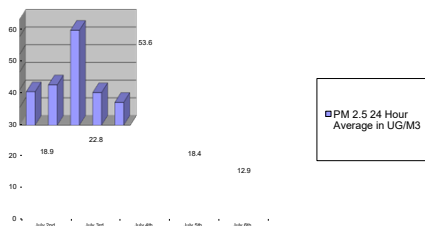
Air Quality, that's their report. They have a particulate monitor there at 10<sup>th</sup> & State this past year. Their peak reading for any one hour and that would have been on the 4<sup>th</sup>, usually about 9:00 at night when it hits the worst if you've ever been out in it, that's what it was. It slightly violated the EPA's standard for a period of time and that was reported to them to make sure they are aware; what our air quality was like during that time. It's a requirement to report that to them.

## DEPARTMENT OF AIR QUALITY cont.

- The following chart indicates the 24 hour average of the hourly data for four days around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
  - The eight hour period of high particulate matter straddling the 4<sup>th</sup> and into the morning of the 5<sup>th</sup> did elevate the 24 hour average for both days.
  - The average of 35.2 ug/m<sup>3</sup> was recorded.  
(35 ug/m<sup>3</sup> is the standard for a 24 -hour period)
  - The single 'one-hour' average for particulate matter was the highest since Air Quality began monitoring this data.

The peak that we had this past year when Mark Wentworth with Air Quality tabulated all this, we did, that was the highest single hour peak that they did record ever since they've been able to detect that stuff. So, even though we had fewer stands, I guess, they sold more, but they shot it out at one time. It was on a Sunday this year, so more people used the weekend instead of spreading it out throughout the week.

## DEPARTMENT OF AIR QUALITY cont.



There's a chart for the past, that five-day period.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

- Supplies Purchased
    - Trashbags \$42.00
  - Preparation and Clean up
    - Posting and removal of 'No Fireworks' signs (9 hours x 20.87) \$187.83
    - 2 Maintenance Techs repairs (20 hours x 20.35) \$405.00
    - 6 Groundskeepers cleanup (60 hours x 19.48) \$1,168.80
    - Restroom damage (Paint, clean -up, toilet/sink repair) ~~\$1,000.00~~
- \$3,803.63**

Parks & Recreation, that's their report.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

The Parks & Recreation Department reported damage to a new restroom at the Pierson Spray park that resulted in it being closed for repair.

The big thing you'll see there in their Parks & Rec report was we did have damage to a bathroom out there in Pierson Park. Somebody detonated a bunch of fireworks in there, and it costs about \$1,000 to have it cleaned up, repaired and painted.

## PARKS AND RECREATION cont.



There's a photo of it there. You can see that. It looks like they threw a couple of cakes they bought in there and some rolls, large rolls of fireworks. I believe that was on the night of the Turner Recreation fireworks display. It was on Saturday night.

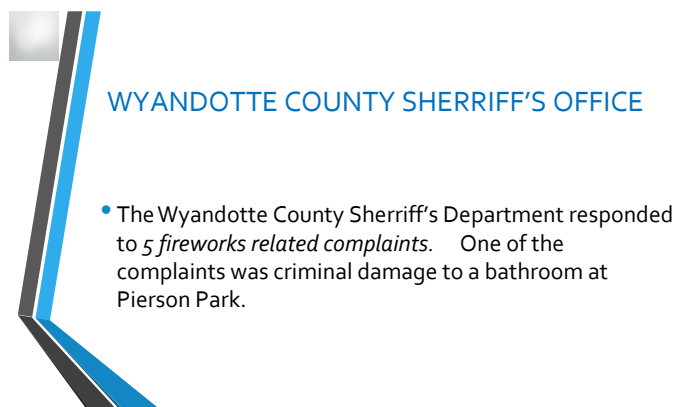
## PUBLIC WORKS

- Public Works issued a neighborhood block party permit for street closures.

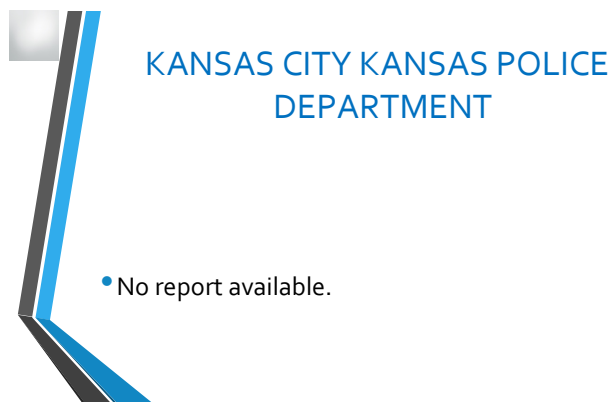
Public Works issued 9 neighborhood block party permits. That was 1 up from last year there was only 8. Of course, that was, you know the year of COVID. Typically, we get about 16 or 17. So, the block parties were still down this year.



And the law enforcement report, so the Police Department, the Sheriff's Department, and the Fire Department, these are all the complaints we typically try to look for that are fireworks related when we run our analysis of what happened this past year.



The Sheriff's Department worked five complaints. Mainly they deal with the park areas, and the school parking lots, things like that. They had five complaints that they handled and of course one of them was the damage to the bathroom out at Pierson Park.



PD, I believe they're going to do their own report. They've not submitted anything to me at this time.



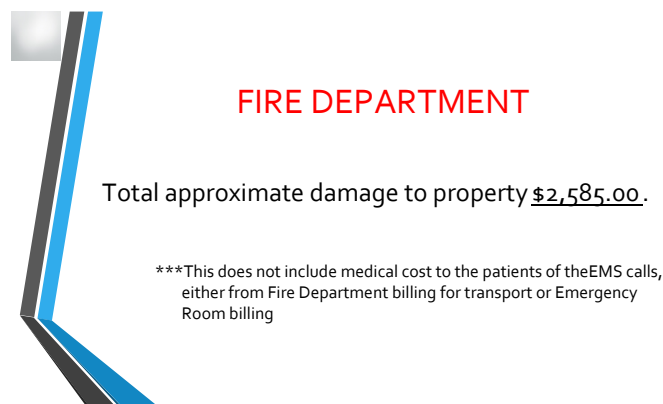
The Fire Department, we ran 14 calls during that five-day span. It goes until July 5<sup>th</sup>, but only it only goes just past midnight.



We had four dumpster fires, a commercial trash can fire, some other rubbish fires, and six EMS calls. So, no house fires this year. We did have the fire up against the building down off Kansas Avenue that damaged the paint on the outside, but nothing that caused it to close down for any

period of time. There was more cosmetic damage to it, and it was just from improperly dispose of fireworks. Somebody was shooting them there, swept them together and put them up against the building when they shouldn't have, and they reignited part of the side of building a little bit. The illegal fireworks this year were our biggest issue.

We had three people lose significant parts of their hands due to the half sticks and quarter sticks that they were choosing to throw and use and then one juvenile lost a fingertip or two with actually just regular fireworks. They were holding them instead of lighting them on the ground.



There's your total property damage the Fire Department recorded from the incidents that we ran, so just under \$2,600, which was a pretty mild year.



That's the number of hours that myself, the inspectors and the number of miles that we drove between all these stands for that. Actually, those miles are accumulated starting on the 27<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>, that's when some of the stands start going up and wanting to get their initial inspection, so we do have to commit some time to that beyond the 29<sup>th</sup> of June.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Fire Investigator activity (July 4<sup>th</sup> was covered utilizing On -Call)
  - 23.25 overtime hours accrued from June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 5<sup>th</sup>
  - 2 pending arrest for Criminal Use of Explosives
  - 2 warnings issued for fireworks discharging violations

Fire investigations report. They logged about 23 hours of overtime on the different incidents that they had to investigate. As you can see there's two pending arrests waiting for the criminal use of explosives where people blew their hands off with the fireworks and then we issued two warnings.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT 5-YEAR SUMMARY

| YEAR | DAY OF 4 <sup>TH</sup> OF JULY | # OF STANDS | FD INCIDENTS | MEDICAL INCIDENTS | BUILDING FIRES |
|------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 2021 | Sunday                         | 35          | 14           | 6                 | 1              |
| 2020 | Saturday                       | 34          | 12           | 5                 | 1              |
| 2019 | Thursday                       | 41          | 13           | 5                 | 1              |
| 2018 | Wednesday                      | 45          | 9            | 1                 | 1              |
| 2017 | Tuesday                        | 41          | 16           | 5                 | -              |

And if you're going to kind of compare year by year, I threw this together so there's your number of stands over the years. They've kind of been going down, although last year and this year were kind of COVID related so some of the stands didn't get to, I guess go up when they would have like to. The medical incidents typically stayed the same. Your fire incidents have slowly been coming down. We really didn't have a significant year of building fires. The last one was in 2016. That was when we had four of them, so hopefully, people are paying attention to the Safety PSA's and be a little bit more careful about what they do.



## QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

With that, do you guys have any questions? I'll entertain them. **Chairman Bynum** said sure, thank you very much for the report. I guess I have a question for the other commissioners on the committee. I had maybe a handful of requests from constituents, you know, requesting that we stop allowing fireworks. I was curious what the other Commissioners heard from their districts. Anybody?

**Commissioner Ramirez** said for my district, I think the main issue that we had or what people had was the amount, the start time before and after the allowing of fireworks I think is what the issue for a lot of the people that I heard, was people starting too early. Then people going on too late past the—our deadlines, and other than that I really hadn't heard anything, and I know those, that kind of issue is kind of something that's hard for us to control and to look out for but that's what I've heard. I haven't specifically heard straight from someone that they want to altogether outlaw fireworks, but I know that was also, it was brought up about, you know, the restroom that happened. You know, where they blew the fireworks inside the restroom, and I know some people were talking about you know why we should ban fireworks in our parks. They're already banned. It's part of our park codes and so I haven't specifically heard from people saying they want to outlaw it, it's just those times, the timeframes, before and after, is where people—they say they have an issue with.

**Commissioner Markley** said I also got a smattering of emails, pretty typical of what I have received in past years. I'll just say what I think I've said in the past which is that I think we should continue to ask this question on our survey, and that can give us good guidance. This is a really difficult issue. I feel like my district is—the landscape is very diverse. So, in one area of my district, people have really large lots, and they can easily light off fireworks without really being

close to their neighbors, but in more of the Argentine side of my district, you know, folks are right on top of each other so if your neighbors really don't like fireworks, it's a lot more concerning because they're a yard away, like a yard, like three feet. Not a yard like a yard of grass. So, you know, I think, to try to mitigate all of those diverse landscapes and get a feel for what our constituents are thinking, I think the survey is a good way to do that and I have let that survey and its results be my guide in terms of the firework question. **Chairman Bynum** said thank you. I agree, the survey is the way to get the best community feedback and I think '22 is a survey year, so we'll know by this time next year.

**Commissioner Philbrook** said yes, all of those things that were said, I had a smattering just like I have every year. Very few people want to outlaw it, but most of it is around having problems being able to breathe from all the particulates in the air. There are a few people that say that. Of course the time, the timing you know them blowing off firecrackers until 3 a.m. Yeah, you know during the week, yeah, people are like I got to go to asleep, quit doing this, you know. So not a lot want to eliminate it, they just want it to be curtailed a little bit better and I definitely agree with the survey part. So, I haven't heard really anything different. This is about the same thing that I've heard over the years. **Chairman Bynum** said okay. Thank you very much.

**Commissioner Kane** said I had very few complaints. In fact, I had the least amount of complaints this year than I have in the 16 years that I've been here. I do know that we fired off more than we have in the past, specifically my neighborhood, but I think all in all, it went well. There were a few things, but I can tell you if you took a survey out here right now, they are not willing to not be able to buy and shoot off their fireworks.

**Chairman Bynum** said thank you very much. I would imagine you are correct. It seems like the times that we have, you know, looked at the survey data, most people want their fireworks and Chief Droppelmann, just thank you to you and your team for everything you do to try to prep us for the season and keep us safe and respond to the things that happen. It's really appreciated and based on your data that you're bringing us, I would agree with Commissioner Kane, that it looks like we had a pretty good year as the fireworks season goes, so thank you very much for the report.

I always look forward to hearing from you about this. **Chief Droppelmann** said you're quite welcome.

**Action:**        **For information only.**

**Chairman Bynum** said I would stop really quick before our last item and just let everyone know that we have learned that our fellow committee member Tom Groneman with the BBU is actually in a BPU executive session right now so he got double booked for tonight and, of course, his primary service is to the Board of Public Utilities so that is where he is serving, and just to let everyone know that is why he's not with us tonight.

**Item No. 4 – 21987... PRESENTATION: FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

**Synopsis:** Presentation of the Fire Department quarterly update, submitted by Mike Callahan, Fire Chief.



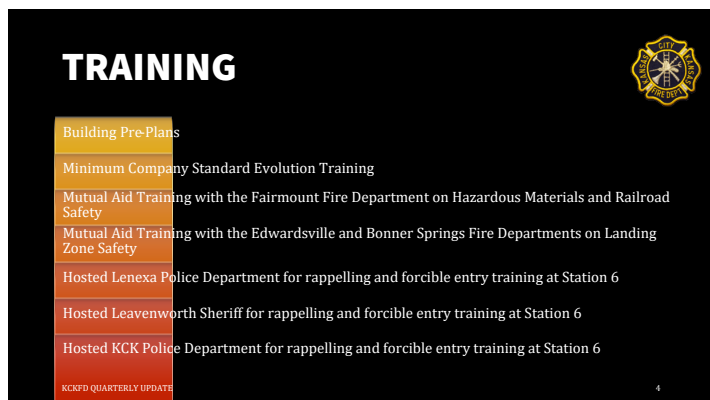
**Mike Callahan, Fire Chief,** said I've got a short PowerPoint presentation by short; I mean really short. This is at the behest of Commissioners Philbrook and Bynum. They requested that the Fire Department come and update about what's going on in the department and as soon as I can figure out which screen I want to share, here comes the presentation here really quick.



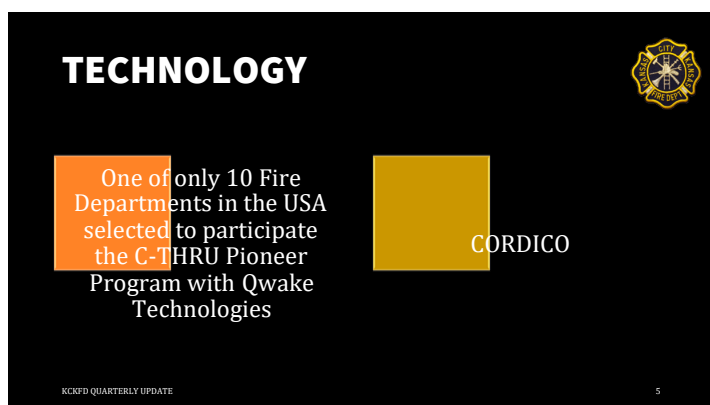
So, this is kind of a quarterly report, really not quarterly because it's not at the end or the beginning of the quarter but—so these are our capital acquisitions for the year. We bought two pumpers at \$611,000 each, one rescue unit at \$650,000 and two new ambulances, one brand new from scratch \$275,001. One of those is a remounted ambulance and what that means is we take the patient module which is the square part off and put it on a new chassis, and thereby allowing us to basically extend the life of an ambulance unit.



The next slide is personnel during the quarter. So, we've got—we hired 10 recruits, and they began training on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July. Five firefighter paramedics and 5 pending firefighter paramedics. We also hired—we're going to hire 4 firefighter EMT trainees. They will begin on, or they began on—well I guess those are the trainees that come exclusively from Wyandotte County residents. We also are hiring 4 firefighter paramedic trainees in the next job posting. We have promoted 19 total individuals this year and I shouldn't say that. We promoted 23 total individuals this year, 19 drivers and 4 captains. That's a typo up there.



In our Training Division, this is what they've been doing. So, they've conducted building pre-plans which I think most of you know about. That's where the fire companies go out and go through a building looking for hazards prior to being called for an actual emergency. Minimum Company Standard Evolution Training and what that entails is ensuring that each fire company can operate during any evolution with a minimum standard by the NFPA. We also conducted Mutual Aid Training with Fairmount Fire Department, Hazardous Materials and Railroad Safety. Same thing, mutually with Edwardsville and Bonner Springs on Landing Zone Safety. That's for bringing a helicopter in for most typically a medical evacuation. We also hosted the Police Departments from Lenexa, KCK and the Leavenworth Sheriff for rappelling and forcible entry tactics at the training tower at Station 6.



So, for technology we have been selected as one of only 10 Fire Departments in the country to participate in the C-THRU Pioneer Program with Quake Technology.



I've got a very short, about four minutes, video clip to show you. I will show you that now and then we'll come back to this.

<https://youtu.be/mAeC10oPlvI>

So, as I was discussing we've been—we're one of only 10 fire departments in the country that have been selected to participate in this. We can talk more about it at the end if there's any questions, but fundamentally what it is a thermal imaging camera that you don't have to hold with your hands. It also outlines the room in green. I don't know how many of you have ever been in a smoke-filled room or structure, but you can't really see anything. This provides you the ability to see everything in the room. It also additionally points if a firefighter is trapped or in trouble, all of the—all the firefighters in the structure get an arrow pointing towards that firefighter. Additionally, if there's no firefighter in trouble, the technology points the firefighter to the way out of the building. So there, if they get disoriented, there's an arrow in the display that points you out of the building.

Another technological advancement or technology issue we're dealing with now is we're going—to and you may have heard this before because the Sheriff in the PD are doing it as well, we're going to be using CORDICAL. It's an app on a cell phone-based app, or actually it can be iPad or any other type of app on a computer. A computer or any kind of screen that you have. It's a wellness app for firefighters. There's a multitude of benefits. It's 24/7, 365, it's in hand on demand for any firefighter, it's private, it's confidential—same thing and it allows the firefighter to get in contact with support all over the country of any kind that that individual needs, whether it's family support, support for substance abuse, PTSD, and it'll be rolled out to every firefighter, their family and the retirees. They'll all have the ability to use it once it's up and running.

**August 23, 2021**

## STATION CONSTRUCTION / RENOVATIONS



New Turner Fire Station to break ground 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2022

- Headquarters kitchen and living area remodel – \$117,000
- Station 15 EMS Division remodel – \$110,000
- Maintenance Facility development – \$1,960,000
- Architectural quartermaster design @ Maintenance Facility – \$82,000
- Station 6 restroom remodel underway – \$70,000
- Station 9 restroom remodel underway – \$27,500
- Station 14 restroom remodel underway – \$39,000

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So, on station construction and renovations, the new Turner Station is going to break ground the first quarter of 2022. Costs have risen significantly from \$6.9 million to \$9.3 million. That's a 34.8% increase that's been submitted for the amended CMIP budget. The station is scheduled to house pumper 16, truck 16, ambulance 16 and a battalion chief. Some of the remodels and renovations we did are here, headquarters kitchen and living area, Station 15's EMS division remodel, the maintenance facility on Kansas Avenue, architectural quartermaster designed for the maintenance facility on Kansas. Station 6's restrooms, Station 9's restroom and Station 14's restroom. Those remodels are all currently underway.

## PROGRAMS



Implementation of a Community Paramedicine Program

- In conjunction with a grant from Vibrant Health
- Grant period is 18 months
- 1 Registered Nurse & 1 Firefighter/Paramedic

Loring Fire & Rescue Coverage

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We also are going to implement a Community Paramedicine Program. This is in conjunction with a grant from Vibrant Health. The grant period runs for 18 months and what it would be is one registered nurse and 1 firefighter paramedic going on a non-emergency basis to houses that activate the 911 system more than they probably should. So, what the nurse and firefighter paramedic would be checking for is to make sure that these individuals have access to the care they need, without activating the 911 system. They also check their medications to make sure that their medications are filled, and that they're taking them as prescribed. They also check to make sure

that they have food in the house, adequate food supplies. They check for trip and slip and fall hazards in the home, and they, as I said, the most important thing is they provide assets to the individual, so that they don't have to activate the 911 system.

The other program is this is ongoing to the commissioners who aren't on here today were in a conversation about this today. The Loring Fire. The Loring area, unincorporated area in Wyandotte County is going to be covered by KCK for fire and rescue because Bonner Springs elected not to cover them anymore and right now, it hasn't really rolled out fully yet, but it is in the process of taking place 1-1-22.



With that, I will answer any questions to the best of my ability that you might have.

**Chairman Bynum** asked, are there questions for the Chief on the report today?

**Commissioner Philbrook** said, Chief, I just have a quick question and I don't expect an answer today, but while I have you, can you get back with me and let me know, because you know we rearranged my EMS unit off of 82<sup>nd</sup> St. and put it out west, and that was one of the busiest ones, and so can I talk to you sometime about how many calls they're getting, from where they're going and you know how my coverage is doing and all that sort of thing? **Chief Callahan** said absolutely. **Commissioner Philbrook** said okay so I'm after that, just heads up. Thanks.

**Commissioner Ramirez** said thank you, Chief, for your report and your update. It's always good to know what's happening. My question since, you know you're going to be coming to us quarterly, so I have some questions about that may have happened in the past. My question starts about the Safer Grant positions that we applied for, and my question is how many of those have been filled?

**Chief Callahan** said 18. **Commissioner Ramirez** said all of them. **Chief Callahan** said yes. **Commissioner Ramirez** said great, that's awesome, because I know the main reason we applied for them so that we increase our pumper—some of our pumpers to 4 members. Which of those pumpers have been increased to 4 men, or 4 members, sorry? **Chief Callahan** said okay, so zero right now because the individuals are still in the academy. **Commissioner Ramirez** said oh okay, so they're still going to the Fire Academy. **Chief Callahan** said correct. **Commissioner Ramirez** said okay. I just wanted to see because I was curious. I know that was something that happened last year, so I was just wanting some follow-up on that. **Chief Callahan** said sure. **Commissioner Ramirez** said so, thank you.

**Chairman Bynum** asked are there any other questions from our committee members, and—**Commissioner Philbrook** said I just want to say Commissioner Bynum, I'm happy that you and I asked the Chief to start doing reports to us because it's nice to see what's actually going on in our Fire Department from the administration side of it, and to let the public know what we're up to. So thanks a lot, Chief.

**Chairman Bynum** said I agree. I think the information is really critical, especially for the public and as well as our understanding so thanks for your time with us. If there's nothing else on our committee, that was an information only item and that will conclude our Public Works & Safety Standing Committee Meeting, we'll stand adjourned.

**Action: For information only.**

Adjourn:

**Chairman Bynum** adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

tpl