

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

**REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 13, 2022**

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in Regular Session Thursday, October 13, 2022, with eight members present on-site: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; Johnson, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Markley, Commissioner Sixth District; Stites, Commissioner Seventh District; and Garner, Mayor/CEO, presiding. Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; and Davis, Commissioner Eighth District, were absent. The following officials were also in attendance: Cheryl Harrison-Lee, Interim County Administrator; Alan Howze and Bridgette Cobbins, Assistant County Administrators; Misty Brown, Chief Counsel; Casey Meyer, Senior Assistant Counsel; James Bain and Jon Khalil, Assistant Counsels; Jennifer Stewart, Environmental Health Manager; Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works; Brent Thompson, County Surveyor; Troy Shaw, County Engineer; and Monica Sparks, Acting UG Clerk.

Mayor Garner said before I call the meeting to order, I want to announce that some commissioners, staff, and the public are attending remotely via Zoom or on-site. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when not speaking to avoid background noise.

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

Mayor Garner said I will now call this meeting to order. I'll ask the Clerk to present the roll call.

Roll call: Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane, Garner.

Mayor Garner said the invocation is being given by Commissioner Harold Johnson of Faith Deliverance Church of God in Christ, immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Garner said I believe there's some revisions to tonight's agenda. I'll ask the Clerk to announce those, please.

Monica Sparks, Acting UG Clerk, said, yes, Mayor. We have one revision to tonight's agenda. Under the Mayor's Agenda, we have added Item No. 4 – a proclamation for the 25th Anniversary of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas. That is the only revision.

MAYOR'S AGENDA

Item No. 1 – 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 two minutes in duration. Citizens appearing in the Municipal Office Building lobby 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/CEO. If time allows, persons listening online who wish to make comments will be recognized. All interested participants should know that Mayor/CEO Garner has also placed a maximum time limit of 45 minutes to host and conclude these discussions. In the interest of time, there should be no expectation for the requested participants' guaranteed inclusion to be recognized for comment and participation.

Mayor Garner said this is a public forum to express compliments or concerns. We ask that you bring a recommendation. I will have to say that you have three minutes and once your three minutes are up, we'll ask that you take your seat. Also, ask to recognize the decorum of the Commission while people are speaking. Please hold your applause; any type of emotional comments that you may want to have. Be respectful of each speaker until the conclusion of their speaking. When you come to the podium, please announce your name and your address for the record. I'll now open the public comment and ask the Clerk to provide a synopsis indicating how many comments were submitted and to start the process for the open input and recommendations.

Ms. Sparks said we received no written comments. We do have nine individuals signed up to speak this evening in chambers. (The following were called to make their comments.)

Erin Stryka, representing Rosedale Development Association, 1401 SW Blvd., and herself as a concerned neighbor at 841 Shawnee Rd. I'm afraid to make some emotional comments. I'll do my best. This morning at 6:45 a.m., I stepped onto my back porch and saw flames 50 feet in the air above Rosedale Ridge. It is the third time in six months that Rosedale Ridge has been on fire.

Since 2014 when the owners of Rosedale Ridge lost their rental license due to horrific neglect of their tenants, Rosedale Ridge has been on fire because a gas leak caused an explosion that led to the demolition of one building. Because a second gas leak caused a second explosion. Because a group of teenagers stole a car and after they were done joyriding, they parked it at Rosedale Ridge and lit it on fire. Because some folks were cold in the winter and they went inside to warm up and they set a fire. Most recently, we believe, because somebody is setting fires.

Since Rosedale Ridge closed, RDA has worked to attract a developer to that property and the owner has rejected multiple reasonable offers for it. At this point, Mill Street hill leading up to Rosedale Ridge has deteriorated such that no responsible developer would want it anymore. It has become so dangerous that we cannot let the situation continue. Somebody is going to die.

I talked to people near Rosedale Ridge all day long. I cannot tell you how many of them said to me, boy, I really hope they get the woods wet and let it burn down.

Your codes officers, your police officers, and goodness gracious your firefighters have done everything within their considerable power to resolve this situation. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Stryka said and now we really need you to step in before somebody dies. Thank you.

Max Evans, 2008 S. Boeke St., said I'm also feeding into the same property. My father lived there. I grew up there. I'm 70 years old and grew up at S. 9th St., literally right across the street from Rosedale Ridge Apartments. I've owned and lived in five properties within a block from there my whole life.

I bought the 2008 S. Boeke last November. In the time that I've owned that property, that apartment building has now been on fire three times. It's a detriment to the community and people

are really starting to gentrify that neighborhood, which is a great thing for me. I loved it growing up as a kid. Then we saw it fall into disrepair really because of a result of the Rosedale Ridge Apartments.

There was a period of time early on that it was a fine apartment building, but it became— I think there's three unsolved homicides still on the books with the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department because of that property. I worried every day that my father lived right across the street from that until he died 10 years ago. Fortunately, he never had anything happen.

I know I personally have put more than \$150K into 2008 S. Boeke since buying it last November. I'm also redoing the house right across the street that was my aunt's house at 2025 S. Boeke. The neighborhood is really starting to turn and it's just a horrible situation that that's allowed to remain as it is. It really is. It's just awful. You guys see it on the news. We see it on the news. I woke up with a television truck in my driveway the other day. So, that's the situation. I won't burden you with it anymore. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

Barbara Clark Evans said I'm Max's wife and we own 2008 S. Boeke and 2025 S. Boeke. As he said, we've lived in many residents in that area.

These apartment buildings, they're a hazard and they're an eyesore. Right now, as we look at the economic development in that area, I mean, we follow every house that is bought and sold in that area. Now people are really investing in that area. If you look at KU Medical Center, where are they going to go? They're moving in that direction. People are buying houses in that direction. You can't buy a house up in Westwood; it's a million dollars now. Even the little coffee shop on SW Blvd., they're like hey, we want to invest in this neighborhood.

So, what we're asking the city is to have those apartments torn down. They're a hazard and they're an eyesore. People are not going to keep investing if you have something like that directly in the middle of a neighborhood. That place has such great potential. If you go up the other hill across from Strasser's, you see the development there. So, it has great potential for development.

You have people who are investing like my husband and I and other neighbors. You see houses being taken care of, they're being rebuilt, they're investing on the interior. It's really great. We have young people moving into the neighborhood, young families. That's what we want to see, but we can't have something like that that causes such a hazard to the neighborhood. I mean,

we stood on the porch at 2008 and watched the fire in the air. You saw on the news just the other day where they said you could see this fire from all over the city.

It's time for those apartments to be torn down before somebody—somebody's going to get hurt in that place and then there's going to be a death and we don't need that. Please help us get this torn down. Thank you.

Sam Coulson, 1895 S. 7th St., said I'd like to add my voice to the speakers before me. Yesterday, while I was at work, I was looking up near Dagwoods, looking up and I saw a great old fire and that was pretty close to where my house is. It was like I wonder if I had a house when I get home.

In addition to the apartments, there's a number of derelict houses I've seen that they are becoming magnets for crime. I've seen petty vandalism, spray painting escalating to breaking windows, homeless and vagrants coming in. As much as I want to respect the property rights, if they've paid the code violations, if they pay their property taxes, I respect that; but if due to their negligence there is a death, then I also expect there should be a criminal charge for negligence. The owners of the property need to be aware of such consequences.

Stephen Lynch, Armourdale resident, said I cede my time to Louise Lynch.

Louise Lynch, Kansas City, KS, said I spoke at the last Commission meeting in regard to BPU and their practices and lack thereof, and us needing to change the charter immediately, not waiting until the charter committee gets to it and responds maybe a year from now or not. We need help now.

After such meeting, I put a call into all of the commissioners to call me back in regard to this meeting. Very few of you called me back. I heard from Commissioner Stites, Commissioner Townsend, Commissioner Burroughs, and a horrific call from Commissioner Andrews, which I want to focus on. No resident of this county should get a call from a commissioner and be screamed at. I am a senior citizen, and I am more than double his age. To disrespect me in that manner because whether you agree with me or not, whether you like my values or don't is irrelevant. You all are put in your positions to assist us, as residents, and work for the people. We don't work for the commissioners, but we should work together as with the Mayor.

Mr. Davis went on to let me know that as long as my values aligned with the Mayor, I would never be taken seriously and there would be no resolution to whatever I would bring up. This is more than appalling. This has to be some violation of the Code of Ethics. It is not acceptable.

He also let me know that the votes that happened from the budget that were 8-1, if I noticed in the last few votes that happened, they've all been 8-1 because there is a silent pact going on and the Mayor will not have anything resolved to his favor for the duration of his term.

I want the residents of Wyandotte to understand this. We voted the Mayor in to lead our county whether you like it or not. Whether you won by one vote or a million is irrelevant. Then he directed me and let me know that unless I berate our Mayor in public at a Commission meeting, that was the only thing that would make you all believe that I was serious to help the people. I am not going to do that. That is just appalling.

I understand that in the community there was another—there are several incidents in him speaking with different women, particularly where he tells them to be quiet and sit out. In one incident it was because they were a different race. We, as women, are having our rights stripped from us.

In WyCo, we need to be unified. If you can't go to the Mayor and talk and you can't talk to the residents, what are you here for? I applaud those who responded. I applaud those who decided to input whether you agree with me or not is irrelevant.

Commissioner Bynum, I called several times. Never got a call back. My commissioner is Commissioner McKiernan. In nine years that I've been a resident where I'm at, has never even communicated with me. If you all don't want to do your job, resign or get recalled. Enough is enough.

We need help. KERA is ending. They are now in the hold phase. People are going to start being disconnected. The \$105K that was moved to a slush fund could be used to help these people instead of block parties and pizza parties as was told to me.

I also was told by Commissioner Davis that he has been watching me for a very long time in a very cryptic manner. I brought my ill husband here today because he became afraid of the tone Mr. Davis used and of the wording he used. What does that mean that you've been watching a resident for a very long time? Is that stalking? Should I be afraid? Is there really a silent pact?

I'd like to hear from all of the commissioners and let us know whether you've joined this pact or not because this is unacceptable. If you don't like me, I'm okay with that, but I am a resident and you need to respect me. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Lynch said you need to make this county better. This cannot continue. Are we waiting for an insurrection here in WyCo? Do we have to take a measurement of how much melanin is in our skin? I'm not going to have it.

I can work with anyone who will be respectful, but if you can't be respectful to me and you're going to direct a resident to berate the Mayor, whether you agree or not agree, then that is unacceptable. You should resign now. Those of you who are willing to work with us, please call me, 913-605-4070. My email address is gifts737@ gmail.com. I am willing to work for all of the residents of Wyandotte. **Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired.

Sarah Lynch, Armourdale, said I was present during the phone call between Louise Lynch and Commissioner Davis inadvertently, and I can assure you that Mrs. Lynch speaks the truth regarding her account of the phone call. My reputation relies on my veracity, so you can take my words to the bank.

I'm here tonight to remind you all of the ethics pledge you took as you each ascended your positions, particularly Clause 5 where you all promised that both your constituents and others would get their concerns, grievances, and ideas regarding any policy that was passed here heard and that you would make sure that that was so.

To tell a resident that their opinion is worthless and nothing they say will be taken seriously because of their choices that they made in the past election, is in direct conflict with that clause. To tell a woman of another race to sit down and shut up because you don't want to hear their opinion because they are of that race or maybe it's because they're a woman or maybe it's both, is in direct conflict with the oath that you took.

I come here to ask you all to maybe look over that pledge and to hold each other and yourselves accountable to it. I can only imagine how tedious it must be to sit in your positions and catch the ire of each resident that calls you as they air their grievances whether be it a burning bridge or be it conduct from one of your colleagues. I understand that each of you are human. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Ms. Lynch said that's also just—that at the same time, though, you are also held to a higher standard because you are our elected officials. We chose each of you to represent us and lead us as you pass the policy that will affect everyone in this county.

To those of you that remember those oaths and respect your position and do your best to ensure that each resident is heard, thank you. To those that would consider joining such a silent pact such as the one that was described by Commissioner Davis, shame on you. Thank you for your time.

Ty Gorman, 2843 Parkwood Blvd., said I am also the Sierra Club representative for Kansas. Within that capacity, I've been working for the past couple of years through the pandemic with ends to push BPU to stop disconnecting people who will be put in medical danger from those disconnections, to have more compassion and better policies before they shut people's water and electricity off, and have pushed for a number of specific policies in that arena.

But I wanted to come tonight with something the County Commission can do specifically to help solve this problem within the next year, and that is pass a resolution similar to 200005 passed by Kansas City, MO. It basically engages the community in a planning process that would give access to billions of federal dollars in competitive grants and direct state to the city grants. This would allow for the planning process to occur, with the community involved, and to meet the needs that BPU has to get the bills paid without them having to constantly threaten to cut people off and have to go through this byzantine network of assistance programs that they have set up currently that are loosely connected to the United Way that runs out of money often. They're very difficult to navigate.

As the KERA program is ending this month, that becomes even more important. Even though KERA wasn't meeting the need either, now there's going to be a lot more folks put in danger from BPU's policies. I've approached the board with this many times and they need outside help. They're pointing the finger at other sources that they need help with. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Mr. Gorman said passing this resolution would also give access, through the community planning process, to billions of dollars in energy efficiency to directly invest in people's homes and clean energy, and can really reduce BPU bills by 50%.

There are buyouts for BPU. It's cold plant that would result in replacement of the debt, replacement of the clean energy resources, and reducing community bills by 50% while maintaining reliability.

I've reached out to some of you about this, I'll reach out to others, and have heard back from a couple. But I want to—and this also affects the Public Works Department's work. I've spoken with them and this planning process can engage people in a climate action plan, or climate mitigation plan, to have the community have direct involvement in how the flooding affects folks, how these high bill prices affect folks, and to differ...**Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired.

Mr. Gorman said well, I'll stop there then, but I hope to talk to you soon. Thank you.

Carolyn Wyatt, 359 Troup, said I'm here this evening. About a month ago, I was here addressing the commissioners about a pact. I don't know if you remember about a pact. Commissioners were put in office by a community to address their needs, not their own. I can't remember when there were so many vetoes by a Mayor. These commissioners were not elected by the staff, but commissioners were elected by the people to serve the people; but we know who they're serving, self-serving. Community, keep watching and tell others to watch the Commission meetings.

You, the people, put them in the office and now you can take the office back. We have to hold them accountable for what they aren't doing. We all know what a pact is and it's not good. It's self-serving. We have to do better ourselves and do what's right for the people.

I just want to remind you that when you were put in the office, you were put in by the people, not the staff, but by the people. That's who you should be representing, the people, not yourselves, not coming together against one person. You got to do what's right. If you don't do what's right, you're held accountable by God also. That's one thing you got to remember. You're working for the people. If you can't do that, then you're in the wrong position. Thank you.

Ms. Sparks said, Mayor, those are all the individuals who signed up to speak this evening.

Mayor Garner asked, is there anyone else in the audience who would like to speak? If so, come forward and state your name and address, please.

Darryl Hall, 2314 N. 82nd Terr., said first, I'm going to give a compliment, shout-out, to the Motor Vehicle Department. Ms. Tina and Ms. Bridgette, they went over and beyond in customer service to help me, which she said it was going to improve. I wanted to give them their props for that.

Then I'm going to get back to the energy that's going on; how it's looking. It's embarrassing. Just want to try to clean it up and how we're looking up here as a Unified Government with no unity. So, I just want to address that. If everyone does play their position, that we, the people, have called for a new direction last year over electing a Mayor/CEO and new leadership, electing a group of individuals from representatives from each district that's intelligent and strong enough to support the vision that the people have agreed with from the Mayor/CEO that we have elected. Just want to make sure that your spelling is correct because I don't see any “I” in Wyandotte, but I do see a “We” at the beginning and the end. There’s a “We” and if we all come together for one Wyandotte, all of this implementation...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Mr. Hall said ...of division should be—it’s on all of you. We're counting on all of you to bring this vision and new direction to pass. Would you please, just in unity, work together to make that happen because together we can make it happen. Thank you.

Mayor Garner asked, is there anyone else here to speak? If so, approach the podium and state your name and address, please.

Curtis Martin, Kansas City, KS, said I liked to give my two minutes over to Darryl Hall.

Darryl Hall asked, would that be—wouldn’t you feel we'd be stronger working together instead of against each other? Any type of what we hear and what it looks like and what's getting said in the community, whether it be true or not. How is that energy getting out there? It's not a good look. We, the people, have spoken. We've elected new vision and leadership, not only in the Mayor/CEO, but from you whom we've elected to support the vision and help implement it. If it's not coming to pass, it's not just one person that looks bad, it's all. It’s the whole team. It's even us, the people, because we've chosen you all to represent us and to make this happen.

We hope we don't look bad. Don't make us look bad by choosing you. Please work in unity. Work in unity with all in harmony. We're calling on you. We're counting on you. Can you

please work together to hear our cry for a new reimagined Wyandotte County, respectfully. That really hurts to do that but there's consequences for that if you think you just own the position. **Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Mr. Hall said oh, that's good. That's plenty of time. So, I'll look in each one of your eyes counting on you, Commissioner Ramirez; counting on you, Commissioner Johnson; counting on you, Commissioner Bynum; counting on you, Administrator; counting on you, Mayor Garner; counting on you, Commissioner Kane; counting on you, Commissioner Stites; counting on you, Commissioner Markley; counting on you, Commissioner Townsend. Let's make this...**Ms. Sparks** said your time has expired.

Mr. Hall said...reimagined Wyandotte. Thank you.

Mayor Garner asked, is there anyone else?

Hazel Davis and I would like to give my time to Ty Gorman.

Ty Gorman said just wanted to first express my appreciation for the other speakers who've talked tonight. Really beautiful things said in partnership with all of them.

I didn't quite get the chance, I think, to express how fed-up people are with BPU bills and the way that we can't get through to change the way they operate. One of the aspects that I wanted to bring to the Commission was all of the unrelated fees or barely related fees that are part of these bills that are hanging. You're putting people in medical danger by authorizing these fixed fees onto electric and water bills. So, if they don't pay these bills that are way higher than other bills in the state for other residents, suddenly they don't have power because they haven't paid a ton of fixed fees that they can't pay. They can't get through to all these disorganized networks of people who can't solve this problem or help them because there hasn't been comprehensive planning or a budget to bring federal dollars into the county in the way that they should be. I just wanted to make sure I raised that point.

Another thing the County Commission has control over are those fixed fees that are authorized on the bills. Honestly, would challenge anyone here to kind of share what the process is or share the document publicly. Bring this to the public in a meeting to tell people what are the decisions BPU can make. What are the decisions the Commission can make. The state.

Everybody's pointing fingers at each other around these assistance programs whose fault it is that we can't get the help we need for folks who are being put in danger in these bills. So I want to...**Ms. Sparks** said one minute remaining.

Mr. Gorman said ...put it on the Commission to bring this information to the public. How does BPU work. What is the charter that gives us the ability to really challenge what they're doing wrong in overcharging. The decision-making that they have around these expensive power bills that are unnecessary and can be fixed with federal money, Inflation Reduction Act IIRA. It's all available within next year, but we have to start planning now. Please start that process. Thank you.

Mayor Garner asked, Clerk, is there anyone joining us virtually who would like to speak? **Ms. Sparks** said there are no hands raised. Mayor, we have a latecomer, Eleanor Pitts. Please state your name and city of residence for the record.

Eleanor Pitts, 1932 S. 10th Terr., said I'm only a few blocks from Rosedale Ridge, so obviously that's a high alert. As Erin Stryka earlier told you, it's been a fire hazard for a very long time and it needs to come down. Somebody had better take it down before we end up with somebody getting killed in there. It could be a homeless person trying to get warm like they did before. It could be a child who has no business over there in the first place. It could be a firefighter. We need to protect our firefighters because they protect us. It could be a police officer who's over there trying to settle down whatever's happening this week. Please, I'm asking you respectfully, take that under consideration and see what you can do to just get rid of it.

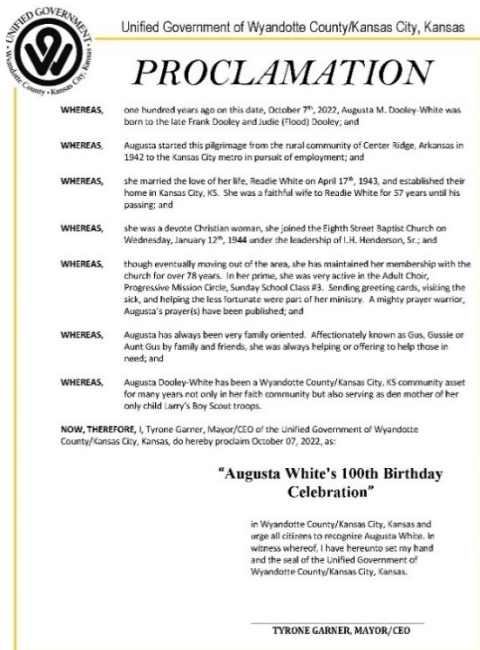
Mayor Garner asked, is anyone else joining virtually, Clerk? **Ms. Sparks** said no other hands are raised. **Mayor Garner** said thank you for all those that spoke tonight. I am now going to close the public comment.

Action: **Public input was received.**

Mayor Garner said that takes us to Items 2 and 3 which are proclamations. I'll ask the Clerk to go through those proclamations.

Item No. 2 – 212024...PROCLAMATION: AUGUSTA WHITE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

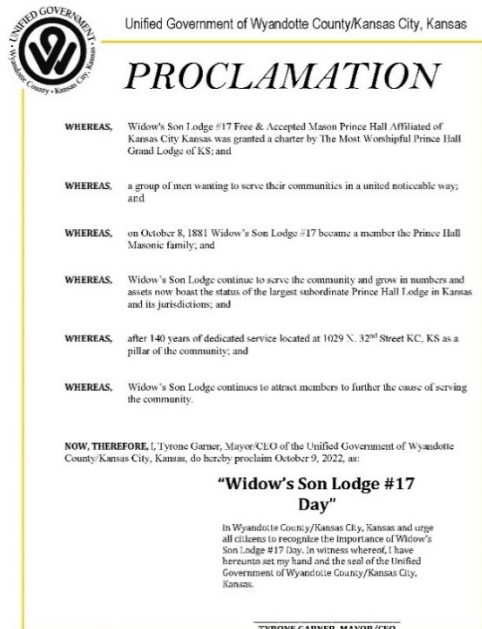
Synopsis: Proclamation proclaiming October 7, 2022, as Augusta White's 100th Birthday Celebration Day, submitted by Tyrone A. Garner, Mayor/CEO.



Action: The proclamation was read.

Item No. 3 – 212025...PROCLAMATION: WIDOW'S SON LODGE #17 DAY

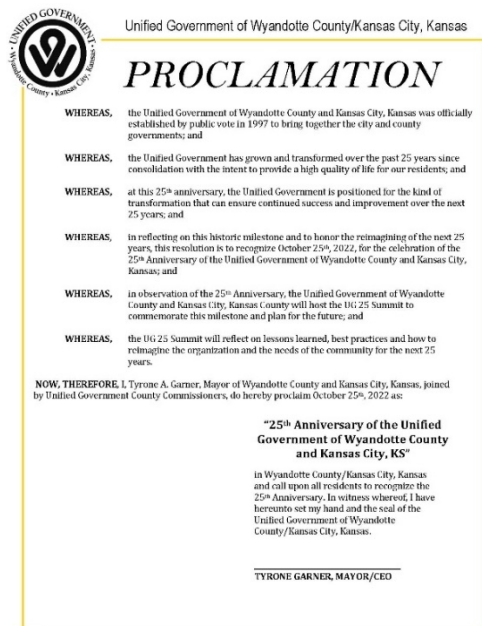
Synopsis: Proclamation proclaiming October 9, 2022, as Widow's Son Lodge #17 Day, submitted by Tyrone A. Garner, Mayor/CEO.



Action: The proclamation was read.

Item No. 4 – 212032...PROCLAMATION: 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF WYANDOTTE COUNTY AND KANSAS CITY, KS

Synopsis: Proclamation proclaiming October 25, 2022, as the 25th Anniversary of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, submitted by Tyrone A. Garner, Mayor/CEO.



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Action: The proclamation was read.

Mayor Garner asked, does that conclude the proclamations? **Ms. Sparks** said those are all the proclamations, Mayor.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Garner asked, do any members of the Commission or County Administrator wish to set-aside any item on the Consent Agenda? If an item is not set-aside, all items on the Consent Agenda will be voted on by one vote.

Commissioner Bynum said, Mayor, I believe we need to set-aside the item for the resolution on amending the code provisions for open burn. I've had one email from local Health Department staff and so I asked our Chief Counsel to look into this. I think there is some concern about the steps that we've taken at the standing committee and that we may not quite be in compliance with state law. I didn't know if the Chief Counsel could maybe address this, but I guess my request is to remove Item No. 4 off of Consent.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve all remaining items on the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Garner said okay, outside of Item No. 4, which has been set-aside, there is a motion and a second to approve the Consent Agenda as is. Is there any discussion? Seeing none, Clerk, roll call, please.

Roll call was taken and there were seven "Ayes," Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 1 – 211962...ORDINANCE: OPERATION OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES

Synopsis: An ordinance approving an addition to Chapter 22, Article IV, Offenses Against Public Peace related to unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), submitted by Casey Meyer, Senior Assistant

Counsel. On September 26, 2022, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: **ORDINANCE NO. O-144-22**, “An ordinance relating to Chapter 22 Miscellaneous Provisions and Offenses, Article IV Offenses Against Public Peace, adding new Section 22-129; Operation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, of the Code of Ordinances for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.” **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve the ordinance.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 2 – 211955...RESOLUTION: LEAVENWORTH ROAD AND HUTTON ROAD INTERSECTION PROJECT

Synopsis: A resolution declaring that this project is a necessary and valid improvement and authorizing a survey of land for said project, submitted by James Bain, Assistant Counsel. The location of the project is Leavenworth and Hutton Roads Intersection, Project CMIP 1609. On September 26, 2022, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: **RESOLUTION NO. R-62-22**, “A resolution declaring the necessity and authorizing a survey and descriptions of lands to be acquired by the right and power of eminent domain for the location, laying-out, reconstruction, expansion, repair, maintenance, operation and use of the Leavenworth Road and Hutton Road Intersection Project (CMIP-1609) in Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas.” **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to adopt the resolution.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 3 – 211956...RESOLUTION: BRIDGE 311 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Synopsis: A resolution declaring that this project is a necessary and valid improvement and authorizing a survey of land for said project, submitted by James Bain, Assistant Counsel. The

location of the project is Bridge 311 over Barber Creek, Reconstruction Project No. 105 U-2436-01. On September 26, 2022, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve and forward it to the full commission.

Action: **RESOLUTION NO. R-63-22**, “A resolution declaring the necessity and authorizing a survey and descriptions of lands to be acquired by the right and power of eminent domain for the location, laying-out, reconstruction, expansion, repair, maintenance, operation and use of the Thorne Drive Improvement Project, including the replacement of Bridge 311 over Barber Creek, (Project No. 105 U-2436-01) in Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas.” **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to adopt the resolution.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 4 – 211743...ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION: AMENDING CODE PROVISIONS FOR OPEN BURN

Synopsis: An Ordinance/Resolution amending the code provisions Section 3-3 Definitions and Section 3-17(h)(1)(a) related to Open Burning, submitted by Jon Khalil, Assistant Counsel, Legal Department. On July 25, 2022, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission. On August 11, 2022, at the request of the Chair, this item was remanded back to the standing committee for further discussion. On September 26, 2022, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve and forward it to the full commission.

Mayor Garner said I'll recognize Commissioner Bynum for additional comments and questions that she may have in that regard.

Commissioner Bynum said we've been working on these revisions to the open burn since February or March. I'm not sure. It's been a nice long haul. We brought it to standing committee in September and, I think, we were mostly satisfied that we had something we could live with that

didn't run afoul of other statutes, which I personally am concerned about. Turns out that the state ended up communicating that we still didn't really have—we weren't there yet. The state still had some concerns about the legality of the ordinance revisions that we had made.

Asked Misty to see if she can't work with us to bring something forward either October 27th or November 4th, whatever might work better for schedules. Not go back to the standing committee, just bring some revisions that are in compliance with state law and state health policies that we can adopt and move forward. I'll defer to the Chief Counsel if she's got other comments that we need to hear.

Misty Brown, Chief Legal Counsel, said so I think you have summed it up well, Commissioner Bynum. I would just add for the clarity of the Commission and anyone watching, is that state statute permits local governments to regulate air quality within their jurisdiction so long as that regulation complies with state law, state rules, and state regulations. An important thing to note is the state still maintains jurisdiction over the locality as well. So in this instance, the Unified Government has its local burn ordinance so citizens are under Unified Government jurisdiction for burn activities. They're also under state jurisdiction as well.

We have an instance where, I believe, staff and the Commission have been working hard to come up with a burn ordinance that's going to meet some of the issues that come up and we have a storm and when we have a lot of limbs down. But we've gotten to a situation where the spirit and the intent of what was drafted conflict with the letter of what was drafted. The state has expressed some concerns and there appears to be just some confusion about a couple of areas where if we proceeded as it is currently written, there could be some confusion for residents and that they are under state jurisdiction, they're also under Unified Government jurisdiction.

The recommendation that I would have at this time would be to, as Commissioner Bynum said, defer this matter over to either the 10/27 meeting or the November 4th meeting. Clean up some of this language so that there's no conflict with state rules and regulations, and make sure that it's very clear so that we're all on the same page going forward.

Commissioner Bynum said I am thinking about it, I would prefer November 4th just because I think October 27th is a Planning and Zoning night and it could be a long night, and maybe

November 4th might give us the time we need to make sure we understand it. That would be my request. Thank you. Should I make a motion? Okay.

Commissioner Kane said we have been working on this for a long time. I don't want to do anything wrong against the state, but our staff presented it the way staff wanted to present it, not the way the Commission wanted it presented.

We had this issue resolved. We settled it. We voted on it. They didn't like it so they went back and they talked to KDHE and said here's what we got. Well, why didn't they tell us, the KDHE, in the first place, because no, I will not vote for something that KDHE says that we can't do. No doubt about it. But sometimes it's how you present the stuff.

The fire marshal showed up at my constituents' house with a gun, a taser, to intimidate the person that lived there. I called the fire marshal for the state and he said he's only supposed to wear something like that if he goes to a crime scene. Then the rest of some of these fellow employees didn't like what I said so they get a hold of KDHE and say they presented in such a way that no matter what I said.

And I want to remind the people that work down there, they work for us, we don't work for them. They're supposed to present it the way it's legal and the right way to present it, not a way to say we're going to take care of this just because we don't like Commissioner Kane. It's frustrating. I thought I'd just sit there and wait but it's frustrating for me because that's exactly what happened, and it's happened ever since I've been here. They don't like something I'm doing because I'm more mouthy. I'm more responsive to my constituents.

They say well, here's what we're going to do and they had time to think about it. They should have come to us the very first time and said we cannot do this and here's why. You can get all the mads you want out there, brother, because you're part of the problem.

Mayor Garner asked, is there any further discussion?

Commissioner Stites said this is a county and I haven't been on the discussions regarding this. Have we spoken to Bonner Springs and Edwardsville and how this affects them? I'm kind of looking for a little bit. I'm not sure how that—because this is a county ordinance, right?

Ms. Brown said yeah, there has been. So this is a county ordinance that would incorporate into the unincorporated areas of Loring. Now in order to get—there has been some discussion with Bonner Springs and Edwardsville on where one would get a permit because when you apply for a burn permit, you start with the fire station in your jurisdiction. Bonner Springs and Edwardsville residents would still go to their fire departments to get their burn permits, but as far as KCK and Loring goes, they would come to get the permits here.

Commissioner Stites asked, so this wouldn't add an additional step into, let's just say an Edwardsville resident going in and applying for a burn permit? When they go to the fire department in Edwardsville and request a burn permit, they don't have to then check with the county? It's still authorized and issued through the respected city?

Ms. Brown said that is my understanding of how it would work. **Commissioner Stites** said okay. Thank you.

Action: **Commissioner Bynum made a motion that we bring this ordinance amending code provisions for open burning back to our Commission meeting that I think would be held on November 3rd, not November 4th.**

Mayor Garner said just clarity on your motion, Commissioner Bynum, what to bring back? Are there any requests?

Commissioner Bynum said yes. The request would be with further revisions to ensure that our ordinance would be in compliance with policies at KDHE as well as state law.

Mayor Garner asked, is there any further discussion about the motion and request that have been brought forward by Commissioner Bynum?

Action: **Commissioner Kane seconded the motion.**

Mayor Garner said if this motion passes, I'll direct the Administrator to honor that request. So, I have a motion and I have a second. Roll call please, Clerk.

Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 5 – 211960...ORDINANCE: AMENDING SECTION 3-22 RELATING TO THE EMISSION OF ODORS

Synopsis: An Ordinance amending Section 3-22 of the Code of Ordinances relating to the emission of odors, submitted by Jennifer Stewart, Environmental Health Manager. On September 26, 2022, the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Markley, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: **ORDINANCE NO. O-145-22**, “An ordinance relating to Chapter 3, Air Pollution, amending Section 3-22 of the Unified Government Code.” **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve the ordinance.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 6 – 211961...ORDINANCE: AMENDING SECTIONS 16-31, 16-32, AND 16-34 FOOD ESTABLISHMENT REGULATION AND LICENSING

Synopsis: An ordinance amending Sections 16-31, 16-32, and 16-34 of the Code of Ordinances relating to food establishment regulation and licensing, submitted by Jennifer Stewart, Environmental Health Manager. On September 26, 2022, the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Markley, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: **ORDINANCE NO. O-146-22**, “An ordinance relating to Chapter 16, Food Service and Food Service Establishments, amending Sections 16-31, 16-32 & 16-34 of the Unified Government Code.” **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve the ordinance.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 7 – 211958...PROPOSAL: KANSAS CITY REGIONAL ELECTRICAL VEHICLE STRATEGIC PLAN

Synopsis: MARC is looking to leverage a portion of this annual allocation to fund a regional electrical vehicle (EV) strategic plan. The Unified Government has been asked to support this effort with a \$5,000 contribution, submitted by Gunnar H. Hand, Director of Planning & Urban Design. On September 26, 2022, the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Markley, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 8 – 211928...GRANT: REGIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND INFRA-STRUCTURE EXPANSION

Synopsis: Authority to participate in Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) grant to encourage the use of electric vehicles (EV) in underserved communities across the region. This grant requires matching funds of \$15,000. This is a retroactive grant request that was submitted by MARC in August 2022, submitted by Gunnar H. Hand, Director of Planning & Urban Design. On September 26, 2022, the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Markley, voted unanimously to approve and forward to the full commission.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 9 - 212020...PLAT: ROCK ISLAND BRIDGE ON KAW

Synopsis: Plat of Rock Island Bridge on Kaw, located over the Kansas River, and being developed by Flying Truss, LLC, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor; and Troy Shaw, County Engineer.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign said plat. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 10 – 212021...PLAT: HYINK ADDITION NO. 1

Synopsis: Plat of Hyink Addition No. 1, located at 6702 and 6716 Berger Avenue, and being developed by Steven F. Hyink, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor; and Troy Shaw, County Engineer.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign said plat. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 11 - MINUTES

Synopsis: Minutes from the Full Commission Meeting on July 14, 2022, and from the Special Session on September 15, 2022.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 12 - WEEKLY BUSINESS MATERIAL

Synopsis: Weekly business materials dated September 15 and September 22, 2022.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to receive and file. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

ADMINISTRATOR'S AGENDA

Item No. 1 – 212015...RESOLUTION: PROJECT AUTHORIZATION - FAIRFAX TRAFFICWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Synopsis: A resolution to issue general obligation bonds and/or temporary notes for Fairfax Trafficway improvements, submitted by Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works.

Mayor Garner said I'll ask Mr. Jeff Fisher, the Executive Director of Public Works, to make some opening remarks.

Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works, said I'm going to introduce the County Engineer who's managing that and give you some details and entertain questions.

Troy Shaw, County Engineer, said if any of you have been down to Fairfax Trafficway in the last, I think, year and a half or two years, that one outside lane on the—going roughly westbound kind of weird direction down there, has been closed. The outside lane is closed due to failure of the surface below or lack of surface below. You can go out there and look down and see ground 15 feet below the road where the outside lanes at.

We closed that from a safety standpoint. Since that point, there have been some concerns about delays in traffic getting from the plant down there and when shift change happens. Then having to stop or big trucks having to stop at the railroad tracks down there which causes other backups in traffic and vehicles trying to swerve to get around that to get to the area.

I believe this request is to expedite the funding that is currently in the budget for '24 and '25, up to '23. The funding requested for '24 and '25 was \$1M within two years. Moving it up to '23, it would be around \$800K just from a time standpoint and inflation costs. So, that's why we're here. I'm free to answer any questions.

Commissioner Townsend said this would be a major infrastructure improvement to the Fairfax area that would benefit not only those who traverse those lanes on Fairfax Trafficway. To give people a visual, if you know where the Phillips 66 area is, just look to the west of that.

Action: Commissioner Townsend made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to accept the resolution item that's presented.

Commissioner Kane said I just want to thank staff. I'm the one that brought it to their attention. There's a specific time in between shifts when it's really bad, especially the first shift to the second shift. That hole is bigger than 15 feet. I believe it's more north-south way, but this is exactly some of the things that we have to have some of that funding set aside for a rainy day because this is some serious issues down there. We appreciate you guys moving it forward.

Mayor Garner asked, any more questions or comments? I'm hearing none. I believe we have a motion. Is that correct? And we have a second. Is there any further discussion? Seeing none, roll call, please.

Action: RESOLUTION NO. R-64-22, "A resolution authorizing certain street, sidewalk, and intersection improvements and providing for the manner of paying for the same (2023 Fairfax Trafficway Improvements, CMIP 1059)." Roll call was taken on the motion and there were seven "Ayes," Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 2 – 212016...ORDINANCES: AMENDING THE STORM AND SURFACE WATER UTILITY FEE

Synopsis: Approval of the following ordinances:

1. An ordinance amending Section 30 of Article VIII of Chapter 30 of the 1988 Code of Ordinances City of Kansas City, Kansas.
2. An ordinance amending the Storm and Surface Water Utility fee and providing an effective date, submitted by Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works.

This item was previously before the Commission on December 2, 2021, and April 7, 2022.

Mayor Garner said I'll ask Mr. Fisher to make the opening presentation.

Commissioner Markley said, Mayor, if I may. I would like to make a motion to table this item given the number of absences tonight for presentation, hopefully, on November 3rd. Staff has already had that discussion with me.

Action: Commissioner Markley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to set over to November 3, 2022, meeting.

Mayor Garner said there is a motion and a second to table this item for further consideration. Roll call.

Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

Item No. 3 – 212019...UPDATE: UNIFIED GOVERNMENT FORWARD

Synopsis: Update on the Unified Government Forward process, submitted by Cheryl Harrison-Lee, Interim County Administrator.

Mayor Garner said I’ll ask Ms. Cheryl Harrison-Lee, our County Administrator, to make the opening remarks.

Cheryl Harrison-Lee, Interim County Administrator, said at the onset of my appointment as the Interim County Administrator, I made a commitment to provide quarterly updates. As promised, tonight I will be providing an update on the progress we've made within the third quarter.

As we approach the 25th Anniversary since consolidation, it's important that we continue to take stock of the things we've accomplished, not only to celebrate our successes, but to remain aware of opportunities for continued growth.



UG FORWARD: Q3 UPDATES

Q3 Highlights

- Moved forward with prioritizing and implementing initial assessment recommendations.
- Started realignment of departments to core functions.
- Continued focus on people and finances.
- Prepared for key strategic planning efforts.
- Adopted 2023 budget.
- Focused on organizational readiness for permanent county administrator.



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As we work through the transitional phase at the Unified Government, I regularly refer to the DEIF framework which gives us the opportunity to continue discovering, evaluating, identifying, and focusing together forward.

We've accomplished a lot this quarter. Some of the highlights are we've implemented many of the short-term initiatives from the assessments, including the realignment of departments. We found our focus on two most important components of our operations, HR, our people, and finances. We've started having conversations around strategic planning and shifting our mindsets to think long-term about the sustainability of the Unified Government. We've adopted the 2023 Budget, which was no small feat. Thank you for all of your support and assistance through that process, as well as our citizens. We've started working to prepare the organization for a permanent County Administrator ensuring that key concerns are addressed, or at the very least, identified to encourage continued momentum.

UG FORWARD: Q3 UPDATES

DISCOVER

- Continued with outreach and engagement of community and partners.
- Focused on our people to address recruitment and retention.
- Budget process culminated in a 2023 that met many of the community requests, collected through extensive engagement.



	JULY 2022	AUGUST 2022	SEPTEMBER 2022
Discover	• Received 172 applications for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. • Importance of communications both within the organization and community underscored in assessment.	• Public Health Department launches community health assessment outreach. • Arts&C/MAGIC submits grant to support civic engagement by artists in partnership with Wyandotte County. • UG selected for national Cities and Counties for Fair & Free Justice program.	• Posted position for Chief People Officer to address workforce culture and HR priorities. • Public safety recruitment efforts underway in partnership with many Fall community events.



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Discover in the DEIF framework. It's all about finding new ways to strengthen engagement among residents, local governments, and the business community. We've continued to engage the community through the opera process, the budget cycle, and consistent communication as we pursue new initiatives. We've partnered with many organizations internally and externally to

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support civic engagement and feedback from the community, and we are working to address Workforce culture and HR priorities by hiring a Chief People Officer and conducting public safety recruitment efforts throughout the community.

UG FORWARD: Q3 UPDATES

EVALUATE

- Taking action on preliminary findings – must build foundation for 2023 and even more substantial change.
- Realignment of organization to support similar functions, align with charter, and improve coordination.
- Transitional 2023 budget gives us time to reflect on strategic priorities.



	JULY 2022	AUGUST 2022	SEPTEMBER 2022
 Evaluate	• Presentation of assessment findings and recommendations (human resources, finances, overall organization). • Launched executive recruitment effort to find a permanent county administrator.	• Adopted Infrastructure Outcomes and Strategies document, a culmination of the Commission infrastructure sub-committee work. • Initiated community committee for executive recruitment effort.	• Realigned departments by function with county administration: administrative services; community and economic development; health and human services; public safety. • Appointed an Interim ACA for Administrative Services.



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Evaluate is about taking the opportunity to assess the current organization and identify areas for improvement, as well as capitalizing on our centers of excellence, our common strengths throughout the organization that will benefit us all. We've taken action on some preliminary assessment findings including realignment of the organization to support similar functions and increase interdepartmental synergy. We've also appointed an Interim Assistant County Administrator for administrative services and position ACAs for strategic progress in their respective areas. The 2023 Budget process helped us to reflect on our strategic priorities and opportunities for improvement in the future and during this transitional phase, a reevaluation of those priorities is recommended. We also have had some difficult conversations about infrastructure and adopted the infrastructure outcomes and strategies document, which is a culmination of the work of the infrastructure subcommittee. We've engaged the community, as well as other partners throughout the county, and the executive recruitment to find a permanent County Administrator.

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IDENTIFY

- New projects and funding to support growth and infill development.
- Preparing to establish a clear, strategic plan to guide how we want our economy to grow equitably.



	JULY 2022	AUGUST 2022	SEPTEMBER 2022
Identify	• Mayor Garner selected for Bloomberg-Harvard City Leadership Initiative with focus on equitable economic development. • Commission supports regional climate action plan. • Commission approves the 505 Central Development District and an SUP for the Rock Island Bridge. • Promoted a "Meet the Prime" Event for Local Contractors with Turner Construction. • Building Permits: Commercial (6); Residential (57); DRC (7); Private Demolition (3)	• Launched RFP for Economic Development Strategic Plan. • Awarded \$5.6M RAISE Grant for Bi-State Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor. • Commission adopts countywide goDette Mobility Strategy. • Provided outreach on bid opportunities for local contractors for the Armourdale Industrial District Pump Station Improvements. • Building Permits: Commercial (12); Residential (58); New Single Family (15); DRC (6); Private Demolition (3)	• Promoted local contractor participation in Homefield Sports Building Pre-bid Conference. • Community conversations on Land Bank policy and program planned/promoted for October 2022. • Launched RFP for Citywide Comprehensive Plan update. • Building Permits: Data not yet available

Identify is about pursuing economic development opportunities that create access, equity, and shared prosperity. The 2023 Budget process was insightful in that we learned that economic development is going to be critical as it relates to addressing the financial stability of the Unified Government. We've made progress in this area and recognized opportunities for continued growth. Mayor Garner was selected for the Bloomberg-Harvard City Leadership Initiative and the focus of this initiative is collaboration and equitable economic development. We've launched the RFP for our economic development strategic plan, and we look forward to reviewing those responses later this month. We've had many conversations with local contractors and encourage their involvement with potential projects, and we've approved over 170 building permits. We were awarded over \$5M in RAISE grant funds, and we adopted a county-wide mobility strategy all in the effort to ensure that we are prepared for the kinds of economic development that we know we will need. While we know we've done work in this area, there's room for growth as it relates to economic development and we're moving in the right direction.

UG FORWARD: Q3 UPDATES

FOCUS

- Must continue to address the needs of our team.
- Continue identifying mid- to long-term priorities.



	JULY 2022	AUGUST 2022	SEPTEMBER 2022
Focus	• Treasury continues in-service Wednesdays to focus on training and staff development. • Learn-to-Swim Program expanded to Parkwood Pool through public-private partnership.	• Administration/Departments prioritized recommendations from assessments for implementation. • Change Ambassadors host Workday Fair and Roadshow to orient staff to the new paperless system for HR and finance.	• Budget adoption, included funding for investment in staff (pay and development). • Evaluating P-Card and vehicle take-home policies.



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Focus in the DEIF framework is all about superior customer service, both internally and externally. We must ensure that our focus remains on the needs of our customers and the needs of the team. In pursuit of that, we are continuing to identify long and mid-term priorities to take care of our

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most important investments. The Treasury Office is continuing to make improvements. They're conducting in-service Wednesdays to focus on professional development. We've prioritized recommendations from the assessments for implementation. We hosted a Workday fair to help staff get acquainted with the new paperless system for tracking business processes and approve the budget with significant investments in staff, both in the area of pay and development, as we continue to review current policies to protect staff and ensure that we are accountable.

Q3 UPDATES	JULY 2022	AUGUST 2022	SEPTEMBER 2022
Discover 	- Received 172 applications for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. - Importance of communications both within the organization and community underscored in assessment.	- Public Health Department launches community health assessment outreach. - Arts/IC/MAAC submits grant to support civic engagement by artists in partnership with Wyandotte County. - UG selected for national Cities and Counties for Fine & Fee Justice program.	- Ported position for Chief People Officer to address workforce culture and HR priorities. - Public safety recruitment efforts underway in partnership with many fall community events.
Evaluate 	- Presentation of assessment findings and recommendations (human resources, finances, overall organization). - Launched executive recruitment effort to find a permanent county administrator.	- Adopted Infrastructure Outcomes and Strategies document, a culmination of the Commission Infrastructure subcommittees work. - Initiated community committee for executive recruitment effort.	- Realigned departments by function with county administration: administrative services; community and economic development; health and human services; public safety. - Appointed an interim ACA for Administrative Services.
Identify 	- Mayor Garner selected for Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative with focus on equitable economic development. - Commission supports regional climate action plan. - Commission approves the 505 Central Development District and an RUP for the Rock Island Bridge. - Promoted a "Meet the Prime" Event for Local Contractors with Turner Construction. - Building Permits: Commercial (6); Residential (5); DRC (7); Private Demolition (7)	- Launched RFP for Economic Development Strategic Plan. - Awarded \$5.6M RAISE Grant for Bi-State Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor. - Commission adopts countywide goDette Mobility Strategy. - Provided outreach on bid opportunities for local contractors for the Armondaire Industrial District Pump Station improvements. - Building Permits: Commercial (12); Residential (28); New Single Family (15); DRC (8); Private Demolition (3)	- Promoted local contractor participation in Horseshoe Sports Building Pre-Bid Conference. - Community conversations on Land Bank policy and program planned/promoted for October 2022. - Launched RFP for Citywide Comprehensive Plan update. - Building Permits: Data not yet available
Focus 	- Treasury continues in-service Wednesdays to focus on training and staff development. - Learn-to-Swim Program expanded to Parkwood Pool through public-private partnership.	- Administration/Departments prioritized recommendations from assessments for implementation. - Change Ambassadors host Workday fair and Roadshow to orient staff to the new paperless system for HR and finance.	- Budget adoption, included funding for investment in staff (pay and development). - Evaluating P-Card and vehicle take-home policies.

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This is by no means an exhaustive list of all that we've been able to do in quarter three. It is a snapshot of all that is being done behind the scenes to assure future prosperity of the Unified Government.

UG FORWARD: Q3 UPDATES

WHAT'S NEXT

- Economic Development:
Create An Equitable Growth Strategy
- Organizational Alignment:
Continue to Invest in Our Workforce
 - People + Finances
- UG 25 Summit:
Engage Our Team in the Transformation
- DotteLEADS:
Launch a Sustainable Model of Continuous Improvement



UG25
25TH ANNIVERSARY
SUMMIT

DOTTE
LEADS

Lead | Examine | Augment | Develop | Serve

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So, what's next? We're moving forward and while much has been done, there's still quite a lot to do to make sure we're functioning in a manner that best serves our residents, stakeholders, and staff. Up next we will be exploring the economic development strategic plan. We'll get the process started. We'll also continue to invest in our workforce and our finances by continuing to implement the work of the assessment recommendations. Later this month we talked about celebrating the

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25th Anniversary of the Unified Government with the UG 25 Summit. That will be an opportunity for employees to celebrate the important milestone, to reflect on the accomplishments of the past 25 years, and work together to produce ideas for our future. Finally, we will be launching DotteLEADS, a continuous improvement program focused on leadership development, process refinement, and shifting the organizational culture of the Unified Government. All of this is made possible because we have staff working hard. I appreciate all of the work that the staff has been able to do this quarter to present this report to you tonight, and look forward to the progress that we will continue to make. Mr. Mayor and Commissioners, that concludes the update.

Mayor Garner said thank you, Administrator. Do any other commissioners have any comments or questions?

Commissioner Stites said during the public input portion this morning or earlier, it's been a long day already, Mr. Gorman, I want to say thank you for your concern. Not only did you bring a concern forward, you brought some solutions forward also and some things that we can look at on how we might address those problems. I know the Mayor ask that if you bring forward a concern, maybe you can bring forward a solution, and I appreciate that. Thank you.

Mayor Garner asked, any other comments or questions?

Mayor Garner said, Administrator, I just have one. It's a comment and a question. If you could go back to your slide with the summit. Could you describe that a little more for us?

Ms. Harrison-Lee said, yes. What we envision happening with the summit is an opportunity to have some of the residents, administrators, and commission members who were engaged in the process at the time of consolidation. We are looking to have a roundtable discussion with them for the employees. Also, in the afternoon, we're looking to have administrators, the assistant county administrators talking with their department directors and staff to be able to talk about ideas for the next 25 years.

Mayor Garner asked, were there any other anniversary events that you planned for the Unified Government? I guess I just—let me just make an ask. I believe that's great. This is something

really awesome to be celebrating when you talk about 25 years of Unified Government. But I think the Unified Government is so much more than just government. The term unified government dictates or annotates a governmental entity. But I think when you talk about community, and just my background, is that we are a unified community made up of three separate cities, as well as a smaller portion of a city, as well of a great large portion of community folks that love Wyandotte County, that have worked hard in this community, and that also work just as hard doing things out every day in the community for years, some for decades, trying to make Wyandotte County a great and safe place to live, work, and raise their family.

I think we would be remised to not involve our residents and our citizens in this celebration. So, I ask that we look at something to celebrate the Unified Government that they approved because they had to vote for the unification of Wyandotte County with the City of Kansas City, KS. Involve our residents in this process so it's a community-oriented based celebration that goes beyond the four walls of this government and a few individuals that may have had some input in creating this government and really just make it, I believe, a community event where everyone that calls Wyandotte County home, and even those that want to call Wyandotte County home, can be a part of this great celebration that we have come to know as the Unified Government of Wyandotte County, Kansas City KS. And we cannot leave out Bonner Springs, Edwardsville, and portions of Lake Quivira. That's just an ask for me.

Thank you for the report.

Action: For information only.

ADJOURN

Mayor Garner said with no further business to come before the governing body, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Action: Commissioner Markley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to adjourn.

Mayor Garner said I have a motion and a second. Any discussion? Seeing none, roll call, please.

Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Markley, Stites, Bynum, Townsend, Ramirez, Johnson, Kane.

**MAYOR GARNER
ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:12 P.M.
October 13, 2022**

Monica L. Sparks
Acting Unified Government Clerk

bm/cg

October 13, 2022