

**ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN SERVICES
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, September 26, 2022**

The meeting of the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee was held on Monday, September 26, 2022, at 8:03 p.m., remotely via Zoom as well as on-site. The following members were present: Commissioner Markley, Chairman; Commissioners Ramirez, Bynum, Johnson, and Kane. The following officials were also in attendance: Bridgette Cobbins, Assistant County Administrator; Suzanne Bishop and James Bain, Assistant Counsels; Jennifer Stewart, Environmental Health Manager; Jeff Fisher, Executive Director of Public Works; Gunnar Hand, Director of Planning & Urban Design; Monica L. Sparks, Acting UG Clerk; and Brittanie MacDonald, Clerk's Office.

Chairman Markley said before I call this meeting to order, I want to announce that some committee members, staff, and the public are attending remotely via Zoom as well as on-site.

All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when 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 is current guidance from the 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 the meeting. The public may also indicate their intent to provide remote public comment by contacting the Clerk's Office by 5:00 p.m. the Thursday before the meeting. The public will also have an opportunity to provide brief comments either by telephone or via Zoom or from the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Office Building.

Chairman Markley called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll. Roll call was taken and all members were present as shown above.

Chairman Markley said there are no revisions to tonight's meeting.

Approval of standing committee minutes from May 23, 2022. **On motion of Commissioner Kane, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the minutes were approved.** Roll call was taken and there were five “Ayes,” Kane, Johnson, Ramirez, Bynum, Markley.

Committee Agenda

Item No. 1 – 211960...ORDINANCE: AMENDING SECTION 3-22 RELATING TO EMISSION OF ODORS

Synopsis: An Ordinance amending Section 3-22 of the Code of Ordinances relating to emission of odors, submitted by Jennifer Stewart, Environmental Health Manager.

James Bain, Assistant Counsel, said when this ordinance came up a few weeks back, there was an opportunity to enforce the ordinance. Ms. Stewart found that our ordinance was maybe a little out of date. Maybe she can talk about that experience and the changes in the ordinance.

Jennifer Stewart, Environmental Health Manager, said Section 3-22, the restriction of emissions odors, Air Quality is tasked with inspecting or, I guess, going out to check on odors. So, how it's currently written, it would require me to respond within two hours no matter what time of the day it is. It could be Christmas at 3:00 in the morning and I would have to go within two hours. I've asked if we can change that to one business day just to give me time to get out there and get it checked out. Currently, it does say, by observations of the director. I'm asking if we can change it to include, or their designee.

In the current ordinance, there is a scentometer no. 2 that is referenced. That particular piece of equipment is no longer manufactured, so we just added an olfactometer. That is a little vague, I guess. Then the other change would be to include the Nasal Ranger Field Olfactometer instead of the scentometer that's manufactured by Barnebey Cheney Company. They are no longer in business. This particular device is used by Kansas City, Missouri, right now. I think it would be appropriate to use that one. It would be the same technique as the scentometer no. 2 was. That is it on our changes.

Chairman Markley said all those pieces of equipment sound like something off of a kid sci-fi movie, so that's fun also. Are there any questions on the changes?

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

Chairman Markley asked, Clerk, did we have any comments from the public or otherwise? **Ms. Sparks** said no comments received; no hands raised.

Chairman Markley said I have a motion and a second. Roll call, please.

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

**Item No. 2 – 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 & 16-34 of the Code of Ordinances relating to food establishment regulation and licensing, submitted by Jennifer Stewart, Environmental Health Manager.

Chairman Markley recognized Jennifer Stewart.

Jennifer Stewart, Environmental Health Manager, said just a few more quick changes and then we will be out of here. What I discovered, once I went over to the Health Department working with Environmental Inspections, they are charged with inspecting pools, schools, and septic tanks. In addition to that, they had retail food establishments. They are responsible for checking packaged food only. What I have found, speaking to the Kansas Department of AG, is the state also inspects at our local level. So, these companies, I guess like convenience stores, they are paying the UG a license fee, a permit fee, every year on top of their fee that they pay to the state. So, we're duplicating efforts.

Currently, we inspect 205 convenience stores every year. We have two staff that are responsible for inspecting the pools, schools, septic, and then adding this revenue, I believe, was \$16K is what we've collected. So, pretty minimal compared to—we couldn't justify having another staff member, I guess, paying that much, but it was a bit too much work for two people.

Again, just talking to the Kansas Department of AG, they were not really sure why we were duplicating their efforts. So, basically we're trying to get this one removed since all food establishments do follow the 2012 Food Code. In our ordinance, the 1999 Food Code is currently what's listed. We would like to adopt the 2012 Food Code.

We would also, instead of the—I guess they used to report to the Kansas Department of Environment. We would like to change that to the Department of AG since they are responsible for that right now. And then, basically, just striking that a permit is required by Chapter 8 of the 1999 Food Code and pay an initial application fee. That fee is set by the County Administrator. There was, I think it was, I want to say \$125. So, we wanted to, basically, remove all the language requiring our permit since that same permit is covered by the state.

Mr. Bain said one thing I'll point out, even though we're removing all reference to the County Administrator or any local license, it is still the ordinance that the food establishments must be licensed by the Department of Agriculture. So, if there is a complaint, if there is an inspection and someone is found to be not licensed or out of license, it is still against our ordinance. We still do have some enforcement if we find someone to be out of out of compliance.

Commissioner Bynum said I'm willing to make a motion.

Chairman Markley asked, do we have any comments, Clerk, from anyone, from anywhere, received? **Ms. Sparks** said no comments received; no hands raised.

Chairman Markley said all right. Let's have a motion.

Action: **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve amending the pertinent ordinance sections to change the regulations.**

Chairman Markley said I have a motion and a second. Roll call, please.

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

Item No. 3 – 211958...PROPOSAL: KANSAS CITY REGIONAL ELECTRICAL VEHICLE (EV) STRATEGIC PLAN

Synopsis: MARC is looking to leverage a portion of 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.

Chairman Markley recognized Gunnar Hand. Thanks for your patience, Gunnar.

Gunnar Hand, Director of Planning & Urban Design, said thanks for your time this evening. I have two agenda items. The first one is related to a grant request by the Mid-America Regional Council. Every year the Mid-America Regional Council receives a grant amount from the federal government to do planning work as they see fit. They approached the Unified Government to pursue a project to develop a regional electric car sharing plan, an electric car sharing plan and charging station plan for the region, very similar to what is currently happening through the Kansas Department of Transportation on the Kansas-wide efforts.

They've approached multiple municipalities to participate in this grant, and they've asked for a contribution of \$5K. Technically, this is a grant request. This would be our in-kind contribution, and it requires the Board of Commission approval. This money, if approved, would come out of the long-range planning budget for the Unified Government.

We also believe it's directly in line with the goDotte Countywide Mobility strategy that was just adopted by the Board of Commissioners. It is, in fact, in the implementation action of that plan.

Commissioner Bynum asked, did you say it comes out of your budget? **Mr. Hand** said it would come out of the Planning & Urban Design budget, yes. **Commissioner Bynum** asked, and budget impact to you is minimal or, I mean, you have a fund for these things? **Mr. Hand** said they've asked for \$5K. They're still working out the scope of work. There's a high probability this will most likely come out of the 2023 Budget because they probably won't get started until January. If it were to happen in 2022, we would be able to move around some money and find that \$5K if we had to do it this year.

Commissioner Kane said this is a good investment. I mean, if it's only \$5K, that's pretty good.
Commissioner Bynum said agree.

Action: **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve.**

Chairman Markley said I have a motion and a second. Clerk, any comments from anyone?
Ms. Sparks said no comments; no hands.

Chairman Markley said roll call, please.

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

Item No. 4 – 211928...GRANT: REGIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND INFRASTRUCTURE 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.

Chairman Markley recognized Gunnar Hand.

Gunnar Hand, Director of Planning & Urban Design, said this is very similar in nature but it's a different grant request. This one is retroactive. This came to us at the very tail end of the goDotte County Web Mobility Strategy Plan. MARC had been putting together a pilot project grant. They are seeking \$750K from the federal government specifically to do demonstration projects of EV charging and EV car share usage.

They approached us in August when we were wrapping up goDotte and moving through the approval process. Work on these types of issues, again, are in the goDotte County Web Mobility strategy. Specifically, we have an action item that speaks to a demonstration project

to kind of get the ball rolling on EV charging in Wyandotte County. Very often these technologies have to happen in the public sector first before they spread out into the private sector. We're seeing that sort of globally. We also just don't have that much charging capability within the UG. There's a couple of private businesses that have installed them. The Walgreens on State Avenue is probably the most well-known, but it's just not proliferating to the extent that, I think, the federal government, the local government, state government wants.

So, this is, again, specifically an action item in the goDotte Countywide Mobility strategy. What they are asking for is for our participation, but they're not tying any in-kind funds to it unless we seek to move forward with that demonstration project. So, it's an 80/20 grant if we want to buy into it. This allows us the opportunity to buy into it. This money would definitely not come out of Planning & Urban Design because it is an infrastructure project, essentially. So, this would be a Public Works' project if we wanted to continue and pursue it.

That \$15K in the synopsis is an estimate. It's about \$75K total for an average EV car. An average tier 2 charging station is about \$15K for a charging station. It could be anywhere from \$40 to \$120K for a car. It depends on what car you buy, what model, and all that kind of stuff. But MARC gave us those general estimates.

Again, we could get—it could include multiple charging stations at a single location. It could include no EV cars if we wanted to just have a public charging station demonstration project. It leaves us the flexibility to determine what it is moving forward, but the estimate is, if we wanted to get a car and a charger and put it, say in the lot downstairs, it'd be about \$75K total, of which we would only pay \$15K. So, it's a great 80/20 match.

Commissioner Bynum said my question is—I'm in support of this, but are we, collectively the Unified Government and maybe the region, are we a little bit behind? **Mr. Hand** said oh, we're decades behind EV charging. **Commissioner Bynum** said it just feels like we're moving way slow on this, but here we are trying to catch up.

Action: **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve.**

Commissioner Kane said well, to say we're behind would be an understatement. We need to start putting these in now, and remember they're going to have to go down I-70 every x amount of miles. If we could show the public these things work, then you'd get more input and plus, that's what that infrastructure money is about in the first place. So, that's a great idea.

Chairman Markley said I believe I had a motion from Commissioner Bynum and a second from Commissioner Johnson, correct? Any comments from anyone, anywhere? **Ms. Sparks** said no comments received; no hands raised.

Chairman Markley said roll call, please.

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

Public Agenda

No items

Adjourn

Chairman Markley said this does conclude our meeting for the evening. I need a motion to adjourn.

Action: **Commissioner Ramirez made a motion, seconded by Commission Bynum, to adjourn.**

Chairman Markley said I have a motion and a second. Roll call, please.

Roll call was taken and five “Ayes,” Kane, Johnson, Ramirez, Bynum, Markley.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

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