

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

February 18, 2025

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Wichita, Kansas, February 18, 2025
Tuesday, 9:00 AM

The City Council met in regular session with Lily Wu, JV Johnston, Brandon Johnson, Becky Tuttle, Mike Hoheisel, Dalton Glasscock, and Maggie Ballard.

Staff Members Present: Robert Layton, City Manager, Jennifer Magana, Law Department, and Paul Leeker, City Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM

Mayor Wu stated that Council Member Ballard would be appearing virtually.

Approve the minutes of regular meeting February 11, 2025

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve the minutes of regular meeting February 11, 2025
Motion carried 7 to 0

AWARDS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamations:

Awards:

I) PUBLIC AGENDA

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- 1.) Amy K. Lyon - Protection of our veterans and what we can do at local government to assist.

Speaker notified City staff that she would be unable to attend the meeting due to weather conditions.

VI) NEW COUNCIL BUSINESS

- 1.) 2025 Water Conservation Rebate Program

Attachment: [Agenda Report VI-1.docx](#)

Gary Janzen, Public Works & Utilities Department, presented the item.

Council Member Glasscock stated thank you, Mayor. Gary, thank you for the program. I may have missed this in the presentation, but let me pull up my questions. Do we know how many unique folks have taken advantage of the system, I know we talked about devices, but do we know how many because it says that they can be limited up to five rebates annually. So, I was just interested in maybe how many people got five rebates versus how many people maybe got one rebate?

Gary Janzen, Public Works & Utilities Department, stated I don't have that number, but I can certainly try to see if we've got that.

Council Member Glasscock stated and then the last thing often people may not know how to access the programs. Can we bring the actual devices out to town halls that we can give to people instead of people - having people come here?

Gary Janzen, Public Works & Utilities Department, stated sure, and that is the plan. I'm sorry if I wasn't clear. We do plan to have them at different locations, yes.

Council Member Hoheisel stated thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Gary, for all your work on this. Do we have anything like this set up for people who are possibly, I'm just curious, like, what all options we have out there, so if we're doing' new builds? Are these eligible for people who are building their own homes? To get rebates on things that are going' in for the first time only, or is this strictly kind of people who are already living in their homes?

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Gary Janzen, Public Works & Utilities Department, stated no - no - no restrictions and no limitations on that, I mean, we - we don't even ask. If - if people have a qualifying device, we'll offer the rebate, as long as the funding's available.

Council Member Hoheisel stated okay. Do we have any programs set up to encourage developers to also use water limit- limiting devices?

Gary Janzen, Public Works & Utilities Department, stated I don't know that we - I would say there's programs set up. You know, one of the - our challenges, and I'll tell you one a the reasons last year, we said let's focus on outdoor. We're trying' to decide how many people are replacing a water saving device with a water saving device, and how much benefit we're getting from that. I think it's likely with new builds, regardless of the price point, you'd be hard-pressed to go find a dishwasher or washing machine that's not high efficiency at this point. So I think that part kind of takes care of itself. We have talked, there has been conversations, there's been questions asked over the time about do we look at code requirements. Never gotten past the point of just asking that question, I'm not sure that's some - a place we want to go, but what we've, again - our research is, I think, all new devices are about as highly efficient as you can get at this point anyway.

Mayor Wu stated any further questions for staff? I see none. I will just reiterate the savewichitawater.com website that you mentioned will have all this information. In addition, that's where you can look at the current stages of the drought, and how full the Cheney Lake is, so encouraging people to continue util- utilizing that website. But I will double down on the question that Council Member Glasscock asked, because unique individuals, so unique water customers, would be something of interest, I think, for the community to know how many individuals are actually utilizing this program, and, also, free services. So, if we could get that sent to the council, that would be much appreciated.

Council Member Tuttle stated thank you. I just want to thank Gary and all of his team for working on this. There is no more precious resource than we have than water in our community, so thank you for all that you do. I also want to thank all the community members, last year in the fall, who were very conscientious about following the watering restrictions that we have. As we enter into spring, we're going to be asking folks to do the same thing, as Gary mentioned, we're in stage two of drought. And we don't want to go into stage three because we could quite literally put some of our small businesses and businesses out of operation, so we all need to continue to stay vigilant and this is just one more way we can do it. I also want to applaud Gary and his team, we've started a water reuse task force. Um, Council Hoheisel and I are serving on it. Next week, we'll be reviewing the applications with the staff and

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Community Selection Committee, so I - I just want to applaud you for your forward-thinking. I think there's no better time than while we're in the drought to try and address what we're going to do for future water use. And - and, again, this is for residential, but it's also economic development. We need to make sure that we have water available for business in an industry, and that we're able to keep our rates low so that they'll want to continue to do business so thank you for all your effort on this and I will be incredibly supportive.

Council Member Ballard stated I'm sorry. Thank you, Mayor. I would also just like to thank staff, um, especially Gary, to him and his team, for continuing to find new creative ways for people to participate each year before this comes before council. I have constituents asking me if we're going to continue this program, so I know that there are many people that look forward to it. And as Council Member Tuttle said, water is one of our most precious things that we are running extremely low on so just appreciate the continued work on this program.

Mayor Wu stated thank you, Council Member Ballard. I will move to approve that the Council approve the 2025 Water Conservation Rebate Program and authorize the necessary budget adjustments.

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve the 2025 Water Conservation Rebate Program and authorize the necessary budget adjustments.

Motion carried 7 to 0

2.) [Quarterly Financial Reports for the Period Ended December 31, 2024.](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Report VI-2.doc](#)

Attachment: [Q4 2024 Wichita ARPA Recovery Plan Report.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Q4 2024 Quarterly Financial Report.pdf](#)

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, presented the item.

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Council Member Hoheisel stated thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Mark. You guys - you guys got a pretty difficult job here to do especially lately, so that leads me to my question. Do any of the future projections include the possibility of federal grants that we have incorporated into City services being reduced or disappearing?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated typically we don't do things like that until we have firm policy direction to do that. So I'm not aware of any that we have not included in our forecast unless we've either had direction to include them unless we know for certain that they will not be renewed or extended or canceled or anything like that.

Robert Layton, City Manager, stated Mayor, if I could. Council Member we are doing a review at the departmental level. It's still a little early to figure out exactly what's going to happen to many of our grant programs. There are police grants that are - that help finance operations. Many times they pay for overtime for special enforcement initiatives. But most of our federal dollars are for capital projects and that's the - that's really where we're focused right now to try to determine if any program that is partially funded or at this point runs the risk of maybe having funding withdrawn for the last part of it. But, we're doing what most cities around the country are doing right now trying to assess the kind - the changing scenery as it exists.

Council Member Hoheisel stated right. We got to let the - the dust kind of settle and figure it out.

Robert Layton, City Manager, stated right.

Council Member Hoheisel stated so most of what we receive from federal funding - that goes up to everyday costs to our first responders?

Robert Layton, City Manager, stated I believe that's accurate. You - you could also look at federal funding for the operation of our transit system. That's another one that's, you know, significant in terms of operation - operating the systems.

Council Member Johnson stated thanks Mayor. Thank you, Mark. First you and your team and Elizabeth always do a great job on our finances. It's good to see a report like this. But my question is, I know that Josh and Chris do a lot with subcontractors and really trying to expand our vendor base. And I'm not aware but are we hosting more opportunities for subcontractors to get to know the main contractors, kind of prove themselves and maybe get more opportunities in that way?

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Mark Manning, Department of Finance, we actually have been increasing the amount of meetings that we've - have and I can get you our statistics there but we've been much more active in that area. Obviously the pandemic slowed us down. That's been a couple of years but ever since then we've taken steps to try to increase our meetings. And we have these - typically we meet with the County and the school district and even sometimes Air Force base, and we try to have meet and greets where you can learn about the City. And - and we've tried to get Chris out into the community even more to enhance that. Yes, sir.

Council Member Johnson stated yeah, I've appreciated him coming out to Atwater a couple of times as well. I'm just trying to think of some more creative ways to get more people involved with opportunities with the City.

Vice Mayor Johnston stated appreciate it. Question, on Page 65 it refers to the MAC. We have \$5 million allocated but zero has been spent. I thought we spent some for the winter shelter. It's not paid yet or...

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated I appreciate your compliment but I'm going to have to disclose to you that I don't know the answer to that one.

Elizabeth Goltry, Department of Finance, stated that's a great question. There are multiple projects related to the operations and renovation of the MAC. So, there is a - on Page 66 is the pro- there are two projects related to the winter shelter. One was the last season and then one was for this year, fall through early spring. And then on Page 64 those are the projects related to the renovations at the facility, and then Page 65, the one where there hasn't been spending yet, that is for operations once the winter shelter for this year is finished so that's for the ongoing operations.

Mayor Wu stated so is it accurate to say, to look at the revised funding amount so Page 66, \$1 million instead of the funding amount of \$485 so add up all the revised funding amounts.

Elizabeth Goltry, Department of Finance, stated yes, because the initial funding amount was the initial funding for last winter. And then the revised funding - that's inclusive of last winter and this winter.

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Mayor Wu stated so it would be accurate to say \$8 million - \$8.4 million in just winter shelter/MAC operations?

Elizabeth Goltry, Department of Finance, stated mm-hmm.

Robert Layton, City Manager, stated Elizabeth, the \$600,000 this year - that's from proceeds from the sale of the 21st and Opportunity Drive property. Isn't that correct?

Elizabeth Goltry, Department of Finance, stated yeah. This is all the federal - only federal.

Mayor Wu stated I know. That's what I want to correct. I think the question was how are we - where are we showing the funding for the operation of the emergency winter shelter right now? That is not ARPA money.

Elizabeth Goltry, Department of Finance, stated oh.

Robert Layton, City Manager, stated that money is from the sale of the Opportunity Drive and 21st Street property.

Elizabeth Goltry, Department of Finance, stated yeah. And yeah when there's combined funding, like, funding that's ARPA and maybe for the first year of the winter shelter there was funding from Sedgwick County. For this year there's, um, funding. HumanKind has an in-kind so those - this is - report is only of the ARPA funding. It doesn't include the other kinds of funding.

Robert Layton, City Manager, stated correct. So we were 6 - at least \$600,000 in addition to what you're seeing here.

Elizabeth Goltry, Department of Finance, stated I'd be happy to put together something more inclusive that includes all of it if that would be helpful.

Mayor Wu stated I think it would be helpful just so that all of the expenditures are clear for community to understand the type of investment

Elizabeth Goltry, Department of Finance, stated exactly. Yeah. So that - and this answers - this report answers the question what have we spent our ARPA funding on. And that would answer the question how

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much have we spent to support these initiatives. Exactly. Be happy to do that. Any other ARPA questions?

Mayor Wu stated further questions for Mark? I have a couple. I know you were looking for the actual amount, but I think it's important to talk about the debt service. So can you talk about, um, the difference between the Stabilization Reserve and just general reserves that we might have, the difference between the two and how - I think you mentioned at the very tail end we will still face structural deficits.

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated okay.

Mayor Wu stated so it's not that they're not in existence but they are there, and we know that they're there so how would you utilize those funds?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated maybe an analogy Mayor. The General Fund is maybe like your checking account at home. You spend every month on that to your utilities whatever your operating costs are, your groceries. You have your salary coming in and you have an ending balance at the end of each month. That is analogous to our General Fund. We spend what we spend on operations. We collect what we collect and then we have an ending balance. But it's very important that we have an ending balance there for a variety of reasons - helps us with cash flow, helps us prepare for contingencies, things of that nature. And as I noted it's also a good look for our rating agency, shows that we have flexibility. Contrast that more with the permanent reserve. The permanent reserves is maybe more like your savings account. When you have extra money you put it in there. When you have big projects, when you replace the roof on your house or when you want to buy a new car, if you want to pay cash for it you might take it out of your savings account. So that's the way I would explain it. The permanent reserves may be our savings account. The General Fund reserve is kind of more our checking account that tends to fluctuate each year based on our performance. But again to your point the General Fund reserve but for anything else if you're structurally imbalanced is going to decrease, right, if your expenditures are greater than your revenues. And that's the position we believe we will be in starting in 2026, and more significantly in 2027. So but for anything else we would expect our General Fund reserve levels in the future to decrease continually because we have a structural deficit. On the other side again our Stabilization Reserve is a excellent source for us to use for one-time purposes, or even maybe to bridge our General Fund until we strategically re-prioritize and structurally realign. But that's how I would tell you the difference is between the two of them.

Mayor Wu stated and remind us how much is in the Stabilization Reserve Fund, the total dollars.

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Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated yeah. I think it was \$43 million if I remember my slide correctly. Think that's slide Slide 11. Yeah, \$43.4 million is where we - at this point where we think we'll end the year up before any other adjustments or anything.

Mayor Wu stated and the General Fund Reserve?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated it's in the neighborhood of about \$48 million or \$49 million. I can get you the exact number here. I'm sorry. I tend to use round numbers because it's easier for me. At this point - and again recognize that the quarterly report is unaudited and there's still some final adjustments to be made. But at this point we would expect the General Fund to end the year at about \$49.3 million

Mayor Wu stated thank you. And then one more question regarding Slide Number 28. I saw the local sales tax and STAR bonds - Slide number 28. It looks like a decrease. Can you explain that one?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated yes, ma'am. Are you referring to the city debt level slide? Yes, a very good question. Oops, there it is. That is this little piece. Where is it? Down here. Very it's so small you can't even see the piece specifically. Now recognize that STAR bonds are not an obligation of the City. They're an obligation of the special district. We recognize only 4.3% of our total STAR bond debt because our sales tax revenue is approximately 4.3% of the revenue of the district but you are correct. STAR bond revenue or STAR bond balances are decreasing significantly. We have two STAR bonds outstanding. One is at K96 and Greenwich which at one time I believe was up to \$75 million several years ago, and the other of course is at the baseball stadium where we - or the Equity Bank Park Stadium where we borrowed I think about \$42 million. Real high level on those. Hopefully I don't provide you over-detail but the \$75 million debt at Greenwich and K96 was initially scheduled to pay off I believe in 2020 - '32 maybe, 2028 or '32. We will come very close to paying that off in March when we make our debt service payment. I don't want to tell you for sure we will but we will be very, very close to paying off our K96 and Greenwich STAR bonds this year in 2025. Certainly by August we will so that debt won't be on this chart anymore. And we continue to make extra principal payments to that, which to your point is why STAR bonds is going down. As to the stadium again we borrowed \$42 million. Again our bonds are structured so that if we have extra revenue we make extra principal payments, and we actually paid down the principal on the stadium STAR bonds last year. Going by memory I believe we paid down an extra \$8 million on those bonds. So - and again I'm going by memory here, but if my memory is correct I think we - our STAR bonds outstanding on the stadium are down into the low 30s right now - \$32 million, \$33 million if my memory is correct. So anyway that's why that little pie slice keeps shrinking a little bit.

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Mayor Wu stated so does our budget take into account - because right now there's not a lot of sales tax in that area. It - while there's not development or continued development -- hopefully there will be development -- will that - it - does that take that into account when it comes to our budget moving forward, and how we would be paying off that debt if the development doesn't continue hopefully

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated let me answer your question but first let me give you a caveat. We're very reluctant to provide future guidance for a variety of reasons. But we just have to be very careful since we have bonds outstanding and there's a bunch of SEC rules about disclosure, so I want to be very careful about providing future guidance. However, I would tell you some facts that might lead you to a ability to answer your question there. At this baseball stadium STAR bonds we have a Phase 1 which is basically the east side of the river, and a Phase 2 which is basically the west side of the river. Both of those are generating increments right now, which are going to pay for our stadium STAR bonds. The east side is by far the more established side, and it generates the bulk of the increment right now. The west side as you noted is - currently it - it does generate an increment but it's currently under development based on a - a lot of things the Council approved a year or two ago. Uh, the east side increment will expire in 2026 I believe. The west side increment won't expire until 2038 so certainly it is important that the west side increment grow. I think we've taken strategies to ensure that it grows but, that's - that's basically how I can answer your question Mayor.

Mayor Wu stated Remind me. Phase 2 expires in 2032?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated '38 I believe.

Mayor Wu stated '38.

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated Yes, ma'am.

Mayor Wu stated while Phase 1 expires in 2026?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated I believe so. Yes, ma'am.

Mayor Wu stated I know that you can't disclose like you just mentioned due to SEC but, I'm concerned about this. So I wanted to know - maybe City Manager can address some of my concern.

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Robert Layton, City Manager, stated Mayor, I think as we've talked about STAR bonds, and Mark will have to help me here, if you look at it is similar to a - a TIF district you recognize that there will be on the front end the possibility of some deficit positions with the understanding that you will then exceed the debt service requirements in the latter years, which allows you to recover the losses from the previous years. On top of that with the stadium debt we have a backstop that was required by the state so that we annually put money aside in the budget for - out of sales tax revenues should we come up short, and the state then makes a demand that we help fill that with sales - with local sales tax dollars. We have not had to do that to this point, but those dollars are as- basically rolled over every year to make sure that we have that second level of protection on the - this debt.

Mayor Wu stated how much has been accumulated there?

Robert Layton, City Manager, stated it's - it's always just the same amount. We just roll it over. Mark, you - I - I don't remember the dollar amount.

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated yeah. Every year in the budget we appropriate a local sales tax portion to fund the stadium debt service. We never use it but we appropriate it and it's, you know it - it's required in our bond covenants that we propose that to you, uh, and it's a, you know, it provides our bondholders with reassurance. And like the Manager said we have not used it, but we do continue to appropriate it. It varies based on our debt service. Our debt service I believe - this year in 2025 I believe the appropriation was somewhere in the \$2.8 million range if I remember correctly. Our debt service will increase as we become - if as we begin amortizing our principal more aggressively in the future. I believe it maxes out at 3.8% - or 3.8 million. I'm talkin' between now and 2038. So it's - it's a - you know, it's a fairly sizable amount of money. But again, like the manager noted, the STAR bonds are basically like a TIF. If we underperform, we can collect it at the end of the uh, of the district when we overperform,

Mayor Wu stated and remind me - there are only two STAR bond districts, right? The K96 and the baseball stadium?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated Yes, ma'am.

Mayor Wu stated I was under the impression that there was also another STAR bond or another - um, yeah, STAR bond where the Keeper of the Planes is. Is that something different, and can you explain that one?

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Mark Manning, Department of Finance stated, we used STAR bond revenue for improvements along the riverbank, but that was quite a few years ago. And, that would have been incorporated in phase one, and - actually I think we paid cash for most of those improvements too. I don't think we even issued any debt for it. That was several years ago.

Mayor Wu stated thank you, Mark. Any further questions for staff? I see none. I just want to say thank you. I know that you keep reiterating the structural deficit that is right in our horizon. And I appreciate you continuing to remind us, because we need to continue being prudent. So thank you, Mark. We will now open it up for public comment. I see none. We'll bring it back to the bench. I move - excuse me. I move to receive and file the quarterly financial reports for the period ending December 31, 2024.

Mayor Wu invited public comment. Nobody came forward.

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to Receive and file the Quarterly Financial Reports for the period ended December 31, 2024.

Motion carried 7 to 0

3.) [2024 Year-end Closing Adjustments](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Report VI-3.docx](#)

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, presented the item.

Council Member Hoheisel stated thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Mark, all your guys' work on this. Two points and then two quick questions. I do like paying off debt payments ahead of time. It really helps us down the line. And I fully support the Innovation Fund. I think there's going to be some interesting ideas that come from that. On the financial service centralization, do we have an estimate of any savings that we will make expediting this? Or how much savings do we expect that to help with?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated we talked about what - that when we adopted the budget back in August. And I'm going to think that our estimate was \$200,000.

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Council Member Hoheisel stated thank you.

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated I think it's going to be materially higher than that. I can't tell you - we're in the process right now of evaluating everything. We're analyzing job duties, we're looking' at what our processes can be. So I can't exactly answer your question. But I can tell you based on the study that I've done, I think the potential is significantly higher than what we initially expected. And so that's one reason we're operating at an expedited pace. There's a variety of other reasons too, it'll - it'll increase our efficiency. And there's many, many, many advantages to it but we believe it's in our best interest to advance that.

Council Member Hoheisel stated I appreciate that. Last question. If we're moving' \$500,000 up for the golf irrigation that money - if I remember correctly, we switched over from a parks maintenance fund. Is there any movement towards backfilling the park maintenance funding? I believe it was building maintenance. Or are we just going to let that one sit with the - the transfer that we had?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated I think that's probably a better policy question for our CIP development phase when we do that. So I - uh, you know, I would tell you maybe to consider that as we develop the CIP and look at whether there's any opportunities there. But I - but I will tell you, this is fundamentally not going to change the financing of the irrigation improvements. All it's going to do is accelerate it, because our commitment from the general fund was \$1 million and this would just accelerate it.

Mayor Wu stated any further questions for staff? Double-checking again. So the stabilization reserve was \$43 million. It would be \$39 million if we do these adjustments. Is that correct?

Mark Manning, Department of Finance, stated yes, ma'am. I'm going from memory, which - sometimes I get a lot of numbers up there, and it may not be as good as it used to be, but I believe I told you on that previous slide that was \$43.4 million, if my memory's correct. So this would take about 4.3 off of that, put it down to about \$39 million. Still materially higher than last year, still materially higher than what we had envisioned in the adopted budget but lower than what it could be if you choose not to make these adjustments.

Mayor Wu stated and then lastly, the innovation fund transfer, slide number 41. I know that this is going to be piloted by Police, but I do see this as helping Fire. It would also help Public Works.

Mark Manning, Department of Finance stated mm-hm.

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Mayor Wu stated this would be drones as first responders. And I had a whole presentation that I got to hear with both Police and Fire. And I see that there's opportunities for other departments to benefit from this.

Mark Manning, Department of Finance stated yes.

Mayor Wu stated so moving forward, I would like to see how this benefits other departments as well, so that it's not solely on the budget of the police department.

Mark Manning, Department of Finance stated yeah.

Mayor Wu stated thank you. I see no further questions for staff. We will now open it up for public comment. I see none. I'll bring it back to the bench. Thank you very much, Mark, for both the presentations. I move to approve the recommended post-closing adjustments for 2024.

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve the recommended post-closing adjustments for 2024.

Motion carried 7 to 0

4.) [Pulled by City Manager 2/13/2025] Multi-Agency Center Lease and Operating Agreement

5.) [Botanica, the Wichita Gardens Security Improvements \(District VI\)](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Report VI-5.docx](#)

Attachment: [Bonding Resolution Botanica Security.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-079 Botanica Safety and Security Improvements.docx](#)

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, presented the item

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Mayor Wu stated thank you, Lindsay. Questions for staff? Just a couple of things. Number one, I know that these are security cameras, so I wanted to make sure that these are being integrated with Wichita Police Department's Real-Time Information Center, RTIC.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated I believe they are, yes.

Mayor Wu stated and then, lastly, anything to help with improvements to safety and the infrastructure are well-done investments. So I wanted to know how this kind of - is this normal for the city to own a property but a non-profit to run day to day? And so, what are the responsibilities of the city?

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated that's a great question. In a future agenda item, I talk about our cultural institutions in particular. And I would say all of them have slightly different operating agreements with the city. But of the facilities that we own, we are responsible for the safety and security of them and capital investments for the most part with some exceptions. But for Botanica itself, we own it, the non-profit operates it. They can propose capital im- projects to us. They have a long history of self-funding those capital projects. But when it comes to - we would say the infrastructure of it security, safety, roofs, plumbing, electric - most of that will always fall on the city as the owner to take care of. Does that answer your question?

Mayor Wu stated it does.

Mayor Wu stated thank you very much. I see no further questions for staff. We will now open it up for public comment. I see none. I'll bring it back to the bench. This resides in Council Member Ballard's district.

Motion

Council Member Ballard moved to initiate the project and approve the bonding resolution.

Motion carried 7 to 0

- 6.) [2025 Artist Access Cultural Funding Allocation Recommendations and Cultural Institution Operating Partnership Agreements](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Report VI-6.docx](#)

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Attachment: [20250206 Minutes.pdf](#)

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, presented item

Mayor Wu stepped away.

Mayor Wu returned.

Mayor Wu stated thank you, Lindsay. Questions for staff? I see none. I just wanted to say I appreciate seeing the higher number of applicants wanting to connect and look at those resources that are available. And then knowing that the recipients will have a portion of their ask funded is really an investment by the City to these individuals. And so I appreciate that the Council did this but also that the Advisory Board took the time to review all these applications and, um, provided some funding for them - this. So thank you, Lindsay. I will now open it up for public comment

Mayor Wu invited public comment.

Molly McFerson, Wichita Art Museum, stated good morning. I'm Molly McFerson, the Director and CEO of the Wichita Art Museum, and I'm here today to thank the City of Wichita for the funding that we receive and to share some of the ways that this support impacts our community. WAM is celebrating its 90th birthday this year. We were started by Louise Caldwell Murdock, who specified in her will that the income from her estate should be used for the purchase of art for the City of Wichita. Today, we are proud to be stewards for this collection and to fulfill our mission of connecting people, ideas, and art for the next 90 years. Funding from the City of Wichita is crucial for our ability to care for our collection for generations to come. It also supports programming for visitors of all ages. Some of the services that we provide for our community include, free general admission, extended hours on Friday evenings with a different program each week, several free programs for preschool aged children and their families including Art Start and Storytime. We have a free interactive space for families and visitors of all ages called PLAY that supports childhood development and creative thinking skills. PLAY includes, a toddler spot, book nook, an area for open-ended creative play, and an art lab where art-making materials are free and available to anyone whenever the museum is open. We host six free family days each year that include, art making, performances, and many other activities for families to participate in together. We offer completely free field trips for school groups as well as 100% bus reimbursement. And I'm proud to

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share that WAM received a Good Apple Award from Wichita Public Schools last year in 2024 recognizing our partnership with the Fine Arts Department. This partnership includes, leading in-services for their visual arts teachers, an annual showcase for Wichita Public Schools performing arts groups, and most recently, exhibitions of artwork by students who attend Wichita Public Schools. These are just some examples of the work we do to make WAM accessible and engaging for our community. And on behalf of all of the staff at the Wichita Art Museum I'm deeply grateful for the City's financial support that allows us to continue to do this work for our s- community. Thank you.

Mayor Wu stated thank you. We'll continue with the public comment.

Mathew Broderick, Arts Council, stated good morning, Mayor and City Council. My name is Matthew Broderick. I'm with the Arts Council. I thank you guys for coming out in the cold and making it here safely. I hope you get home safe as well. The Arts Council is so grateful for your support of the future of our city and so grateful for your support of these items that help make our city livable. We believe that the arts mean business and our mission is to promote and advance arts and culture in the City of Wichita through advocacy, education, and outreach. I think that the hard work that's done by the Cultural Funding Committee to review all of these applications and to make these determinations deserve special recognition as well. I know that the folks that we put into the committee spend hours and hours and hours, um, and we are happy to help get them fed and keep them energized while they're doing their work. But, we're - we're grateful for your guy's support and that's all I came to say. Thanks.

Council Member Tuttle stated thank you. Thank you to the speakers for being here today and braving the cold and Matthew thank you for your service as the Arts Council President. I'm a proud member of the Arts Council Board. Also want to thank Lindsay for your relentless efforts in this area. Really appreciate all that you do. You're just truly a blessing to the City and to the City staff, so thank you. Also want to thank the Cultural Funding Committee again, has been mentioned - but for their work, I've been involved in these processes in the past before I was in Council and so very grateful for everyone's time. Lindsay alluded to it but I can't help myself I have to mention it again. In 2023, we did the AEP6, the Arts and Economic Prosperity Study. And we found that arts in the non-for-profit sector in our city account for on-\$184.7 million in economic activity. \$184 million annually in economic activity. Also, it's 2929 full-time equivalent jobs. That's not just artists, that's accountants, that's, you know, people who are the CEOs, people who are in the stage design, all the different things. So that's a - a significant impact in terms of employment. And then also, it generates \$32.3 million in local, state, and federal tax revenue annually. So Arts do mean business in Wichita. And when we adopted the Cultural Arts Strategic Plan, I committed to not only vote for it on that day, but that I would do everything that I can to support it. And I feel like being supportive of this initiative today will do that. So I will be incredibly supportive. Thank you.

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Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve the funding allocations recommended for individual artists by the Cultural Funding Committee and the Operating Partnership Agreements for the Cultural Institutions and authorize the necessary signatures.

Motion carried 7 to 0

7.) [Cultural Arts Facility Improvements \(District I\)](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Report VI-7.docx](#)

Attachment: [Bonding Resolution Hyatt Promenade Improvements.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-080 Hyatt Promenade Improvements.docx](#)

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, presented the item

Council Member Hoheisel stepped away.

Council Member Hoheisel returned.

Mayor Wu invited public comment. No speakers came forward.

Motion

Council Member Johnson moved to Initiate the project and approve the bonding resolution.

Motion carried 7 to 0

8.) [2025 Downtown Pedestal Art \(Districts I and VI\)](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Report VI-8.docx](#)

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Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-081 Downtown Pedestal Art.docx](#)

Attachment: [Pedestal Map.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Bonding Resolution Downtown Pedestal Art.pdf](#)

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, presented the item.

Council Member Glasscock stated thank you, Mayor. Thank you for your presentation, Lindsay. I'm very excited about the jump from 47 to 58% in terms of local artists.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated mm-hm.

Council Member Glasscock stated but I also love having the - the national artists come in too and offer a different flavor for things as well. You mentioned an artist registry. How many artists are currently on the registry, do we know?

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated approximately 90 to 100 says our Public Art Manager.

Council Member Glasscock stated hey, great. Do we - I imagine we do - but do we ever go out to Final Fridays and give people maybe information of, hey, we have a public art registry, do you want to register for this program?

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated we have not. I love the idea. If we had the manpower and the volunteer support to help do that, we - we'd be happy to do that. We do have a new kind of, info-graphic card describing our Public Art Program through Public Art Archive because we're really trying to get the word out of where public art is, how you can view it, how you can access it. But, love the idea of getting local artists on the registry as well.

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Council Member Glasscock stated I would love to volunteer for that. I try to go to a lot of them, so.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated noted.

Council Member Glasscock stated I noticed on page 85 - this is just a small detail, in - regarding - or on, slide 85. But regarding maintenance of s- the structure as well. I noticed a lot of rust on that in terms of the pedestal. How often do we maintain the pedestal? So it's not - the art piece looks great. But then the pedestal kind of (unintelligible) the (unintelligible).

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated noted. I will say for this one, I think the picture was taken right after installation. That property received significant renovations. I've known associates have a stunning facility in a residential area as well. So I'm not sure if this picture was taken right around that same time. Because the program has been dormant we have not been maintaining them. So that's something that as, we develop the program we will definitely take that into consideration .I will offer that when in - the previous Sculpture WalkAbout Program the City was supportive of maintaining and assisting the artists with installation and de-installation. So we're used to that and we would plan to do that again with this program.

Council Member Glasscock stated and would that come from the 2% for art or the maintenance aspect of it?

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated that's a good question. It could. We do have - so 10% of the 2% is allocated for maintenance projects. We also have some funding within our general operations support that we can absorb, depending on the scope and scale. If it's, a pedestal needs to be completely rebuilt that would likely fall under CIP. If it's just some steel wool and elbow grease, we would likely just accommodate that out of our general budget.

Council Member Glasscock stated Okay, great. Well, I'm proud of our art in this community, especially the Public Art projects. And so because of that, there's one in District 4. So I just want that noted in the green packet because District 1 and District 6 are the only two that get credit for it. So one of them is in District 4.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated my apologies, thank you.

Council Member Hoheisel stated thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Lindsay. You've been doing a lot of work and a lot of the other artists here as well. I appreciate you coming up and chatting about this and just expressing support for this program. And thank you, Council Member Glasscock. You asked quite a bit of

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the questions that I had with the maintenance. I guess the only question I really have at this point is, I - I think I caught, we're going have at least two of the pedestals that are still open for, kind of, rotating pieces, is that correct, or...

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated hopefully not. We're hoping that these are all permanent installations. The two pedestals that are currently filled, one of them is a donation to the City so we've already acquired that, so that one's done. The permanent loan from Agnew and Associates we believe is permanent in per- perpetuity, at which time - i- if they change their mind at any point, we will address that at that time. But I think we're o- on a very long term loan for that one, and we have no reason to believe it won't be there in perpetuity.

Council Member Hoheisel stated okay, so all of these we're trying to - to get permanent - permanent statutes?

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated that's - that's the goal, mm-hm.

Council Member Johnson stepped away.

Mayor Wu stated Lindsay, I have several questions, so I'll go by slides. I'll start off with slide, Number 86. It looks like there are four organizations that are stakeholders.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated mm-hm.

Mayor Wu stated my question then to you is, have those four organizations said that they would maybe donate a piece of art? I know that you mentioned Agnew and Associates. I'm really grateful that Antoine has done that for the community. He purchased it himself, and then he thought it would be nice public art for the rest of the community to enjoy. And so I'm appreciative of donors who do things like that for the greater good. So my question then is, would these four organizations be interested in helping with donating some of these pieces?

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated that's a great question. I'll offer that when the Arts Council decide to sunset the Program. All these organizations were engaged. A lot of public reached out to say, what does this mean? How do we figure this out? I presented to downtown Wichita and to Old Town Association what it would take to get the Program back up and running and some different opportunities for funding to support it, what a single sculpture typically costs. We did not get anyone to

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bite, and no one showed up to - to help fund those opportunities. I will offer - and Matthew's still in the room with the Arts Council, that they do have some funding available I believe, from - from the Program still that's earmarked for the Program to support it in some capacity. I don't know that there's funding available to purchase anything outright but that can support some - some part of the Program, perhaps in marketing or a kickoff party or something to that extent. But to my knowledge, these partners have not made themselves known that they'd be interested in purchasing it. They were always open to that.

Mayor Wu stated that disappoints me a bit knowing that a large majority of these pedestals are in the Old Town Association District. So I - I guess there's only a few that are in other areas of this specific map. So I would encourage, I guess, the Old Town Association or anyone who has pieces that they have in their collection to donate them to, uh, public art. So that would be one suggestion. Slide Number 88. This piece right there I remember we brought this up during consent agenda. So can you tell me how much on average a sculpture like this cost? And for this in particular, we've been paying for it and I believe if I remember correctly we've got to almost the amount of what this actually costs, so then the city could purchase it. But in the event that we do purchase it, I would also like to know the ongoing cost of maintaining these sculpture pieces as they do need some maintenance over time.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, sure. Great question and observation on this one. Staff had the same observation. I believe we've had this one installed for about 3 years that we've done an annual payment to some extent of about \$1200. I believe the purchase price is between 10 and 15 depending on where it lands with the artist, which is, I would say, pretty common for a - a sculpture of this size and scale. In the previous sculpture walkabout program, we saw anywhere from, like, \$5000 to \$20,000. It can really run the gamut depending on size, scale, scope, materials. But for this one in the \$10,000 to \$15,000 range is what I would estimate. We do have confirmation from the artist that previous purchase - previous payment- payments made for this sculpture in particular could be made towards the purchase price if that was a - a direction we want to go. One of the challenges we have is we don't have a mechanism to purchase artwork, if that's the will of what we want to do outside of the 2% for our program. So when we identified well, yeah, we've - we've almost paid the full cost, we don't have a mechanism to purchase if that's what we wanted to do. By folding it into this program, it gives us that opportunity, but it also gives us the opportunity to see what else is out there. So this artist would still have to submit and competitively essentially bid on the pedestal. It - it might have priority ranking given that it's already there, but that would be the will of the committee to design council and City Council to make that final decision.

Mayor Wu stated and then my other question is more in broad stroke regarding public art. I appreciated when you started off this presentation by saying, uh, this public art really is so that, "everyone can enjoy at all times."

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Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated mm-hm.

Mayor Wu stated and so I really appreciate when public art is really outdoors, people can enjoy it, again, at all times. So I'm supportive of this idea of moving forward with more permanent pieces, but it's still - I'm still cautious knowing that we have a budget deficit, but I know that this is very allocated, um, and specific. It can only be spent for art.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated mm-hm.

Mayor Wu stated so you can't move - a new community wants us to move dollars into this move - dollars out of it into other areas, but this is specific to public art and art in itself. So my question really goes down to have we ever thought about utilizing those dollars into - to fund bigger, um, public art pieces? For instance, I think during the budget process, I mentioned, um, a big mural. We have a big mural on one of the grain elevators, but we have an even bigger grain elevator where you could do something very Wichita-themed and Wichita-specific. Another big idea, for instance, I've been already some artwork regarding Century II and putting an airplane on top of it or really speaking to the air capital of the world. We don't have anything downtown that says we are the air capital of the world. And then, last, but not least, I remember Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau sharing that she would love to see an Instagrammable, larger-than-life ruby red slippers to bring people to our community. So these items all take dollars. But anything big like that, how would they get funded?

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated it's a lot of things that I'm really excited about because I too would love to do some big projects to kind of the - the first part of the caveat that we have within the present for our program itself is that funding can only be used for a city of which top property. So we'd have to be mindful of those funds as the ordinance currently relates can only be used for city property. And the projects that are selected compliment existing projects within this - in - within the CIP. This project in particular, the Downtown Pedestal Project, is the first project that we're doing outside of the rest of the CIP. So it's a standalone project. It's not related to other CIP projects. So this is a little bit of a pilot. The first time we're doing this. And the ordinance does allow us to do that. In terms of other projects, or kind of big picture projects, that would, I would say, be at the will of the Design Council to how they allocate those funds and it would come at probably the expense of other projects that we have going on. These last few - few years we've done a lot of projects related to our quality of life services. So libraries, pools, parks have had some major renovation projects. I think it's important to acknowledge to - to - to compliment those quality of life services with esthetic enhancements. So those have received a lion's share of the public art funding over the last few years. But in terms of big projects if it's the will of the council, if it's the will of both the Design Council and City Council, it's just a manner of identifying the project, and managing the - the allocated budget to make those projects happen. I recently actually had a meeting with Senator Faust-Goudeau about the ruby red slipper and I told - told her to reach out to me with more ideas. That's an example of if a community member has an idea and I think in that - that idea, I believe had some private dollars attached to making it happen, we can absolutely figure out how to

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accommodate that. I don't know that I can quote the percentage of our public art collection that's been donated to the city, but a good chunk of it is gifts to the city, a variety of different partnerships and agreements we have with various community partners or sister city gifts. It's not unusual at all for us to accept donations to the city. We always want to be mindful of maintenance is this something that we can actually cite? Do we have a plan for it? Can we accommodate it? But we can entertain any idea out there. And does that address your questions?

Mayor Wu stated it does.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated okay.

Mayor Wu stated I just wanted to - I know that you had a presentation regarding public art last year and there was a slide in there that I'd like to see updated. So Slide Number 16 of that presentation was regarding public art spending by district. I would like to see it continue moving forward, getting an update like that. I think it's important for community to know that we make investments into public art and where they're located by district. Slide Number 16, if that could be updated, I'd appreciate that.

Lindsay Benacka stated can do.

Mayor Wu stated And then last, but not least, I just want to say thank you. I know you brought you and the team brought out Joan of Arc out of the basement and now, it's public art right here at City Hall. And I appreciate seeing our public art that we've already collected over the years coming back to light. So, if there are more opportunities like that, if there's anything in our storage that also could be part of these pedestal art pieces, I think we should consider that as well.

Lindsay Benacka stated yes.

Council Member Glasscock stated Thank you, Mayor. Your comments just, I mean, sparked this, too. I would be interested in what the capital cost would be to bring our pieces outside of storage and if there was a cost, you know, where we - this body could find the money. I think if we had these art pieces, I would like them brought up. And you may already have that, and it might be easily accessible but I would just be interested in if we have it. Let's make sure we showcase it as much as we can.

Lindsay Benacka, City Manager's Office, stated if I could just comment on that. We do have a plan for all works that are in - in storage with the exception of maybe two or three that we're still figuring out if they are truly in the public art collection or if they were- if - or if they're not part of the public art collection, but everything of scale, I would say, of sculptural, value, we do have plans for it. That was

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part of our CIP maintenance, program last fiscal year to initiate 24 funding. So I believe it's in the \$120,000 range to do those maintenance, which included Joan of Arc, the Lotus sculptures that we're trying to get back into Riverside Park. But we do believe we have a plan to address everything that's currently in storage and get it out. Last year, the year before, we brought Big Red out who was in storage for a couple of decades. It's now on display in front of the library. We have a plan, I believe, for everything that's currently in storage to get it out. If it did - additional funding is needed, you'll all be the first to know so.

Council Member Glasscock stated I imagine the - that to be the case. Last, this would probably be in the comment section, but I'll just say it now as well. I recently was on one of the artist selection committees. I found it a very smooth process. I found it a very rewarding process. A very efficient process. And so I just want to credit you and your team in that. Um, I think we met four or five times, and I'm excited about the possibilities on the riverfront as a result of that conversation. So thank you. And it- and helped instill even greater trust I had in - in our public art collection.

Thank you very much, Lindsay. I see no further questions for staff. We'll open it up for public comment. I see none. Bring it back to the bench. This resides in Council Members Johnson, Ballard, and Glasscock's district.

Motion

Council Member Glasscock moved to Initiate the project and approve the bonding resolution.

Motion carried 7 to 0

9.) [Clapp Park Clubhouse Lease \(District III\)](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Report VI-9.docx](#)

Attachment: [Duck's Flying Discs - 2025 Lease.pdf](#)

Reggie Davidson, Park & Recreation, presented the item.

Vice Mayor Johnston stepped away.

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Mayor Wu invited public comment. No speakers came forward.

Mayor Wu stated this resides Council Member Hoheisel's district.

Council Member Hoheisel stated thank you, Mayor. I appreciate everybody's work going through a process. I know we've had some issues with contracts getting updated. It's part of an overall policy kind of change that we're looking at now. So I appreciate everybody's patience with that. Mr. Dandera, you're here today. Thank you for all the work that you do. Um, I hear from a lot of the neighborhood people around there just how grateful they are that you're helping them with the upkeep there. And maybe once I'm out of office one day I'll be able to go out there and throw a disc again at the park that's right down the street from me. But, yes. Yes, I - I think there's not going to be a lot of people out there today, but again, thank you, sir, for all that you do for us and our community. And with that, I will take staff's recommended action and move that we approve the vendor selection, approve the lease agreement, and authorize unnecessary signatures.

Motion

Council Member Hoheisel moved to approve the vendor selection, approve the lease agreement, and authorize the necessary signatures.

Motion carried 7 to 0

COUNCIL BUSINESS SUBMITTED BY CITY AUTHORITIES

PLANNING AGENDA

VII) NON-CONSENT PLANNING AGENDA - NONE

HOUSING AGENDA

VIII) NON-CONSENT HOUSING AGENDA - NONE

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AIRPORT AGENDA

IX) NON-CONSENT AIRPORT AGENDA - NONE

COUNCIL AGENDA

II) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1 THROUGH 19

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve Consent Items 1 through 9
Motion carried 7 to 0

COUNCIL BUSINESS

III) BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS - CANCELLED

IV) PETITIONS FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS - NONE

V) UNFINISHED COUNCIL BUSINESS

X) COUNCIL MEMBER AGENDA

- 1.) Approve Mayor Wu's travel to attend Aviation Day at the Capitol in Topeka on March 3, 2025 for the purpose of gathering with legislators, manufacturers, suppliers, and aviation businesses, providing networking opportunities and exposure. There is no cost to the City.

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Motion

Council Member Johnston moved to approve Mayor Wu's travel to attend Aviation Day at the Capitol in Topeka on March 3, 2025 for the purpose of gathering with legislators, manufacturers, suppliers, and aviation businesses, providing networking opportunities and exposure. There is no cost to the City.

Motion carried 7 to 0

- 2.) Approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Johnson's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. March 8-13, 2025 for the purpose of representing the City of Wichita by meeting with federal officials, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. Upon return from travel, actual expenses shall be reported to the Controller's Office.

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Johnson's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. March 8-13, 2025 for the purpose of representing the City of Wichita by meeting with federal officials, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. Upon return from travel, actual expenses shall be reported to the Controller's Office.

Motion carried 7 to 0

- 3.) Approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Glasscock's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. March 8-12, 2025 for the purpose of representing the City of Wichita by meeting with federal officials, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. Upon return from travel, actual expenses shall be reported to the Controller's Office.

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Glasscock's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. March 8-12, 2025 for the purpose of representing the City of Wichita by meeting with federal officials, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. Upon return from travel, actual expenses shall be reported to the Controller's Office.

Motion carried 7 to 0

- 4.) Approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Tuttle, Vice Mayor Johnston, Council Member Ballard, and Mayor Wu's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and

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Expense Form, to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. March 9-12, 2025 for the purpose of representing the City of Wichita by meeting with federal officials, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. Upon return from travel, actual expenses shall be reported to the Controller's Office.

Motion

Council Member Hoheisel moved to approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Tuttle, Vice Mayor Johnston, Council Member Ballard, and Mayor Wu's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. March 9-12, 2025 for the purpose of representing the City of Wichita by meeting with federal officials, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. Upon return from travel, actual expenses shall be reported to the Controller's Office.

Motion carried 7 to 0

- 5.) Approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Hoheisel's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. March 9-13, 2025 for the purpose of representing the City of Wichita by meeting with federal officials, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. Upon return from travel, actual expenses shall be reported to the Controller's Office.

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Hoheisel's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to attend NLC's Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C. March 9-13, 2025 for the purpose of representing the City of Wichita by meeting with federal officials, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. There will be no cost to the City.

Motion carried 7 to 0

- 6.) Retroactively approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Hoheisel's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to Topeka, KS February 10, 2025 for the purpose of providing testimony on HB 2357 and HB 2349, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. Upon return from travel, actual expenses shall be reported to the Controller's Office.

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Motion

Mayor Wu moved to retroactively approve that pursuant to Section 2.04.090 Council Member Hoheisel's travel expenses, as estimated on the Travel Authorization and Expense Form, to Topeka, KS February 10, 2025 for the purpose of providing testimony on HB 2357 and HB 2349, consistent with A.R. 3.1, be approved. There will be no cost to the city.

Motion carried 7 to 0

XI) COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENTS AND COMMENTS

Council Member Tuttle stated thank you. I would like to appoint - reappoint Lucretia Taylor to the Ethics Advisory Board.

Council Member Glasscock stated thank you, Mayor. After completing a background check, I would like to appoint Matt Lashley to the Citizens Review Board.

Vice Mayor Johnston stated thank you. I'd like to reappoint Dennis Cleary to the Ethics Board.

Motion

Mayor Wu moved to approve the appointments as stated

Motion carried 7 to 0

Council Member Hoheisel stated thank you, Mayor. I just want to give a shout-out again to all our Public Works employees who are out there freezing their butts off. We think it's chilly up here. Actually, most of you guys on the - on the mainland over there. I'm on an island by myself. Think it's chilly in here, but they're out there working their butts off to make sure that our streets are safe for everybody. Also, our first responders, firefighters. Fires don't stop during this time. They're still out there and, PD, everything that they do especially now with the Emergency Homeless Outreach Plan, trying to make sure that everybody who lives in Wichita is safe from the - the elements right now. So thank you all for all the work that you're doing while we're sitting here mildly chilly at this time.

Mayor Wu stated I will now ask some pertinent questions to staff. I'll start off with there was a fire on Saturday, February 12 at, I believe, 1234 North Wellington Place, which is near the multi-agency

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neighborhood. My question, I believe, I asked this of city manager and assistant city manager, was the fire at a city-owned property?

Troy Anderson, Assistant City Manager, stated Honorable Mayor, Troy Anderson, Assistant City Manager. Yes, this was a city-owned facility. To provide you a little bit of background, it was a storage building. I believe at one point in time it was used for storing salt which actually compounded the issues out there, but the building was in significant disrepair, safety, security concerns. And so, several months ago, we began the process of identifying opportunities to have that building raised. It was actually in the process of being demolished. And so we've been in contact with the contractor. We have every reason to believe that the fire will not impact their ability to continue to demo the building. In fact, it should be demo - got a email response a little while ago the building should be demoed, hopefully by the end of the week.

Mayor Wu stated my question, then second follow-up to that is the email that was sent to the entire council regarding this fire said that they had encountered 14 different homeless individuals staying in the building for shelter and that this building was left unsecured due to demolition. So I have a concern when we have city-owned property that is left unsecured. Can you please address that?

Troy Anderson, Assistant City Manager, stated yeah. So this building has been a site in which we have had significant - a - a number of issues throughout the years with the building getting broken into. And so, again, all the more reason why it was our efforts to ultimately raise the building to prevent that from continuing to be a safety and security concern. There were some we're still trying to find out the details. There was a period in which there was some paperwork associated with the demolition. So we're looking into perhaps maybe why the contractor hadn't secured the entire premises for demolition. We're looking into that. But again, for - for that point, that's exactly one of the reasons why we had continually had incidents where the building was getting broken into for this reason. It was not structurally safe. We had concerns about the structural integrity of the building, uh, and that all led us to the decision to - to demolish the building.

Mayor Wu stated I would like to ask questions regarding the contract with the contractor of securing this premise as now we've now utilized fire resources during a very cold time. In addition, they were afraid that there might be individuals inside the building. So I'm concerned that the contractor did not secure this property. So what in the contract does it say about securing? Then since you mentioned that demolition will happen sooner rather than later we would like to get that report when demolition actually happens, so we can be held accountable to the community.

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Troy Anderson, Assistant City Manager, stated yeah. I don't have the contract in front of me. I don't have that information, but we'll be more than happy to provide that.

Mayor Wu stated and then last, but not least, any time we have city-owned properties that are involved in a major incident like this, I would like to have that be noted up at the top rather than having to ask last night if this is a city-owned property. I don't think anyone on the council knew that this was a city-owned property. And when I got this email regarding this fire, I looked and saw that it was only a block or so away from the Multi-Agency Center. And it concerned me because I did not want to see any individuals hurt, whether it's our firefighters or individuals facing homelessness. So again, any time it's a city-owned property, I think it should be highlighted at the top.

Troy Anderson, Assistant City Manager, stated. Yeah. We will get together with fire department and discuss how we can better respond to that.

Adjournment

Lily Wu moved to adjourn at 11:31 AM.

Motion carried 7 to 0

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Leeker, City Clerk

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ATTACHMENT 1 - CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1 THROUGH 19

II) CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Applications for Licenses:

1) Applications for Licenses for Cereal Malt Beverages:

a.) Applications for Licenses to Retail Cereal Malt Beverages

Attachment: [CMBs for February 11, 2025.docx](#)

2) Preliminary Estimates:

a.) Preliminary Estimates

Attachment: [PEsforCC_02-18-25.pdf](#)

3) Deeds and Easements:

a.) Grant of Easement over City-owned Property in the Southwest Quadrant of Seneca Street and 55th Street South (District IV)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-3a.doc](#)

Attachment: [Agenda attachments.pdf](#)

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4) Agreements/Contracts:

- a.) Developer's Agreement for Rennick 4th Addition (District IV)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-4a.doc](#)

Attachment: [Developer's Agreement.pdf](#)

- b.) Agreement to Respread Assessments: Pike Addition, Pike 3rd Addition and Pike 4th Addition (District V)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-4b.doc](#)

Attachment: [Pike Respread Agreement - Unsigned.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Ordinance No. 52-626 Special Assessments for Pike Addition](#)

- c.) Undercover Building Lease Agreement

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-4c.doc](#)

Attachment: [2025 Lease Agreement - Redacted.pdf](#)

5) Property Acquisitions:

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- a.) Partial Acquisition of 2402 North Hoover for the Hoover Road: 21st to 29th Street Road Improvement Project (District VI)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-5a.doc](#)

Attachment: [2402 N Hoover supporting documents.pdf](#)

- b.) Partial Acquisition of 2422 North Hoover for the Hoover Road: 21st to 29th Street Road Improvement Project (District VI)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-5b.doc](#)

Attachment: [2422 N Hoover supporting documents.pdf](#)

- 6) Minutes of Advisory Boards/Commissions:

- a.) Transit Advisory Board Meeting Minutes December 18, 2024 Citizens' Review Board Meeting Minutes December 12, 2024

Attachment: [Wichita Transit Advisory Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Citizens Review Board Meeting Minutes](#)

- Uncategorized Items:

- 7.) General Obligation Note Sale

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-7.doc](#)

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

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Attachment: [Notice of Sale.docx](#)

Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-073 General Obligation Note Sale.docx](#)

- 8.) Community Event with Alcohol Consumption – Delano Paddy Day Parade Street Party (District VI)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-8.docx](#)

Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-074 Consumption of Alcohol Delano Paddy Day Parade.docx](#)

Attachment: [Paddy Day TED Site Plan 1.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Paddy Day TED Site Plan 2.pdf](#)

- 9.) Community Event with Alcohol Consumption – Fan Fest (District I)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-9.docx](#)

Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-075 Consumption of Alcohol Fan Fest.docx](#)

Attachment: [Fan Fest TED Map.pdf](#)

- 10.) Community Event with Alcohol Consumption – Wichita Wagonmasters Downtown St. Patrick's Day Party (District I)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-10.docx](#)

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Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-076 Consumption of Alcohol Wichita Wagonmaster.docx](#)

Attachment: [Wichita Wagonmasters Downtown St Patrick's Day Party TED Mao.pdf](#)

- 11.) Overestimate Bid for Pump Station No. 70 and Sewer Improvements to serve Harbor Isle Commercial 1st and 2nd Additions (District II)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-11.doc](#)

Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-078 SS040441](#)

Attachment: [Resolution No. 25-077 SS032630](#)

Attachment: [Harbor Isle.pdf](#)

Attachment: [revised bid tab.pdf](#)

- 12.) Amendment to Ordinance 52-605, Lot Clean Up on 3826 E. 16th St. N.

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-12.docx](#)

Attachment: [Ordinance No. 52-628 Amendment to Ordinance 52-605 Lot Clean Up.docx](#)

- 13) Second Reading Ordinances:

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- a.) SECOND READING ORDINANCES FOR February 18, 2025 (FIRST READ February 11, 2025) ORDINANCE NO. 52-624 AN ORDINANCE MAKING A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO PAY FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF AND PROVIDING A TAX LEVY FOR THE COST OF CONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS IN THE CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS. An Ordinance adding special assessments for sidewalk repair. ORDINANCE NO. 52-625 AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATIONS OR DISTRICTS OF CERTAIN LANDS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS, UNDER THE AUTHORITY GRANTED BY THE WICHITA-SEDGWICK COUNTY UNIFIED ZONING CODE, SECTION V-C, AS ADOPTED BY SECTION 28.04.010, AS AMENDED. An Ordinance rezoning Handley and 43rd Street South.

Attachment: [List of Second Read Ordinances February 18, 2025 .docx](#)

II) CONSENT PLANNING AGENDA ITEMS

- 14.) ZON2024-00058 - Zone Change Request in the City from TF-3 Two-Family Residential District to NR Neighborhood Retail, Generally Located on the West Side of North Chautauqua Avenue and within 150 Feet North of East Douglas Avenue (117 North Chautauqua Avenue). (District I)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-14.docx](#)

Attachment: [ZON2024-00058 WCC Supporting Documents.docx](#)

Attachment: [ZON2024-00058 MAPC Minutes.docx](#)

Attachment: [Memo ZON2024-00058.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Ordinance No. 52-627 ZON2024-00058.docx](#)

- 15.) DED2025-00001 – Dedication of Waterline Easement on Property Located South Along West 35th Street North and Within One Quarter Mile West of North Arkansas Avenue (District VI)

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Attachment: [Agenda Report II-15.docx](#)

Attachment: [Waterline Easement.pdf](#)

II) **CONSENT HOUSING AGENDA ITEMS**

16.) Sale of 2615 East Audrey (District I)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-16.doc](#)

Attachment: [2615 Audrey real estate agreement.pdf](#)

17.) Sale of 2331 North Poplar (District I)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-17.doc](#)

Attachment: [2331 N Poplar real estate agreement.pdf](#)

18.) Sale of 2513 East 22nd Street North (District I)

Attachment: [Agenda Report II-18.doc](#)

Attachment: [2513 E 22nd real estate agreement.pdf](#)

19.) Sale of 2420 North Green (District I)

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Attachment: [Agenda Report II-19.doc](#)

Attachment: [2420 N Green real estate agreement.pdf](#)

II) CONSENT AIRPORT AGENDA ITEMS - NONE