

CITY OF SHAWNEE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

January 27, 2025
6:00 P.M.

Governing Body Present:

Mickey Sandifer - Mayor
Sierra Whitted - Ward 1
Tony Gillette- Ward 1 (*appearing virtually*)
Jeanie Murphy - Ward 2
Dr. Mike Kemmling - Ward 2
Kurt Knappen - Ward 3
Angela Stiens - Ward 3
Laurel Burchfield - Ward 4

Governing Body Absent:

Jacklynn Walters- Ward 4

Staff Present:

Paul Kramer - City Manager
Colin Duffy - Deputy City Manager
Lauren Grashoff - Assistant City Manager
Jenny Smith - City Attorney
Stephanie Zaldivar - City Clerk
Kellie Heckerson - Admin. Coordinator CMO
Sam Larson - Police Chief
Rick Potter - Fire Chief
Mike Inich - I.T. Director
Doug Donahoo - Communications Director
Kelly Grisnik - Human Resources Director
Kevin Manning - Public Works Director
Matt Epperson - Emergency Services Chief
Sean Rocco - Finance Director
Charlie Pautler - Museum Director
Doug Allmon - Community Development Director

(Shawnee City Council Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 p.m.)

A. ROLL CALL

MAYOR SANDIFER: Good evening and welcome to the January 27th, 2025, meeting of the Shawnee City Council. I'm Mayor Mickey Sandifer, and I will be chairing this meeting. I will do a roll call at this time. Councilmember Whitted.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: Present.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Councilmember Gillette is on --

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Present.

MAYOR SANDIFER: -- is attending virtually.

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Present.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Councilmember Murphy.

COUNCILMEMBER MURPHY: Present.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Councilmember Kemmling.

COUNCILMEMBER KEMMLING: Present.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Councilmember Knappen.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Present.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Councilmember Stiens.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Present.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Councilmember Walters is absent. Councilmember Burchfield.

COUNCILMEMBER BURCHFIELD: Present.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

MAYOR SANDIFER: Now, we have Troop #194 of the scouts coming up and going to help us with the Pledge of Allegiance. And then when you're through, stand up here a minute so some -- you guys can kind of announce who you are. Come on up.

(Pledge of Allegiance)

MAYOR SANDIFER: We'll have a moment of silence, please.

(Moment of Silence)

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you. Now, would one of you want to announce, or do you want to have each of them say their name, or how do you want to do that?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Inaudible; talking off mic]

MAYOR SANDIFER: Go ahead.

(Troop #194 from St. Joseph Church introduced themselves to the Governing Body)

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you. You picked a good meeting. It should be [inaudible].

Next, I'd like to explain our procedures for public input. In an effort to enhance residents' ability to present information to the Governing Body, anyone interested in addressing the Governing Body is strongly encouraged to sign up to speak by noon on the day of the meeting, but it is not required. Information has been posted online about how to sign up.

By policy, comments are limited to five minutes, and no person shall speak more than once to any one agenda item. Only comments related to the City business are permitted. Disruptive acts are not permitted and as per Policy No. 7 and will not be tolerated.

After you are finished speaking, please sign the form on the podium to ensure we have an accurate record for your name and address.

Additionally, comments can be submitted to the entire Governing Body via email at: governingbody@cityofshawnee.org.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve minutes from the City Council meeting of January 13, 2025.
2. Review minutes from the Planning Commission meeting of December 16, 2024.
3. Review minutes from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting of November 7, 2024.
4. Review minutes from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting of December 5, 2024.
5. Consider the approval of a blanket Purchase Order for 2025 Diesel Fuel.
6. Consider approving the extension of the 2025 Janitorial Services with Service Systems, Inc.
7. Consider approval of the 2025 Fire and Police Department Annual Physicals.

MAYOR SANDIFER: The next item on the agenda is the Consent Agenda. Is there anyone on the Council that wants to pull anything off the Consent Agenda? Seeing none, I'll accept a motion for the Consent Agenda. Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Move to accept the Consent Agenda.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Laurel.

COUNCILMEMBER BURCHFIELD: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I've got a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 1: Angela Stiens - Ward 3/Laurel Burchfield - Ward 4: Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried 7-0-0.

D. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

MAYOR SANDIFER: The next item on the agenda is Business from the Floor. If anyone is here to speak about a specific item on the agenda, please wait until the item is discussed. If you're here to speak on an item that is not on tonight's agenda, now is the time to speak. And we have somebody signed up.

MR. DUFFY: Yeah. First, we have Ray Erlichman.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Okay. Ray.

MR. ERLICHMAN: [Inaudible; talking off mic] Saturday that I finally got resolution on my inquiries from the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Kansas. But we're going to have to go back 11 months. If staff would please pull up the first sheet that I gave them for the presentation. Back on February 12th of 2024, Mayor Sandifer had made an appointment to the Shawnee Downtown Partnership, and he recommended the appointment of Councilmember Murphy, and that did get approved. But Councilmember Gillette asked a question. He says, gee, she's brand new basically. He says how come you didn't appoint the most senior representative of Ward 2. And for those that aren't familiar with it, it's always a representative from Ward 2 that sits on the Downtown Partnership. And your comment, Mr. Mayor, was Councilmember Murphy sent me a request. I did not get a request from Mr. Kemmling. That's your comments in the Minutes.

So, being the inquisitive type of person that I am, I sent in a KORA request for the emails between you and Councilmember Murphy. My KORA request was turned down for various and sundry reasons, and I went back and forth on it with the City Attorney for the reasons for its rejection. And as typical, I didn't accept her answers.

So, I took it to the State Attorney General's Office and filed a KORA complaint. Well, this past Saturday, after 11 months, I finally got a response from the Attorney General's Office. And can we bring up page 2? Without reading every word on here, "We also requested the City provide any emails responsive to your request..." In other words, the Attorney General says yes, he can have those emails. And then it said, In its response to our office, the City confirmed that no emails meeting the search parameters of your February 14, 2024 request exist." So, I was a little dumbfounded since you had said that she had sent you a request and then there was no emails. Sounds to me like somebody wasn't telling the truth. Where are those emails? Where is that written request? Apparently, there's no emails on the City server about it.

The only other thing I can think of is that maybe somebody is going to say, oh, those were -- they used personal emails to do that. Well, if you do a little research, you'll find out it's not quite kosher to use personal emails to conduct any type of City business. It's kind of frowned upon, and it's not kosher.

So, my question is, where are the emails? Where's the written request that you, Mr. Mayor, said that you got from Ms. Murphy? Councilmember Murphy. I feel that you didn't tell the truth. I hate to use the word. I'm going to be ostracized for it, but as far as I'm concerned, it was a lie. And then unfortunately, if it does, if it was a lie, if we can bring up page 3, please. Councilmember Murphy, you might want to look at this. The term is lying by omission. That's when somebody tells a lie, and you know that it's a lie and you don't say anything to correct it. And I'm sure the City Attorney could explain it a little bit more to you a lot better than I can.

So, what I would like to do -- so, I really would like to apologize to you for referring to you as a liar. And I would be very happy to do that right here at this podium in front of everybody if you can produce the request that Councilmember Murphy sent to you asking to be put on the Downtown Partnership. And not something that was made up now to look like it came from back over 11 months ago. Otherwise, if it doesn't exist, if you cannot produce it, then there is no such request in writing. And then a comment at the meeting to Mr. Gillette, to the Council, to staff, to the City of Shawnee was untruthful, misinformation, or the word that people don't like hearing - a lie. So, if you can produce it, I'll give you 48 hours, close of business by Wednesday. You can laugh

all you want, Mr. Mayor, but you're the one that made a comment that you received a written request from Councilmember Murphy, and there is no such written request available.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Not all requests come from emails or paper.

MR. ERLICHMAN: Well, you said -- should I quote you from the minutes, Mr. Mayor?

MAYOR SANDIFER: I don't care what you quote me from. The answer is you get messages in all different ways.

MR. ERLICHMAN: Councilmember Murphy sent me a request.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Uh-huh.

MR. ERLICHMAN: Could have been a text message. Could have been an e-mail.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Could have been a voice.

MR. ERLICHMAN: Eh. Can you produce it?

MAYOR SANDIFER: Can you -- can you produce it if it was a voice?

MR. ERLICHMAN: I don't have to produce it. You're the one that said she sent it.

MAYOR SANDIFER: We're through. Are you done now?

MR. ERLICHMAN: I beg your pardon.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Are you finished?

MR. ERLICHMAN: Is my five minutes up? Well, actually I've been talking pretty fast.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Good.

MR. ERLICHMAN: I've still got three minutes to go. Unless you want to cut me short because you've been found out.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I [inaudible] been found out.

MR. ERLICHMAN: Well, you can chuckle all you want, but you did not get a request from Councilmember Murphy.

MAYOR SANDIFER: You are wrong, and I did get a request. And I don't have to answer to you.

MR. ERLICHMAN: Well, you have to answer to the City.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I did not get a written request.

MR. ERLICHMAN: You have to --

MAYOR SANDIFER: I got a verbal request.

MR. ERLICHMAN: You have to answer to the City. And you made a comment that you got a request. Where is it?

MAYOR SANDIFER: I just told you. And if you can't understand that, you need to go back to school.

MR. ERLICHMAN: I'm not the one that has to go back to school, Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Okay.

MR. ERLICHMAN: For all practical purposes, as far as we're concerned, there's nothing to back up what you said.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Okay.

MR. ERLICHMAN: Okay. I'll end my comments now.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Okay.

MR. ERLICHMAN: Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Very good. Thank you.

E. MAYOR'S ITEMS

1. Kansas Day Proclamation

MAYOR SANDIFER: The next item on the agenda is Mayor's Items. Number 1, I have Kansas State Proclamation. Communications Director Doug Donohoo will read the proclamation while I present it. I would like to invite Charlie Pautler, our Museum Director, up to the front, please.

MR. DONAHOO: Whereas Kansas became the 34th state in the Union on January 29th, 1861; and

Whereas Shawnee, then known as Shawnee Town, was incorporated five years earlier; and

Whereas Shawnee would emerge as a dynamic community that continues to provide opportunities for people to work, gather and thrive; and

Whereas Kansas Day has become a cherished tradition across the state, inspiring residents of all ages to explore the state's past; and

Whereas Shawnee Town 1929 serves as a living history museum offering people a chance to experience the City and state's cultural and historical roots through engaging programs, events, and hands-on activities; and

Whereas learning about Kansas history fosters a deeper understanding of the people, places, and events that have strengthened our shared identity.

Now, therefore, Mickey Sandifer, Mayor of the City of Shawnee, Kansas, does hereby proclaim January 29th, 2025, as Kansas Day and encourages people to visit Shawnee Town 1929 to develop a meaningful connection to the past.

F. PUBLIC ITEMS

1. Conduct the first public hearing to consider 2024 CDBG Annual Performance Report.

(a) Conduct a public hearing

MAYOR SANDIFER: The next item on the agenda are Public Items. Item Number 1 is to conduct a public hearing to consider the 2024 CDBG Annual Performance Report. Paul.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: A motion to open the public hearing.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Sorry?

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: For a motion to open the public hearing.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Oh, yeah. That's right. I will now accept a motion to conduct a public hearing. Jeanie.

COUNCILMEMBER MURPHY: [Inaudible; talking off mic]

MAYOR SANDIFER: Sierra.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. We are now in a public hearing.

Motion 2: **Jeanie Murphy - Ward 2/Sierra Whitted - Ward 1:** Conduct a public hearing. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: This item will be handled by Lauren Grashoff, the Assistant City Manager.

MS. GRASHOFF: Good evening. I'm just going to do a quick overview of our accomplishments from the 2024 Community Development Block Grant program.

[2024 CDBG Year End Review slide]

On your screen are basically the projects that were authorized to be funded during the calendar year as our program year for the program. And we completed a two-block

street improvement project, going from what would be considered substandard conditions with full street improvements. And it does benefit, as we look at the program, it's a majority low to moderate income neighborhood.

We also completed a project with Friends of Johnson County Developmental Support. They actually were working on some siding repair and then did find asbestos within the siding, so we were able to actually give them a little bit more money, and they were able to do the asbestos remediation as well to the household.

And then our public service organizations both providing for utility and rent emergency assistance as well as childcare subsidy.

So, I just kind of put a few numbers up there on the slide. The need continues to be high as well as just providing the services. So, if you'll -- actually, I can go to the next slide.

[2024 CDBG Year End Review slide 2]

Within the report, I did note that the Minor Home Rehabilitation Program is ongoing. We are actively catching up with that program. We have funding allocated from 2020 to 2023 program years that will fund up to \$5,000 per household for exterior and interior repairs and rehabilitation projects. Within the program year, last year, we actually vetted, it was more than 10 projects, but 10 projects were approved. Those projects are either underway or just haven't currently been billed to us yet. And then we have one in the review queue. We expect another 10 to 15 to be reviewed and completed within 2025. So, working towards spending that money down, which we do have available to us. While we're outside of obviously 2020 to '23, we still can have full use of those funds.

So, we are, like I said, actively working through social media, our next *All Things Hometown* newsletter, to get word out about that program as we obviously have the funding available. We want those homeowners that that can use it to be able to use those funds.

And then lastly, we still have Community Development Block Grant coronavirus funds that were allocated in 2020. This is not part of the '24 plan but just wanted to give an update. So, we had a little -- over close to a \$415,000 initially awarded. About half of that has been spent to date, a little over half at least through the end of the year, with those Small Business Assistance Grants and Public Service Grants.

We do not, at least at this time, have any future projects planned with the coronavirus monies. Meeting that specific need has sort of, at least, thankfully passed. So, we do look for opportunities to spend that money still, but it does have to be spent by August of 2026 what is remaining.

So, that really wraps up the program. You'll probably note within the memo it did have the funding technically did not get spent. There were delays in getting contracts, agreements executed, but all the projects essentially have been completed. We're just waiting on the agreements to actually disperse the funds. I will answer any questions if you have them.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Any questions from the Council?

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: I have one.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Go ahead. Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Thank you, Mayor. I just had a quick question, Lauren. Just for clarification on those ARPA funds. That has already been allocated, correct? I know I asked that probably before, and I apologize, but I always like to have that on the record, so people understand that.

MS. GRASHOFF: Yes. Those have been fully allocated, and this is a separate pot of money.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Okay.

MS. GRASHOFF: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Yeah. Thank you, Lauren. So, we have roughly \$200,000 left from this coronavirus update to be used by 2026. My question is what types of things would qualify under that since the immediate threat seems to have passed?

MS. GRASHOFF: Right. So, that's kind of been the struggle. We do have one public service agency that is still -- has clients that is providing rent and utility assistance for the funding for basically any clients that maybe lost jobs, have long-term health impacts that need that assistance. But really other than that, we have not identified sort of larger projects that we could use those funds on it. It does have to meet a very specific criteria relative to coronavirus.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: And then would we send that money back, or we just wouldn't file to get it?

MS. GRASHOFF: We never technically received it.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Okay.

MS. GRASHOFF: So, we don't have to send anything back.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Anyone else? Oh, yeah. Laurel.

COUNCILMEMBER BURCHFIELD: Thank you. My question is about the Minor Home Rehabilitation Program. I feel like we talk about this a lot, and I'm always kind of just wanting more information. It seems like it's a program that we struggle with a little bit in terms of spending it out. I'm really glad to hear that we have some plans for how to communicate better. I'm looking forward to seeing that. The 128, or I'm sorry, the remainder that we have budgeted for that 10 to 15 projects in 2025, if we don't have those projects come in and get approved, is there a point where we can reallocate those dollars into another project or do we lose those funds?

MS. GRASHOFF: Yes. So, we have the option to essentially amend those plans from each year. So, if we feel like there is a need elsewhere that could be better served and maybe sort of scale back on some of these funds, we can absolutely amend those plans to reallocate funds.

COUNCILMEMBER BURCHFIELD: And so the time to do that would be just with the next year's review.

MS. GRASHOFF: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BURCHFIELD: Okay. Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Anyone else? Anyone sign up to make any comments on this? Anyone in the audience that would like to speak on this issue? Seeing none. I have one. Oh, okay. Hi there.

MS. SARVER: Beth Sarver. 7308 Stearns. If you come to my house you're going to be put to work in the garden.

I think the big -- can we see the numbers again because I wanted to refer back. So, the main reason I'm here today is because I'm excited about and want to hear the conversation about emergency planning. I have been a part of roundtables in Missouri on preparing for extreme weather and emergency and trauma response and crisis response. And so, I'm looking at that \$200,000 and the possibility of a public service grant. And I'm wondering if that pot of money, when I think of the coronavirus, I think of the mental health impacts on our children, on our communities. I'm wondering if there is some of the unexpected consequences of coronavirus, if that money could be spent down to prepare us for maybe not another coronavirus, but some other thing, some other emergency crisis that could happen. Experiencing collective trauma of a wildfire or some other extreme weather event or pandemic, these things have a deep and lasting impact on our mental health as individuals, as families, and as a society. As a schoolteacher, I see it still. Not only do we have a lot of young people who are addicted to their screens, but they're also feeling kind of like lost because they're also paying attention to everything else that's happening.

So, could the coronavirus money be spent to support, for example, training everybody in this room on mental health first aid, so that we are prepared for the mental health impacts of the emergencies that are coming, that are predicted. Could that money go to help organize and empower the citizens to be able to support in an emergency situation?

Those are the first thoughts that come to my mind. But that seems like a lot of money and something that we could be creative with but also take the opportunity to engage our citizens and our -- each other in preparing ourselves for future extreme events that are not only expensive, but also like take a toll on our hearts.

MAYOR SANDIFER: We have limitations of what we can do with the CDBG money. And I think Lauren could probably answer some of that just right quick.

MS. GRASHOFF: I mean, I would definitely have to look into specific program opportunities. I do know we had one organization, a mental health agency, that was actually -- did reach out about spending the funds for actually some mental health

services related around children that didn't actually go back to the classroom due to COVID. So, we all are looking for those opportunities and always doing outreach with agencies, public service agencies, to see if the funding can be used. But that's definitely something I can definitely track down around more of that emergency preparedness training.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Is there anyone else that would like to speak on this issue?
Hearing none.

(b) Conclude the public hearing

MAYOR SANDIFER: I will accept a motion to close the public hearing. Jeanie.

COUNCILMEMBER MURPHY: [Inaudible; talking off mic]

MAYOR SANDIFER: Sierra.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 3: **Jeanie Murphy - Ward 2/Sierra Whitted - Ward 1:** Conclude the public hearing. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

(c) Consider the CDBG Report

MAYOR SANDIFER: I'll accept a motion to consider accepting the 2024 CDBG Annual Performance Report. Somebody? Sierra.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: Move to approve the 2024 CDBG Annual Report.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Jeanie.

COUNCILMEMBER MURPHY: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 4: Sierra Whitted - Ward 1/Jeanie Murphy - Ward 2: Consider the 2024 CDBG Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report. The motion carried 7-0-0.

G. STAFF ITEMS

- 1. Consider approving a Resolution granting the City Manager authority to consider and, if appropriate, waive certain conflicts of interest.**

MAYOR SANDIFER: The next item on the agenda are Staff Items. Item Number 1 is to consider approving a resolution granting the City Manager authority to consider and, if appropriate, waive certain conflicts of interest. Paul.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'm going to let our City Attorney start with this, and I'm certainly happy to answer any questions that you may have on this item as well.

CITY ATTORNEY SMITH: Thank you. As the Governing Body is well aware, we hire law firms from time to time to help us with things, from items from bond issuance to economic development plans to, you'll see later on this evening, land acquisition. And under our attorney Professional Rules of Conduct, there are times where conflicts arise when a large law firm, maybe not even an office that we use, an office in a different city or a different state create a conflict with the City. So, this resolution before you tonight would just authorize the City Manager to waive any conflicts of interest that really are not material to the City. In the staff report you'll notice there are seven conditions that must be met. And then the City Manager also has to consult with the City Attorney about the waiver of the conflict. But it's things like the representation is not prohibited by law. It doesn't involve any parties that were in any litigation or projects with Council. And the firm that represents us also will not be directly adverse to us. It's not limiting anybody's representation of us in any material way. And then just some other standard typical attorney language about them providing a zealous counsel to us. This is -- we modeled this resolution off of a city near us, and so it's not unheard of that this authority is delegated to the City Manager. There will be times where we will need to sign quick conflict waivers that we may not be able to come before the Council for. So, really it authorizes the City Manager to move quicker than sometimes we can.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: It also requires that I provide notification to the Council of any time, and again, these are usually items that creates a conflict for the firm, and it's not anything related to what we're using the firm with, and they need that clearance. So, that's what the design is. But happy to answer any other questions that you may have.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Any questions? Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: I just have one. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Is there a monetary thing on that too? Like if there is a certain amount.

CITY ATTORNEY SMITH: So, conflicts are not tied to any monetary value. So, this would be like, for example, you'll see later on tonight we're talking about acquisition of

land. A lot of law firms around town do full service things. So, like they may do criminal cases, civil cases, yet they do acquisition of land for us. So, they may represent a client that is totally independent of us, has nothing to do with us, but because we are one of their clients, it could create a conflict. So, no monetary value is assessed to it.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Okay. Thank you, Jenny.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Anyone else? Hearing none. Did anyone sign up to comment on this? Is there anyone in the audience that would like to speak on this issue? Seeing none, I'll accept a motion. Kurt.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Yeah. Move to approve.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Go ahead, Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 5: **Kurt Knappen - Ward 3/Angela Stiens - Ward 3:** Adopt a Resolution granting the City Manager authority to consider and, if appropriate, waive certain conflicts of interest. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

2. **Consider approving the Med-Act agreements with Johnson County, Kansas for use of allocated space in Shawnee Fire Stations 71 and 73.**

MAYOR SANDIFER: Item Number 2 is to consider approving the Med-Act agreement with Johnson County, Kansas for the use of allocated space in the Fire Station Nos. 71 and 73. Paul.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. As everybody knows for many, many years, Med-Act has operated, co-located in Shawnee Fire Station 71 and 73 for its day-to-day operations, including housing its personnel, ambulance, equipment and supplies. Through all those years, there was never a formalized agreement setting out the conditions of that, providing for any kind of assistance, financial assistance from the county. The county has identified that as something that they would like to do in the City as well. And so, we would like to formalize the co-location agreement with the proposed agreements for each station as included in your packet. These are primarily based on use, EMS dedicated space co-located space that we provide for them.

So, the agreements you have before you are 20-year agreements. The first one for Station 71 is for an amount of \$1,333,725. And the second one for Station No. 73 for a 20-year term is \$1,238,623.

We do have Paul Davis, the Director of County EMS, here as well as Chief Potter if you have any specific questions. From my perspective, I'd like to thank Paul Davis and the county staff for working through these agreements. They have a monumental task. They're trying to do this with all the cities, trying to get these agreements in place. And so, we appreciate working with them and the long relationship that we've had with EMS being in our fire stations.

So, the items are before you tonight. And again, they are 20-year agreements for both fire Station 71 and 73 to co-locate the EMS services.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Any questions for staff? Hearing none. Anyone sign up for this? Is there anyone in the audience that would like to speak on this item? Seeing none, I'll accept a motion. Kurt.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Move to approve these two agreements.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 6: **Kurt Knappen - Ward 3/Angela Stiens - Ward 3:** Approve the Med-Act agreements with Johnson County, Kansas for use of allocated space in Shawnee Fire Stations 71 and 73. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

3. Consider adopting a Resolution adopting the Kansas Region L Hazard Mitigation Plan as required by FEMA.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Item Number 3 is to consider adopting a resolution adopting the Kansas Region L Hazard Mitigation Plan as required by FEMA. Paul.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. The presentation tonight will be by Matt Epperson, our Division Chief for Emergency Services for the Shawnee Fire Department.

MR. EPPERSON: Good evening. Thank you for having me tonight. So, really, I just wanted to take a couple minutes to go over what the Region L Hazard Mitigation Plan is and how we got to this place before asking for adoption of a resolution. So, Region L, if you don't know, in Kansas, is made up of Johnson, Wyandotte, and Leavenworth counties.

Obviously, the focus of this plan is hazard mitigation. Mitigation is commonly defined as sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from hazards and the effects of that hazard. So, a well designed hazard mitigation plan provides communities with realistic actions that can be taken to reduce potential vulnerability and exposure to identified hazards.

So, the plan, if you haven't read it, all 388 pages of it, is pretty thorough. And it was done in conjunction with a whole lot of different agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, data taken from federal agencies, obviously, members in each county and each jurisdiction who is participating in this. Basically, it really looks at the region's planning process and identifies the hazards, vulnerabilities, and then, again, the different strategies to mitigate against those.

So, this plan is required to be updated and adopted every five years. So, the last time this was done was in 2019. And again, this is one of those things that is required by FEMA rules to basically -- for any jurisdiction who has adopted this, we are able and eligible to apply for hazard mitigation grants. That is one of the requirements to be able to apply for those grants is to have a hazard mitigation plan. This plan has already been approved at both the state level and FEMA Region 7. It's already been adopted by Johnson County and several other jurisdictions within the county.

So, really just wanted to kind of talk to you about a few of the other things that they look at when they're developing that. A couple things they really look at, again, there is a ton of data, census data, a lot of the, you know, weather agencies looking at historical data on impacts that we've had from various hazards, looking at housing trends, school district data, land use, infrastructure development, and population trends. Looking at vulnerable and at-risk populations. Oftentimes they have a much harder time recovering from disasters, so really taking into account those populations as we are looking at possible mitigation actions.

Some of the other things that this plan looks at. We kind of move into the actual hazard identification and risk assessment. I'm talking about critical facilities, community lifelines, different hazard profiles. And when we're talking about hazard profiles, we start talking about the specific hazards that we run into. And I'll kind of go through some of the ones that they identify that we are susceptible to in this area. So, they look at previous occurrences, the probability of future occurrences, any projected changes in a location, intensity, frequency and duration, vulnerability and impact analysis, consequence analysis, and then the significance of those. And then they break it down between natural and human cause and technological hazards.

So, what they've identified for our region are the natural hazards are agricultural infestations, dam or levy failure, drought, extreme temperatures, flooding, severe weather, severe winter weather, as we pretty are familiar with here not too long ago, tornadoes and wildfire. And then from the human caused and technical, cybersecurity, hazmat, infrastructure failure, terrorism, and transmissible disease. So, there's a big focus in the plan on those hazards and some of the different things that we can do to mitigate against those.

They have identified some of the things that are of a high significance for planning is cybersecurity incidents, hazardous materials incidents, transmissible disease, and then a moderate planning significance of infrastructure failure and low planning significance for terrorism.

So relatively, when you factor in all of the natural hazards, Johnson County is in a relatively low index. However, our expected annual loss from these is in the relatively high category, and that's really just due to the development that we have in this county. So, that's one of the things that we have to take into consideration.

So, one of the things I want to point out is in this, as you read through this plan, we were required to develop a list of mitigation actions. And as part of that, we had to basically identify an action that would address every single hazard that was identified for our region. However, what I want to point out is, even though we were required to create a mitigation action, it is not a mandate that we have to actually go through with that action. More or less is we created a list of actions that are things that we could or would like to see accomplished if and when funding should become available. And that can either be through City funds or grant funds, which obviously is kind of the point of this is to be eligible for the hazard mitigation funds.

There are a number of different grant programs, hazard mitigation assistance, Hazard Mitigation Grant program, the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program. Flood mitigation assistance. There are a number of, again, federal grant programs out there specifically for hazard mitigation.

I'll kind of pause there and see if you guys have any questions as far as --

MAYOR SANDIFER: Go ahead, Sierra.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: Thank you. You had mentioned that you already had a list of possible mitigation factors to implement. Are there any that you feel would take priority, or could you kind of talk about maybe one or two of them, what those would look like for our community?

MR. EPPERSON: So, I have a list. And, you know, this was done in coordination with all the City departments, working with them to identify some potential actions. Some are pretty small, low-hanging fruit. Actually, I can tell you what we did in the last plan. So, a couple of the things we actually completed were to establish the Office of Emergency Management. Deliver CERT training or Community Emergency Response Training. In some of the new buildings we've designed and constructed safe rooms in our City facilities as we're upgrading some of them. Again, delivering public education for city and community and disaster preparedness.

You'll hear about this in the next presentation but continuing to operate in management of jurisdictional National Flood Insurance Program activities. Active building code enforcement. So, there's a number of things that are, you know, pretty small and low-hanging fruit. But then there is other things. One of the other things we completed was the activation or the upgrade of our outdoor warning sirens. You know, we have a pretty good coverage in the City through, you know, we started in like 2016, upgrading all of our sirens, and I think we're about done with that upgrade for the for the time being.

You know, there's a few other things, like I mentioned dam failures. So, one of the things we can do is work with private dam owners to exercise their evacuation route plans and any other, you know, plans that they might have. There's a couple neighborhoods that have specific evacuation plans. So, you know, working with them to make sure that they're up to speed on those.

I think there's a couple things that I think are going to be extremely important. Moving forward is enhancing our training and exercise that we do related to our Emergency Operations Plan and a lot of these other things. Another one in particular is cybersecurity. That's obviously becoming more and more important that we make sure that we've got that dialed in.

So yeah. There's a number of different activities. But like I said, a lot of these can be done inexpensively. There's some, you know, larger items like continuing with the Stormwater Replacement Program. I think there might be some opportunities to potentially seek grant funding to help fund some of those. I'm hoping with that Building Resilient Infrastructure in the Communities Grant Program. So, we've got a wide variety.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: Thank you. The report, at least when I got towards the end, it felt a little general, so I was interested in what Shawnee, in particular, was thinking about.

MR. EPPERSON: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: And you mentioned that some of those seem small or low-hanging fruit. But what I see is building a very strong foundation by putting all those together, and I really appreciate that. Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Anyone else? Anyone sign up for this?

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: I didn't know you were done. Thank you, Matt. I appreciate that. And I'll note that at our last meeting we had a speaker asking about how strong our mitigation plans were for disasters. And, you know, obviously people are seeing the fires. They're seeing the results of the hurricanes. And they want to know that we've got a strong local plan if something bad were to happen here. And so, the timing was great. I actually mentioned to Paul in my meeting a couple weeks ago, we should have an update on that, and he said it's already planned. It's at the very next City Council meeting. So, Matt, I want to thank you. I know you're fully in charge of this for our city and you do a great job. We do have a strong and robust mitigation plan. It's nice to hear it. It's nice to know where we can go find it, which for everybody -- anybody listening, again, it's in the packet. You can get a link to this full mitigation plan.

And my one question to you -- so, thanks for everything. My one question to you is how often does, like who's part of the task force and the interagency task force, and how often do you meet?

MR. EPPERSON: Well, so, in reference specifically to the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, there is typically a representative from every jurisdiction in the county. So, all the cities, the school districts, Johnson County WaterOne, obviously Johnson County, and then there's also representatives from the other counties. And then, you know, the state and quite a few different stakeholders that participate in this. As you know, in regard to other planning efforts, again, we see a lot of the same people at the same, at the meetings. But, you know, we've got monthly meetings for our Emergency Management Group. We've got County Emergency Management liaisons. We have our regional Emergency Management Working group. So, all of these, we've got, you know, we've got meetings every month, and there is an ongoing effort to update plans. So, one of the things that we're working on right now is finalizing an update to our City

Local Emergency Operations Plan. Right now, the base plan is being reviewed by the county. And then, you know, kind of moving forward some of the other planning efforts that we're working on is updating our City Continuity of Operations Plan, more or less how we continue to function, you know, keep operations going even when there is something going on like a snowstorm. And then also looking at planning for World Cup. That's going to be a big impact on all of us and there's a ton of effort going on in that area.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Good to know. Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Laurel.

COUNCILMEMBER BURCHFIELD: Thank you. And again, thank you for all that you do on this. You mentioned that one of the things the City has done is some public education on planning for emergencies such as this. Could you just speak a little bit more about what that public education has looked like and what kind of engagement we've had with our residents?

MR. EPPERSON: So, a couple things. I mentioned the CERT class, the Community Emergency Response Team class. We try and put on a couple of those a year. In fact, a little plug. We do have another class coming up at the end of March. It's over four days, and we talk about a lot of different ways that residents can prepare themselves to basically, you know, take care of themselves, their family, and their neighbors in a disaster. So, we do that a couple times a year. A lot of people who have been through the CERT program then stay on as volunteers with our Community Support Team. So, at every Moonlight Market, you'll see our green trailer over there and CST members are distributing, you know, all kinds of preparedness material. We've tried to reach out to a number of organizations through some of the faith groups to, again, give presentations there. So, there's been quite a number of different ways to do outreach.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Jeanie.

COUNCILMEMBER MURPHY: I was just going to ask when the next CERT training was, so you already answered. Thank you.

MR. DUFFY: Mayor, Councilmember Gillette has a question.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Tony.

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Yeah. Thanks, Mayor. Matt, thank you for your presentation. You always do a fantastic job on this. One quick question I had that may be percolating within the public's mind is any risk management that's related to the massive railroad system that we have in Shawnee that the, that this hazard mitigation plan addresses? I think I know the answer, but I just wanted to get you on the record on that one real quickly, sir. Thank you.

MR. EPPERSON: So, there has -- there has been a number of different efforts as far as the railroads go. We actually did have a tabletop exercise here in Shawnee. It may have been two years ago, but that's an ongoing effort for our planning. You know, we in the Fire Department having some responsibility for hazardous materials, that's something that we look at and try and plan for often. But, you know, I think that's absolutely something that we'll continue to try and get in front of and have some

additional training and exercise and planning as far as that goes. So, I don't think it's -- I'd have to go back, and I cannot confirm because I'm not looking at it right now. I don't know if that's specifically addressed in the hazard mitigation plan, other than from the standpoint of the hazmat section. So, I'd have to go back and confirm that one.

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Thanks, Matt. I appreciate that.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Anyone else? We do not have anybody signed up. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to speak on this item? Come on up.

MS. SARVER: This is why I'm here. I'm the person that came two weeks ago and asked about the emergency plan. Just a brief context. So, I was at an earlier time in my career working at the Kansas City Police Department -- I didn't work in the department. I trained at the at the Kansas City Police Department, Police Academy on trauma informed care and stress management. And through that relationship, at the time I was working at Truman Medical Center downtown as the Trauma Outreach Coordinator, and we collaborated with KCPD to design a training called Building Resilience, Surviving Secondary Trauma for First Responders. That training is now all over the country.

My question first is, does this mitigation strategy include that type of training for our first responders?

MR. EPPERSON: No, not specifically.

MS. SARVER: Is there any mental health-related mitigation strategy in the plan?

MR. EPPERSON: Again, it's a 388 page document. So, I can't tell you that off the top of my head. I know there are other mental health efforts that are going on. We've got, you know, some peer response groups and we've got -- there's quite a few efforts that we specifically at the Shawnee Fire Department and I know Shawnee Police Department have been going through to help, you know, make sure that our first responders are taken of.

MS. SARVER: That's wonderful. And then lastly, is there a mechanism, I appreciate the education and I am hoping I can get in on this next CERT training. Is there a mechanism in the plan for engaging kind of the lay people of the community in the disaster response?

MR. EPPERSON: So, one of the focus of the plan is community education. You know, it doesn't necessarily, again, this is over a three-county region, so it doesn't get into specifics about, you know, specific mechanisms on how to do that. But that is definitely an emphasis is to communicate the information that is in these plans because it is important that everybody is aware of the hazards that are in their community so that they can, you know, plan for it themselves.

MS. SARVER: So, is our hope today that we passed this and that gives us access to the grant funds and that somehow the community would be able to participate in deeper planning?

MR. EPPERSON: Possibly. Yeah. I know there's, yeah. There's a number of grant funding opportunities. And if, you know, community education is a focus of one of them, absolutely.

MS. SARVER: And do you ever run table games? Is that what you called it? Where you run scenarios --

MR. EPPERSON: Uh-huh.

MS. SARVER: -- with laypeople in the community?

MR. EPPERSON: You know, with our CERT program and see and Community Support Team that is something that we do. And, you know, that team is made up of general community members. So, that is a good way to introduce people to those types of training and exercise.

MS. SARVER: Thank you so much.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you. Any other comments? Hearing none, I'll accept a motion. Jeanie.

COUNCILMEMBER MURPHY: Move to adopt the resolution.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Sierra.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 7: **Jeanie Murphy - Ward 2/Sierra Whitted - Ward 1:** Adopt a Resolution adopting the Kansas Region L Hazard Mitigation Plan as required by FEMA. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

4. Consider the recertification of the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Item Number 4 is to consider recertification of the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. Paul.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. This item will be handed by Kevin Manning, the Director of Public Works.

MR. MANNING: Good evening. So, this particular program is in place. It's a voluntary program that cities can participate in to help residents that may -- they may have structures in the floodplain, reduce the cost of their flood insurance. So basically, if the City takes certain actions, we basically earn credits. And then as a result those flood,

flood insurance premiums go down. We earn those credits by certain -- by a variety of activities. A lot of those are actually managed by the Community Development Department. And a lot of that is the management -- management of the floodplain is part of the development process. But it also involves providing public information about flooding and ways to reduce that such as rain barrels and different things like that. Ways to control the amount of water that goes into the stormwater system.

So, currently Shawnee is a Class 6 community, meaning that anyone that does own a property in the floodplain, they receive a 20 percent discount on their flood insurance. And we do have 34 buildings in the floodplain currently. And if you do have a -- if residents that also want to purchase flood insurance but aren't in the floodplain, they receive a 10 percent discount as a result of our participation in this program.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you. Are there any questions from staff, for staff guys? Anybody sign up for this? Anyone in the audience want to speak on this item? Eric.

MR. JENKINS: I'm Eric Jenkins. I live at 13308 West 56th Terrace in Shawnee. A lot of you guys up there on the Council know that I had about 30 years plus with FEMA, so I have a little bit of knowledge about these programs we were talking about the last few minutes. The first 12 years of my career, I ran the National Flood Insurance Program for the four-state region, so I'm especially familiar with that. And I want to applaud the City of Shawnee for being a leader in this community rating system. I know we don't have a whole lot of people in the floodplain. I just talked to Doug a minute ago and we only have about 35 now. We've done a lot of measures to actually take people out of the floodplain. A lot of that flood work we did on Nieman Road during the Nieman Now project actually removed a number of buildings from the floodplain. And we purchased a few here and there to reduce those hazards that Shawnee faces in the way of flooding.

But just as a little commercial, you know, I've heard recently on the national news that there's been consideration to eliminating FEMA. And I find that pretty alarming because I know what FEMA does. And FEMA doesn't just do disaster response and recovery operations. Although I did that too. I led several national disaster declarations personally, so I know how that works. And the one -- North Carolina was pretty poorly done, quite frankly, and it was a disgrace to me as a former employee of that organization and former leader in that organization.

But they do things like hazard mitigation. Isn't that nice? We go out and we think about what kind of hazards are facing us and we take steps to reduce the impact of those hazards by planning, by doing construction, various things that would mitigate those potential hazards. I was a little disappointed that there were a couple things left off of that list that I thought maybe should have been on there. I thought like mass casualty probably should have been on there. I think Tony brought up the part about we do have a lot of train tracks running through here, and we all know what happened in Palestine, Ohio. And that could happen anywhere if it's just your unlucky day. Tough luck. You've got to respond to it.

But yeah. I just kind of want to put out a commercial on that too, and that might be something you might want to consider in your legislative package that we would support, you know, maintenance of FEMA. I think some of the incredible advancements that were made in the last 20 years were things like the National Response Framework, which established vertical -- a vertical organization throughout, from local all the way up

to the federal government, putting everybody on the same page as far as communications, interrelationships between agencies, coordination between agencies, and bringing everybody to the table and focusing them on the actual problem at hand. And I think it was pretty amazing stuff. And the mitigation planning that's going on, that's pretty amazing stuff.

At the local level, of course we're a little different. We have a little more focus on immediate needs like somebody driving their van into the parade we have for Old Shawnee Days or something like that. We've seen that around the nation now a couple times. So, we have to be prepared for those kinds of incidents in Shawnee at the local level. And I appreciate the fact we're doing the Local Emergency Response Plan. I looked at it a couple years ago. I haven't had a chance to talk to Mr. Epperson lately. I hope we've made some changes in that thing because it was a kind of a paper tiger, quite frankly, and I think Mr. Epperson definitely agreed with me on that, that we were able to move forward on that and tighten that down so that we're actually meat and potatoes in our plan and there was actually true connectivity between all the departments here in the City and how they would respond and support each other in an incident. And some exercises as well. I'm glad to hear we're doing some exercises too. That's a good thing.

But that's really all I had to say because I wanted to get up and say something about FEMA because I've been hearing a lot about it lately and it does affect us at the local level, affects the state level, and we need to stay informed on that. So, thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you. Is there anyone else in the audience that would like to speak on this item? Hearing none, I'll accept a motion. Kurt.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Yes. Move to approve the recertification of the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Laurel.

COUNCILMEMBER BURCHFIELD: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 8: **Kurt Knappen - Ward 3/Laurel Burchfield - Ward 4:** Approve the recertification of the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

5. **Consider approving final change order to Contract No. 2024-059 with Linaweaver, for the King Street Reconstruction Project - 59th Terrace to Johnson Drive project.**

MAYOR SANDIFER: Item Number 5 is to consider approving Final Change Order to Contract No. 2024-059 with Linaweaver for the King Street Reconstruction Project for 59th Terrace to Johnson Drive project. Paul.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Once again, Kevin Manning on this item.

MR. MANNING: On this project, the original construction contract was for \$550,000, and the final construction cost ended up being \$572,000. That was primarily due to some additional landscaping. And then also we had some issues with some payments and some asphalt subgrade that was in really poor shape. And so, we had to replace more payment that was originally anticipated, and we did some additional concrete work as opposed to asphalt. So, that's where that additional cost came into play.

However, the total project budget was originally \$865,000 and the final total cost for the project was \$775,000. So, we ended up coming in \$90,000 over our initial budgeted amount for the project.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Under.

MR. MANNING: Excuse me. Under. Yes.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Under. Yeah. Are there any questions for staff? Anyone signed up for this? Is there anyone in the audience that would like to speak on this issue? Hearing none, I'll accept a motion. Somebody? Kurt.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Move to approve.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 9: **Kurt Knappen - Ward 3/Angela Stiens - Ward 3:** Approve final change order to Contract No. 2024-059 with Linaweaver, for the King Street Improvements Project – 59th Terrace to Johnson Drive, representing an increase of \$10,410.50 for a final contract amount of \$572,455.50. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

6. Consider approving proposed revisions to Policy Statement No.33.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Item Number 6 is to consider approving proposed revisions to Policy Statement No. 33. Paul.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Kevin Manning again on this item.

MR. MANNING: Policy Statement 33 covers the acquisition of right-of-way and easements for City improvement projects. And the language before you tonight for the revision is basically clarifying that -- right now the language states that staff basically will manage this. And the language before tonight basically changes that to allow for staff or qualified consultants approved by staff to manage these projects. Basically, managing the right-of-way acquisitions. That was kind of going on already, but we wanted to make sure the policy statement was -- provided as much clarity as possible on this.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Very good. Are there any questions from the Council?

MR. DUFFY: Mr. Mayor, Councilmember Gillette has a question.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Okay. Tony.

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Yeah. Thanks, Mayor. Kevin, just a quick question. I'll ask off the top of your head. But do we know what percentage of projects today that would use the outside vendors and at what additional costs to the City do we incur on that to handle those in-house projects?

MR. MANNING: Sure. So, we typically use this on larger projects where we may have dozens or sometimes even over a hundred easements and right-of-way for smaller projects that kind of, you know, we may only have a handful of acquisitions, we will do those in-house. I don't have a specific number for you off the top of my head, but I can provide you some more information on that.

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Okay. So, from a percentage standpoint, you can't come off the top your head, but we do use them regularly. This isn't something that we can do specifically all in-house, or is it because of a timing for a project? What's the reason for outside vendors?

MR. MANNING: Yes. It's more of a time management. Once again, on the larger projects, if we do have dozens or, you know, over a hundred of these acquisitions to take place, it does take a lot of staff time to do that. And so, to free up some of that time, we do like using an outside vendor that may have a little bit more experience and basically does this for a living, and so they can maybe do it a little bit more efficiently than the staff can on these larger projects.

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Very good. I understand. Thanks, Kevin. I appreciate that explanation.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Anyone else? Okay. Anyone sign up for this? Anyone in the audience that wanted to speak on this item? Hearing none, I'll accept a motion. Laurel.

COUNCILMEMBER BURCHFIELD: Move to approve the revisions.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Second? Sierra.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTED: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 10: Laurel Burchfield - Ward 4/Sierra Whitted - Ward 1: Approve proposed revisions to Policy Statement No.33. The motion carried 7-0-0.

7. Staff Update on Snow Operations

MAYOR SANDIFER: Item Number 7 is Staff Update on snow operations. Paul.

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. We wanted to take the opportunity tonight, a couple weeks after the sort of unprecedented snow and cold that we had, to kind of give you an after-action, to talk about kind of how it went, give some updates on some remaining quantities, what we learned. And so, I asked Kevin to put together some information, so he will present that related to the snow that we had about three weeks ago.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Thank you.

[Snow Operations slide]

MR. MANNING: All right. So, the first thing I wanted to do is kind of give a brief overview as to how our operations work. You can kind of see on this map here. First of all, we kind of have several primary routes on our very major roads that we have crews on. You can see one that's kind of a yellow and black dotted line, which is Shawnee Mission Parkway and Monticello. We also have another primary route that is basically along Johnson Drive and then once again on Monticello. And then we've got a third one, I think more of a red and black dashed up there where you've got sections of Nieman, Quivira, and 75th Street. And so, you know, when you do get a snowstorm, we have a specific crew taking care of those individual routes.

And then you can also see some kind of highlighted routes in different colored areas. We basically have the City broke up into sixteen different areas. There's basically 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, et cetera, all the way up to 8A and 8B. So, during a snowstorm, we typically have one driver in each of those areas. And their responsibility is to focus on the major routes that you can see are highlighted on this map. Once those major routes have been cleared, they will then move into the residential areas for the remainder of their area. And then once their area is clean, they will help out other drivers if necessary. So, for instance, if the driver in 1A plows all their major routes and they've cleared all the residentials, they will then move and help out with 1B if they need help and then continue on through the City.

The City's policy is basically if the snow is falling, we are going to stay on our major routes until those are cleared. So, in this last snowstorm there was obviously a lot of snow out there and it took us a long time to clear those major routes before we moved into the residentials. So, that's typically our process when we do have these events.

This one was a little unique. I think we've got about 11 inches on January 5th and then another 3 inches the night of the 9th and the 10th. And so, it was a very large event, and I know we had a lot of concern from residents.

But, you know, our staff did work continuously for many days and worked hard. I do have some numbers I wanted to share with you in terms of everything that we did on that as well.

[Snow Operations - by the numbers slide]

So just kind of by the numbers. Our staff worked over 1,000 regular hours and almost 2,000 overtime hours. And so basically in terms of staff time, this storm was about \$100,000 in staffing costs. We used about 2,000 tons of salt. It cost us about \$50 per ton. So, once again, that was about \$100,000 in salt that was laid down as well. Used about 5,500 of magnesium chloride, which is basically a deicer that we put down on bridges or hills, areas that we know have particular icing concerns. Used about \$3,000 in fuel, excuse me, the 3,000 gallons, so it was probably closer to about \$9,000 in fuel. So, the total cost for the storm was about \$215,000. And then just as an FYI, we used 2,000 tons of salt in this storm. We'd used about 500 previous to this storm. However, we still have about 4,500 tons remaining. So, we're still in good shape in terms of our materials, even with that large storm. You know, this hasn't really, you know, we had this one storm, and then, you know, a little bit later on. But this hasn't been overall a terrible winter for us. And we still are in pretty good shape on our materials moving forward. So, I'd be happy to answer any questions you have regarding our snow operations.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Any questions for staff? Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Thank you, Mayor. Kevin, thank you for that presentation. I just had a quick question about like people were obviously, you know, like oh, you know, our streets aren't getting cleared enough fast enough. But I did notice a lot of cars were still parked on the streets. And I know sometimes that's hard, right, because ice came before that. And so, I told my son, in particular, move your truck. And then he tried to put it in the driveway, and he said it just slid down. So, I mean, obviously we can't be prepared for everything. But is there anything else that we can do as residents besides, like moving our cars off the side streets or anything else that you can think of, that is, you know, would be helpful to you in those kinds of situations? I know you can't prepare for everything, but I'm just thinking out loud if there's anything productive that we can do. Thank you.

MR. MANNING: No. I mean I think that's a great point, making sure those cars are off the street. I mean that is a tough situation, especially in this type of storm because I, you know, I was driving around during the storm and it makes it really tough, especially if you're in a snowplow because, you know, it's not like you can go by that car at six inches. You want to give it, you don't want to worry about running into a car, so you give it a little bit more room. And so, you end up where if you've got cars parked on both sides of the street, it may be very tough for a truck to even get through there. So, that's always good. And then I mean, one thing that's always a little bit of a challenge, I think we hear from residents a lot is when we are pushing snow, you know, people clear out their driveways, we may push it back a little bit. And so, we just ask the residents to be patient with us. You know, we're trying to clear the streets. And it's not always ideal, but, you know, but if you can continue to clear that driveway a little bit that that helps us out as well.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Kurt.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Yeah. Kevin. Thanks for the update. And staff did a great job with this last storm in my view and from everybody I talked to. I did, to follow up Angela's or build on Angela's, so we give out any sort of public information on or encouragement on, not only maybe clearing -- getting your car off the road but also -- I don't think a lot of people are aware of like, who's in charge of the sidewalks. Because all through my neighborhood, like none of the sidewalks were done. Just the fact that they need to take care of their own sidewalks, heavily encouraged to do that. And then my other question along with that, because I don't know the answer, they do seem to be really well cleared on the main thoroughfares too like Monticello or Mill Valley. So, does the City do any of that? For example, is Grey Oaks in charge of the sidewalk right along Grey Oaks until it gets to the school and then the school does that?

MR. MANNING: Theoretically the --

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Does the City do any of it is my question.

MR. MANNING: The City generally is not going out and removing snow from sidewalks. Now, the City will go out and do trails. And so, like on the west side of Monticello, that may be a trail, so the City may be going out there. The city will take care of those. But sidewalks themselves are the responsibility of the adjacent property owners. I think we occasionally send out reminders for people. But, you know, we don't necessarily go out and take enforcement action if someone doesn't remove snow from the sidewalk.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Yeah. And I don't expect you. I just think maybe some more encouragement or public awareness.

MR. MANNING: We can certainly do that.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Yeah. Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Anyone else?

MR. DUFFY: Mr. Mayor, Councilmember Gillette has a question.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Tony.

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Yeah. Not a question as much as a thanks, Kevin. Just wanted to give you kudos and all the team and the departments. I thought they did a great job clearing snow. As I said, I actually did take my wife to surgery that morning in the middle of that snow, and I got through Shawnee with a breeze. So, thanks for the hard work. But I wanted to compliment you on including the updates on our salt stock because we were able to purchase that salt several years ago, as you recall at a much lower cost than where we are today. So, I'm glad that we have not depleted our salt stocks. So, our purchase and expense for the City will be as great as it would be if we had run out. So, glad we're not in a run-out situation. So, I just wanted to give you guys a compliment on that and a job well done. Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Anyone else? Anyone sign up for this? Anyone in the audience that would like to speak on this issue? Hearing none, this was for informational purposes only.

H. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1. **Ratify the semi-monthly claims for January 27, 2025, in the amount of \$9,612,253.27.**

MAYOR SANDIFER: The next item on the agenda is Miscellaneous Items. Item Number 1 is to ratify the semi-monthly claims for January 27th, 2025, in the amount of \$9,612,253.27.

Anyone sign up to make any comments? Is there anyone in the audience that would like to speak on this item? Hearing none, any of the Council? No. I'll accept a motion. Kurt.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Move to approve.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: I have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed, nay. Motion passes.

Motion 11: **Kurt Knappen - Ward 3/Angela Stiens - Ward 3:** Ratify the semi-monthly claims for January 27, 2025, in the amount of \$9,612,253.27. **The motion carried 7-0-0.**

2. **Miscellaneous Council Items**

MAYOR SANDIFER: Item Number 2 is Miscellaneous Council Items. Paul, do you have anything you'd like to discuss?

CITY MANAGER KRAMER: Nothing tonight. Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Okay. Any of the Councilmembers have anything they'd like to discuss?

MR. DUFFY: Councilmember Gillette has an item.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Tony.

COUNCILMEMBER GILLETTE: Yeah. Thanks, Mayor. I just wanted to give an explanation to the citizens. I apologize for being remote the last two meetings in a row. I am in Florida. There was a death in our family, so I apologize for not being there at two meetings in a row, and I just wanted that to be on the record. So, hopefully the next meeting I'll be in town. Thank you.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Okay. Thank you.

I. ADJOURNMENT

MAYOR SANDIFER: If there's nothing else, I'll accept a motion to adjourn. Angela.

COUNCILMEMBER STIENS: Move to adjourn.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Kurt.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPPEN: Second.

MAYOR SANDIFER: We have a motion and a second on this item. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MAYOR SANDIFER: Opposed nay. We are adjourned.

Motion 12: Angela Stiens - Ward 3/Kurt Knappen - Ward 3: Adjourn. The motion carried 7-0-0.

(Shawnee City Council Adjourned at 7:13 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the foregoing is a transcript to the best of my ability from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

/das February 4, 2025

Deborah A. Sweeney, Recording Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Stephanie Zaldivar, City Clerk