

The City of Andover, Kansas City Council Workshop Minutes

**The Lodge
1527 E Central Ave
October 27, 2025 at 6:00 PM**

Present

Governing Body

Mayor – Ronnie Price
Council Member - Mike Warrington
Council Member - Tim Berry
Council Member - Homer Henry
Council Member - Phil Hamilton
Council Member - Jodi Ocadiz
Council Member - Paul Wemmer

Absent – None

Staff

Assistant City Administrator, Jolene Graham
Police Chief, Buck Buchanan
Fire Marshal, Mike Roosevelt
Director of Finance, Matt Koehn
Director of Community Development, Les Mangus
Director of Public Works and Utilities, Rick Lanzrath
Director of Information Technology, Neil Coleman
Public Information Officer, Megan Schapaugh
Parks and Recreation Manager, Daniel Schapaugh
Street Department Manager, Vern Tripp
City Clerk, Dana Engstrom

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ronnie Price called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Discussion

2.1 AI Policy and Solution Provider Discussion

Director of Information Technology Neil Coleman presented the City's proposed AI Policy which will be incorporated into the City's personnel policy/employee handbook if approved. He discussed the purpose and objectives of the policy which will enhance public service and improve employee efficiency but will require a human to review and remain in the loop. Staff will be required to undergo training and receive approval from the IT Director prior to use of AI tool.

Council Member Warrington had concerns with the language in the Guiding Principles section labeled "Equity" leading to a discussion and consensus from the Governing Body to merge the policy's bias/anti-discrimination intent into the "Human-Centered Design" principle but retain "Accountability" as a separate principle. Staff indicated that they would revise the proposed language for the AI Policy before approval at the City Council meeting tomorrow night to include language that clearly states that users must identify and manage potential AI bias and verify outputs before use.

Director of Information Technology Neil Coleman introduced Willow Stuart who provided a GovAI Platform demonstration (virtually) and addressed Governing Body questions related to data ownership and retention, privacy and security safeguards, access and scope, updates, reporting, training, comparative costs, and adding the library staff as users.

Council Member Warrington asked staff to facilitate an introduction so the library can evaluate a separate agreement with similar pricing considerations if desired.

There was consensus from the Governing Body to support the GovAI platform with the request that staff provide a follow-up report in 10-11 months after implementation.

Director Coleman thanked the AI Policy staff committee who helped with drafting the AI Policy document.

2.2 ASM Operation and Financial Update

AJ Boleski and Kathryn Ewing from Legends, formally ASM Global provided a 2025 recap that included updates on promoters, attendance/ticketing and box office hours and locations, food and beverage estimates, parking/rideshare drop off areas, operations (additional seat releases), artist amenities/backstage area, security, and marketing/sponsorship. Additionally, there was an update and discussion regarding a 2025 budget amendment and direction from the Governing Body to present a 2026 budget that is based on two seasons of historical revenues and expenditures.

Boleski addressed Governing Body questions regarding food truck sales, marketing techniques that encourage attendees to eat at local restaurants, box office hours and locations, season ticket options, ads on the back of tickets, concerns with parking at the conference cabin, sponsorships, facility rentals, and ticketing fees.

The Governing Body discussed concerns with high rental fees for resident and non-profit organizations within the City for the Lodge. The discussion was focused on the Capitol Federal Amphitheater® and Lodge being a community asset while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Council Member Warrington suggested a facility fee adjustment of a \$1.00 per ticket increase beginning in 2026 to shift a portion of subsidy to attendees noting reports show this is primarily non-residents in attendance. There was consensus from the Governing Body to direct staff to bring this revision to a future City Council meeting for consideration.

2.3 McConnell Civic Leaders Tour - Veterans Parking

Director of Community Development Les Mangus provided a brief summary of a City initiative sparked by a civic leaders tour he was invited to in September. The proposed initiative would recognize and better welcome military members and their families living in Andover with the placement of veteran parking signage at City facilities. The signage would provide visible, everyday recognition for veterans and strengthen our community's culture of respect for military service. The City of Andover is reported to have an estimated 350 military families (1,000 residents) currently residing in Andover.

There was consensus and positive feedback in support from the Governing Body to install six (6) signs in facilities in Andover.

Both staff and the Governing Body expressed their appreciation to the military families for their service and contributions to our community.

2.3 Right of Way Mowing

Director of Public Works and Utilities Rick Lanzrath led the discussion regarding mowing, weed and grass maintenance, and code enforcement, and outlined proposed adjustments for the upcoming mowing season. Staff prepared a working map that differentiates areas of mowing responsibility that the City will continue to maintain and the proposed areas to shift to the propertyowner for routine mowing/weed control of adjacent right-of-ways (ROWs) and similar strips.

There was discussion and consensus from the Governing Body to direct staff to draft an ordinance to change the maximum allowable height threshold for grass and weeds from 12 inches to 6 inches on any lot or parcel with a structure on it, and from 18 inches to 8 inches in height on any vacant lot. Additionally, the Governing Body directed staff to no longer mow ROWs/easements which will significantly reduce costs and staffing needs for mowing throughout the City. Staff will work with legal to prepare an ordinance and Municipal Code update for City Council consideration at an upcoming City Council meeting.

3. Governing Body Q&A

3.1 Staff Memo - Parks & Rec, City Events, ASM Operations

3.2 ASM Operations Update - Attendance Detail Report

There were no Governing Body questions.

3. Adjourn

Council Member Ocadiz moved, seconded by Council President Henry, to adjourn at 8:59 p.m.

AYES: Berry, Hamilton, Henry, Ocadiz, Warrington, Wemmer

NOS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion carried 6/0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Dana Engstrom

City Clerk

Approved this 12th day of November, 2025 by the City Council, City of Andover, Kansas.