



City of Lawrence

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

DIANE STODDARD
INTERIM CITY MANAGER

City Offices
PO Box 708 66044-0708
www.lawrenceks.org

6 East 6th St
785-832-3000
FAX 785-832-3405

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
MIKE AMYX

COMMISSIONERS
LESLIE SODEN
STUART BOLEY
MATTHEW J. HERBERT
LISA LARSEN

November 10, 2015

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Lawrence met in regular session at 5:45 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers in City Hall with Mayor Amyx presiding and Commission members Boley, Herbert, Larsen and Vice Mayor Soden present.

A. RECOGNITION/PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATION:

1. Proclaim the week of November 16 – 20, 2015 as International Education Week.
2. Proclaim the month of November 2015 as Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Commissioner Larsen to approve the consent agenda as below. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Approve City Commission meeting minutes from 07/07/15 and 07/14/15.
2. **REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION** Receive minutes from various boards and commissions:

Aviation Advisory Board meeting of 08/20/15
Mental Health Board meeting of 09/29/15
3. Approved claims to 176 vendors in the amount of \$2,069,341.52, manual checks to 8 vendors in the amount of \$9,339.60, and payroll from October 18, 2015 to October 31, 2015 in the amount of \$1,994,880.18.
4. Approve licenses as recommended by the City Clerk's Office.

Drinking Establishment

Tonic
Lawrence 2009 LLC
728-730 Massachusetts St.

Expiration

November 17, 2015

Wheatfields Bakery & Café
Wheatfields LLC
904 Vermont St.

November 19, 2015

Retail Liquor

Glass House Liquor
M&M Spirits LLC
2301 Wakarusa Dr. Suite C

New License



5. Approve appointments as recommended by the Mayor.

Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging

Reappoint Gary Hale (785.843.2784) to a term that expires 09/30/18.

Lawrence Alliance:

Reappoint Laura Canelos (785.843.3220), Baha Safadi, Nicole Humphrey (785.749.3298), and Marta Carvajal (785.424.4638) to additional terms that expire 11/30/17.

Sales Tax Audit Committee

Reappoint Jon King (785.856.5464) to a term that expires 04/30/18.

6. Bid and purchase items:

- a) Approve the sole source purchase of one probe, meter, and mounting hardware from Hach Co. in the total amount of \$18,502.20 for the Kansas River Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- b) **REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION.** Authorize the Interim City Manager to execute Engineering Services Agreements with Professional Engineering Consultants in the amount of \$30,749 for the Harvard Road Waterline Replacement - Project No. UT1515, in the amount of \$34,980 for the Harper Street Waterline Replacement - Project No. UT1514, and in the amount of \$29,770 for the KU Power Plant Waterline Replacement - Project No. UT1502.
- c) Authorize a change order for Project No. PW1345 - Bob Billings Parkway, Foxfire Drive to Wakarusa Drive street improvements and repair, in the amount of \$22,326.27.

7. Approve funding for 2015 employee longevity payments.

8. **REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION.** Authorize the Mayor to sign the Request for Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP1) Income Funds. The request is for \$215,000 and the grant is administered by the State of Kansas. The funding is additional money available from the 2009 NSP1 program, of which the City of Lawrence was a grantee. The funds will go to a partnership with Tenants to Homeowners for development of two affordable rental housing units on La Salle Street.

9. Authorize the Mayor to sign the Release of Mortgage for Tammy M. Herschell, 1506 Cadet Avenue.

Commissioner Herbert removed from the consent agenda, item number 2, the minutes from various boards and commissions, regarding the Aviation Advisory Board meeting of 08/20/15; and, the Mental Health Board meeting of 09/29/15.

Commissioner Herbert: Specifically, I pulled it for the Aviation Advisory Board minutes

from August 2015. If you go down to Article 9 there; Skydiving operations. We've had a large number of requests, I believe, somewhere in the ballpark of 6 to 8 requests total, seeking permission for skydiving. I've want to check in with city staff, have we requested a safety study from the FAA at this point?

Chuck Soules:
Public Works Director

I sent the request, it was prior to then, prior to when the Airport Board met on August 20th, to Lynn Martin of the FAA. We responded to all the people that have made the request, that the FAA is reviewing it. I talked with Lynn at the airport conference. It was the 1st of September. She had received it. It's in their court to take a look at it. It's a lot of information to look at.

Commissioner Herbert:

Okay. Was that the letter, July 13th that you sent to Lynn Martin?

Chuck Soules:
Public Works Director

I'm not sure.

Commissioner Herbert:

Okay.

Chuck Soules:
Public Works Director

I'm not sure what you're what you're looking at, July 13th. It could be.

Commissioner Herbert:

I have a copy...

Chuck Soules:
Public Works Director

Is that it?

Commissioner Herbert:

Yeah. I just want to make sure that we have formally requested a safety study from them because as I read through the letter, there's no request made there. It's just the letter indicates that we have safety concerns and I'm just wanting to make sure we're presenting this in a fair light so we can get a fair judgment.

Chuck Soules:
Public Works Director

We've asked her to review it.

Commissioner Herbert:

I mean, we do have prior safety studies that have been done to indicate that it is safe for drops and we've all received these letters from people involved with EMS flying operations that have indicated that that shouldn't be as much of an issue as we're making it to be. I just want to make sure we're on track to actually get some resolution on this.

Chuck Soules:
Public Works Director

I can check to see what staff says.

Mayor Amyx:

Do we need to specifically request for this safety study to

happen, or is that something that we have to do?

Chuck Soules:
Public Works Director I will check tomorrow with Lynn, if I can get a hold of her and find out what the status is and I can report back.

Mayor Amyx: As soon as you get that back, I think it's probably time that, Commissioner Herbert was just talking about, we probably need to get this on the agenda and make a decision one way or another. Fair enough? Are there any other questions about that? Is there any comment on that?

Vice Mayor Soden: No, it needs to be resolved.

William Culley: I'm one of 8 people that have made a request to utilize the airport for parachute landings, under 105.23B, and specifically advisory circular 5190-7, minimum standards for commercial aeronautical activities makes clear that an airport sponsor who seeks to deny, limit or ban an aeronautical activity, is required to go to the FAA office, Mrs. Lynn Martin, who's the office in Kansas City and specifically request, that she ask the Flight Standards District Office in Wichita, Kansas to conduct a safety study. Someone up there had a copy of a prior safety study that was conducted by Flight Standard Officer, Joe Barons, got the request of me. Specifically, his language in that letter that was referred to, there's no request or such safety study. It simply says he seeks for guidance on the issue. Her office is airport compliance, it's not safety. Flight Standard District Office is the one that would be responsible for conducting that safety review and he has obligations to the taxpayers to make such a request deliberately and specifically. Thank you for your time.

Mayor Amyx: Any other comment on that item? Okay, so the action that is before us on this item, is to receive the minutes from the various boards and commissions with specific direction that we want to make clear that we are asking for that study. Correct?

Commissioner Herbert: Correct.

Mayor Amyx: I would entertain a motion to receive the minutes of the various boards in item number 2.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to receive minutes from various boards and commissions Motion carried unanimously.

Aviation Advisory Board meeting of 08/20/15
Mental Health Board meeting of 09/29/15

Commissioner Larsen removed from the consent agenda, item number 6b), authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute Engineering Services Agreements with Professional Engineering Consultants in the amount of \$30,749 for the Harvard Road Waterline Replacement - Project No. UT1515, in the amount of \$34,980 for the Harper Street Waterline Replacement -

Project No. UT1514, and in the amount of \$29,770 for the KU Power Plant Waterline Replacement - Project No. UT1502

Commissioner Larsen: I have a question about the fee curb recommendation. I'm not for sure about how the City determines their fee curb. I know they have something on their website and I couldn't find it, I think from 2011. The Harvard Road and the Harper Street seemed to be very clear as far as in our fee code recommendation, but I was not sure about the KU Power Plant Waterline. It seemed to be quite a bit above what our fee curb recommendation was and I just had a question if there's some staff here that could give me an idea why that would be higher versus the other two projects.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager I'm going to ask if someone from Utilities can address that. Mike, can you?

Mike Lawless:
Deputy Director of Utilities So when we look at those fee curves, the fee curves are for basic services and so if you look at for the KU Power Plant, basic design services come in at 8.2% and the fee curve recommendation for that type of project or that size of project is 9.97%. So in terms of the basic percentages were underneath the design curve. When you get to non-basic services, that's an additional 3.4% so that would be things like geotechnical work, coordinating those subcontractors, bidding phase and putting out the documents, answering questions during that particular piece and those aren't part of that fee curve recommendation. If you look at the overall project, the total engineering services agreement is about 11.6%, but in terms of those basic A and E fees, we are underneath the design curve for that project.

Commissioner Larsen: So when you list here fee curve recommendations, you're just talking about the basic A and E design?

Mike Lawless:
Deputy Director of Utilities Just the basic A and E services. It's not the total A and E services.

Commissioner Larsen: Okay, because I've seen it done both ways. I just hadn't seen it done where it's just, you at least don't say it is basic services.

Mike Lawless:
Deputy Director of Utilities Our fee curve is just basic services so the additional services are beyond that. So what we look at is why we split it up that way so you have the basic fees and then you have the non-basic fees.

Commissioner Larsen: Okay. Is there any way I can get the link to where that is? If I could, that would be great.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager Absolutely, we'll make sure to get that to everyone and we'll also make sure that we have that on the website in a place that's easy to find.

Commissioner Larsen: Sounds Good. Thank you.

Mayor Amyx: Any other questions? Is there any public comment on the waterlines? Okay, back to the Commission. So the item that is before us is to authorize the City Manager to extend the engineering services to Professional Engineering Consultants and without reading all of those again, I would entertain a motion for approval of that item.

Moved by Commissioner Larsen, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to authorize the Interim City Manager to execute Engineering Services Agreements with Professional Engineering Consultants in the amount of \$30,749 for the Harvard Road Waterline Replacement - Project No. UT1515, in the amount of \$34,980 for the Harper Street Waterline Replacement - Project No. UT1514, and in the amount of \$29,770 for the KU Power Plant Waterline Replacement - Project No. UT1502. Motion carried unanimously

Vice Mayor Soden removed from the consent agenda, item number 8, authorizing the Mayor to sign the Request for Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP1) Income Funds. The request is for \$215,000 and the grant is administered by the State of Kansas. The funding is additional money available from the 2009 NSP1 program, of which the City of Lawrence was a grantee. The funds will go to a partnership with Tenants to Homeowners for development of two affordable rental housing units on La Salle Street.

Mayor Amyx: Vice Mayor, you had a question about this?

Vice Mayor Soden: I didn't have a question. I just wanted to put a spotlight on it as something to celebrate. I think it's great.

Mayor Amyx: Two families will have homes. Right? That's a pretty big deal. Any questions? Any public comment?

Moved by Vice Mayor Soden, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, authorizing the Mayor to sign the Request for Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP1) Income Funds. The request is for \$215,000 and the grant is administered by the State of Kansas. The funding is additional money available from the 2009 NSP1 program, of which the City of Lawrence was a grantee. The funds will go to a partnership with Tenants to Homeowners for development of two affordable rental housing units on La Salle Street. Motion carried unanimously.

C. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Diane Stoddard, Interim City Manager, presented the report regarding 31.7 Tons of electronics recycled at fall event; 20th Annual Phoenix Awards; September 2015 Monthly Building Permit Reports; Hybrid Beacon on 27th Street at Naismith Valley Park; and, City switches streaming platform for meeting video.

Megan Gilliland: explained the streaming platform for meeting videos. She said they would end their contract with the vendor at the end of the year.

Commissioner Herbert: How much is that going to save us ending our contract with the vendor?

Megan Gilliland:
Communications Manager

Well, what we don't use in video, we'll use in social media. I think, its \$365 a month is what we use to pay so we're able to apply that. Since social media is growing exponentially in what we do, we're using sprout social and so we'll apply that to our Sprout Social account and our ability to manage social media.

Commissioner Herbert:

Very good

Mayor Amyx:

One of the things that I see is that people ask me questions like when are our minutes coming around and that kind of stuff. This is going to make our meeting available to them, instant. If there's a question that somebody will be able to see that. The minutes are still going to take however long minutes take.

Megan Gilliland:
Communications Manager

Right. The video, we used to on Wednesdays, we'd have to bring part-time staff in. They'd have to encode the meetings into a format. We'd upload it, and then we could provide it on the web. Now, before the meeting we schedule and we give it a key code. Then, your broadcast interns over there are able to basically hit a button and link that key code up so the meeting's automatically online. The playbacks will be available quickly. We can already pre-schedule the hyperlinks and those things so that we're ready. It'll be quick. The closed captioning is something ... It's not the most perfect because it's a free system, but we're going to keep working on that. I think that the indexing of meetings in the future will be a really positive solution. Also, the DVR function that offers you now, if you only really care about something that's the 3rd item on the agenda, you don't have to log in at 5:45. You can log in at 9:00, reverse, and find it where you need it.

Mayor Amyx:

Very good.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

I might just mention on that note ... Something we would like to talk to you all more about in the future is, on the minutes, you may not realize how long it takes to put the minutes together for the city commission, also, the planning commission. Both of them are extremely extensive. They're almost like court reporter. The amount of time that goes into producing those and proofing them, and making sure they're accurate because they're almost verbatim with the discussion. We're hoping that we may be able to have that discussion with you all about if you have the ability to be able to bookmark places that people can actually go and listen to the that part of the meeting and hear all the discussion, that perhaps we don't need all of that detail in the written minutes. That would be something that we would like to explore with you once we get a chance to get a feel if this is going to be workable in that regard. It would

certainly save an immense amount of staff time both in the preparation of your minutes and planning commission.

Megan Gilliland:
Communications Manager

The only other thing I wanted to mention is that we did go ahead, as we did this YouTube live, we went ahead and converted our 2014 and 2015 meetings over, so they're on YouTube live. They're achievable already. I believe that the closed captioning has been done for those. Anything previous to that, it might be on the web or we definitely have archives within City Hall. Our protocol and our process now is YouTube live, keeping everything right there on the internet.

Mayor Amyx:

Very good.

Commissioner Larsen:

One more thing, Mike, just quickly. You say here that you'll be able to tell how many viewers. Is it just like the regular YouTube? You can go there and see the number of viewer's right at the bottom of the video. Will it be that way?

Megan Gilliland:
Communications Manager

I'm sure it'll be that way, but then it's also ... Since Google owns YouTube, then you can use Google analytics and tell where they're from, whom's watching it. We use Google analytics on our website now, so we can tell how many people come to our site on a monthly basis, peaks and valleys. It'll be using Google analytics and you can tell where they're watching from and probably mostly in Lawrence, but there may be a range.

Commissioner Larsen:

That one's just scary. Where you're watching from?

Commissioner Herbert:

You can find out if it's just Mike refreshing over and over again. You go home and watch these after they're over?

Mayor Amyx:

I'm thinking I know what I'm doing over Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Herbert:

When are the greatest hits coming together?

Megan Gilliland:
Communications Manager

We could do that.

Mayor Amyx::

Would you be able to tell how many people are going to be watching us at 7:00, and how many people going to be watching the KU basketball game?

Commissioner Herbert:

I could tell you that right now.

Megan Gilliland:
Communications Manager

I do not have a mirrored ball, but with DVR future, they can watch the KU game and go back and check and see if they lost, right?

Mayor Amyx:

There you go.

Megan Gilliland:
Communications Manager

Problem solved.

Mayor Amyx:

There it is, thanks Megan.

Megan Gilliland:
Communications Manager

Thank you.

Mayor Amyx:

Any other questions of Diane? We had a request from a gentleman a while back. We talked about the amount of electronics being recycled. One of the things as I get closer to start a mini shred fest, I was wondering, because I'm going to have to keep all my stuff until, I think it's April the next time I have a shredding at our bank. Do we have any availability to do that anywhere, through the city services at all?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

A shredding event? Like sensitive...

Mayor Amyx:

As part of this recycling thing?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

I do know that some institutions do that. We could look into doing that. The only thing would be, if we have sensitive documents that maybe we have people sign off on them.

Mayor Amyx:

No, I mean as part of ... We have this electronic recycling thing. Rather than throwing paper away or doing whatever, would we have a recycling shredding thing or something like that for people to come in and take advantage?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

Come and shred them?

Mayor Amyx:

Yeah.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

That's something we can certainly explore. We haven't done that, but we can talk about it and report back.

Mayor Amyx:

Okay, well I didn't know if it was something we could do or not. If it's something that ... I'd like to have us look at it a little bit if we can.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

Absolutely.

Mayor Amyx:

Okay.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

Will do.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michelle Derusseau:

Mayor Amyx, commissioners, good evening. Mayor Amyx, one year ago this evening, I, along with several other people, addressed the commission regarding the failed sales tax vote and the need for a new consolidated police facility. It's hard to believe it has been a year but what is really hard to believe is that the police facility needs assessment study has been in the hands of city leaders for 3 and a half years. On May 1st, 2012, city leaders were presented with a facility study that concluded; 1, the current facilities are inadequate to efficiently conduct routine law enforcement operations. 2, the inadequacies of the existing facilities compromise confidentiality, safety, security and personnel productivity and the current facilities lend to a chaotic placement of personnel, inhibiting proper interaction and adding to the inefficient use of the staff's time. While personally I find it embarrassing that your employees work in these conditions, what I find truly disturbing is that these inadequacies directly impact the safety and well-being of the citizens of, and visitors to, Lawrence and that commission after commission continue to put this issue on the back burner. I could stand here and tell you stories about situations that I have personally witnessed at the ITC and LEC but what it comes down to is your citizens that have been a victim of a crime or have witnessed a crime, along with their families, are subjected to these unsafe facilities that lack proper security, privacy and confidentiality. This is through no fault of the LKPD. They do all they can, but you have put them in a difficult situation. They can only work with the equipment you provide them, and a safe, secure, efficient facility is one of the most important pieces of equipment. Mayor Amyx, I would like to revisit a few quotes from the meeting 1 year ago and quote you: One: "We need to look at some of the priorities that we've set and see if there are places that we don't have to be spending money in the next year." Two: "The difference between want and need, we all recognize the need that exist and one of the things that is going to be important is we've got to do it better." 3: "We have land; we own a lot of land. We have land that we can build facilities on." Earlier this year, there were 2 listening sessions in which the public was invited to tell you why they voted no. What we heard and these are in no particular order was; One: anger over the handling of Rock Chalk Park. Two: unhappy on how projects were prioritized, specifically mentioning the library over the police and Rock Chalk Park over the police. Three: they didn't want a sales tax increase and Four: they didn't want the city to purchase land. Here we are, Rock Chalk park is behind us, a sales tax increase has been taken off the table and the city has land to build a facility on. That leaves prioritizing. As city leaders, you should have no greater priority than the safety and well-being of the entire community which you serve. As an employer, the

city should have no greater priority than the safety and well-being of their employees. Lawrence, as an event destination, hosting numerous sporting events, festivals and the arts, should have the safety and well-being of visitors to our community as a priority. So now show the community what you truly consider a priority. Is it glamorous wants or critical need? In conclusion it has been 1 year since the sales tax was voted down and 3 and a half years since the city received the needs assessment study and we're not any closer to resolving this critical need. Mayor Amyx and commissioners, this is an issue that only you can solve and it will require guidance from public safety facility experts, city staff and the chief of police. Ultimately, it falls on your shoulders. As city leaders you set the priorities, you are the decision makers. You and only you will be responsible for your actions or inaction. With the search for a city manager winding down and the holidays fast approaching, I respectfully request that you make the safety and well-being of this community, your employees and visitors to Lawrence your priority in 2016. It is time to provide a new, consolidated, efficient, safe and secure law enforcement facility that will serve the City of Lawrence for many years to come. Thank you.

Mayor Amyx:

Thank you. Other public comment? (None)

E. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Receive update on status of property at 912 Chalk Hill Court and consider deferring action on Resolution No. 7139, which ordered the structure to be repaired or demolished.**

Brian Jimenez, Code Enforcement Manager, presented the staff report.

Mayor Amyx:

Just so that I understand, if Mr. Janis gets in there and finds out there is more than meets the eye, we've got to start the demolition process over again.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager

That is correct. The resolution basically goes with the property and the property owners, so we would need to start that resolution process again. Our recommendation is for that resolution tonight, give him the opportunity to complete the transaction; buying the property, and then we will monitor very closely. Prior examples of this ... weekly, if need be, that we'll go visit and keep a close contact. He'll probably get to know me more than he had ever wished he would but we'll follow up very closely and make sure that progress is moving forward. At any time when we feel something stalls to the point where we need to bring it back before you, we will do that. He seems genuine in our conversations. He seems like he has a great interest in succeeding in this. I think he's already started some minor clean up on the exterior of the property. I spoke to him today and his

timeline was hopefully by April, maybe May that the property would be ready to be sold.

Commissioner Boley: Have you had conversations with other neighbors?

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager I've had a couple of conversations, I don't know their name. They called me on the phone and they just expressed the concern of what role the city take part in this does if the property sells? There may be some building permit requirements, obviously, depending on the scope of work that Mr. Janis would have to comply with. Those type of things. I reassured the neighbors that we think this is a good thing. Our property owner that failed to do anything for many years is going to be out of the picture. We're giving someone the opportunity to rehab a house that I think holds value still, even though it's not in good condition. I think their concerns were what happen next from the city standpoint of our involvement? I reassured them that just because this is what happened doesn't mean we go away. We stay on top of it.

Commissioner Larsen: For Mr. Janis, I have a question for Mr. Janis.

Mayor Amyx: Is there any other questions of Brian? Mr. Janis, come to the mic. Could we could have your name and address for the record.

Aaron Janis: I'm Aaron Janis; my address is 931 Chalk Hill Court.

Commissioner Larsen: Do you have experience in doing rehabs of this nature?

Aaron Janis: This will be my 5th one that I've done and probably the worst one, if not second to worst. The last one I did 2 years ago, it was abandoned, and locked up with 35 cats inside.

Commissioner Larsen: This one's worse?

Aaron Janis: This one is right up there. I have done it before. I do have pictures of some of the stuff that I've done if you guys would like to see them.

Commissioner Larsen: No I just ... that's fine, that's great.

Aaron Janis: My plan is to be completely done sometime end of March and have it on the market in April. I paid somebody already to remove all the trees, just so I could get bids. I'm in the process now of getting bids in the hopes that you guys will allow me to go forward with it. We are settled on a price, I do have contract on the house, pending the outcome of this meeting. We close tomorrow at 5. If I close tomorrow at 5, I have a roofer lined up to start the end of next week. I'm debating on 2 carpenters already, which ones to pick and their bids were pretty close in

price. Basically the whole exterior of the house, I'm going to hire completely done because I don't have the time to do it and winter is coming on and it won't be done fast enough. My first concern is the outside to make the neighbors ... Please the neighbors and then go on and move to the inside.

Mayor Amyx: Okay, any questions of Mr. Janis?

Commissioner Larsen: Thank you.

Mayor Amyx: Thank you. Brian, I do you have a question of you. Do we have a list or have we presented Mr. Janis a list of the requirements that we have that he has to meet to bring this to code or bring it up to acceptable level?

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager I don't know if he's been inside or not, I assume he has, that's a question that he could maybe answer. I know he was here at the September 22nd meeting to see the process, so I think he has a very good idea of what needs to be repaired. I can share that with him, I don't think there's any miscommunication there between him and I about what needs to be done. He probably is going to have to take a lot of it down to the studs and completely start over in some areas. He knows the roof has issues due to the multiple leaks that were shown during that presentation. The full scope, I might not even know until they start going in there and tearing out sheet rock and seeing what's there. Obviously, there's rough issues, there's chimney chase issues with that the siding is completely rotted away. There is some type of plumbing issue down in that lower level that needs to be addressed. The mold issue is obvious, it needs to be remediated and then probably a lot of cosmetic stuff. It's a moderate rehab for sure.

Mayor Amyx: The big thing is, I want him to understand what we're going to require that there will be no surprises that the folks in the neighborhood ... and I understand Mr. Janis is a neighbor also, but just so that we don't have to go back through this again, I don't want there to be any surprises for him.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager I don't think there will be and I would recommend that after tonight, I can meet with him at his convenience at the property and do a walkthrough with him and go that route, make sure there are no things that he doesn't quite understand where we're coming from and make sure it's clear with him.

Mayor Amyx: Okay.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager As with much rehabilitation, if you watch HDTV sometimes you don't know what you have until you go in there and start removing stuff and there might be a lot more stuff that he needs to take care of than even he knows right now.

Mayor Amyx: Okay. Mr. Janis, you haven't gone through with Brian yet to see what's all required so you're going to ... If we defer this, you're going to close tomorrow night and on Thursday you find out that this is just something that you can't do, what's your plan then? I know what my plan would be.

Aaron Janis: I don't think that it's ... there is mold, I've looked at the ... I cut some of the sheet rock back and I have looked at the seal plate on the bottom half of the house. It's a split level front to back, the seal plate looks good. I guess that there is a lot of mold. I plan on getting the whole downstairs, studs and all, and cleaning it up, having somebody ... I've called a Servpro and I've called Advantage something, some mold remediation company here in town, and I plan on having them come out to treat it. They're telling me that they have the only chemical that can treat it. From there I don't like surprises either so I hope I'm just going from what I've seen on the inside that it looks rehab-able.

Mayor Amyx: Okay. Any questions? Public Comment? Well, the thing is we talked about earlier this fall, in the summer time when we dealt with this, I think the worst thing is having to tear down somebody's house, but the neighbors have put up with a lot on this piece of property. My main concern is that, Brian, I really think that we need to have that initial meeting with Mr. Janis and lay it out there, saying that this is what's required. If he wants to close that's probably fine but come up with a schedule how we're going to work with him to assure the next door property owners that this is going to be taken care of once and for all. I know your feelings, you don't want to tear down houses either, but the deal is that's where we're at and ... Man, I just don't want us to have to go back through this if there's more here than meets the eye. It sounds like that Mr. Janis has been inside and seen what's required and got some bids but, okay. What do you think guys?

Commissioner Herbert: I think we have an opportunity for an individual to do what people do all the time. I would just as soon the City not play a role in this if we can stay out of it. The city knocking someone's house needs to be a last resort. We've got a guy that has the skill or he can hire the skill to get it done. He can rehab it, he can sell it, he can do things people do every single day in this community. I say we let him do it.

Commissioner Larsen: I'm much more comfortable that this is his 5th one so he knows what he's getting into, I'm pretty sure. I say let him do it.

Commissioner Boley: Yeah, neighbors know where to find him. Okay. They can call us too. If it doesn't work out, I'm with Mike, I want to make sure that we stay on top of this and that it gets done.

Mayor Amyx: Okay, Mr. Janis, good luck, make us all proud.

Aaron Janis: Thank you.

Mayor Amyx: Brian when you come up with a plan, let us know, okay, just send us out a copy.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager We'll provide one, I think.

Mayor Amyx: Okay, thanks very much.

Commissioner Larsen: Do we need a motion?

Mayor Amyx: Yeah, we need to entertain a motion to defer action on resolution number 7139. Is that for a specific length of time or just to defer the action?

Commissioner Larsen: 30 or 90 days.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager I would say we just defer the resolution at this point for 90 days and then come back and provide you an update at that time period, sometime around late January.

Mayor Amyx: We're going to know how the progress is at that point. 90 days is a lot of time, they can get a lot of work done.

Commissioner Boley: I guess I'm not following something, I thought that this essentially terminated with the ownership transfer.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager Well it does, really it...

Commissioner Boley: I think what we've got to do is start on a new one after the closure, in case it doesn't work out because it's going to take some time to do it, right?

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager It's actually not taking action on the Resolution 7139 all together because it...

Commissioner Boley: Right yeah.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager Because we're going to make the final...

Commissioner Boley: What I'm saying is if it doesn't work out, I don't want to wade through a whole another period of doing this, right?

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager Right, but if worst case scenario, if Mr. Janis buys the property and we come January ... we won't wait until January to start that process over again, is my point. I will make sure that we are there weekly contacting him. If he's available tomorrow, I can

make time in my schedule to meet him there prior to this closing if that will help out.

Mayor Amyx: If Mr. Janis hadn't come forward and everything worked out like this, would there have been a final action we would have had to have taken tonight that would have been different than this?

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager Yes, what would have happened tonight if he didn't step forward and transpire, we would have given you an update that said, nothing has happened, she is still the owner, we need to move forward and then you would give us the okay. Then we would do our bids and we would go out and remove it. We've done that before.

Mayor Amyx: Now we're just stopping that action for 90 days, giving him the time to do the deal.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager Right.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager Mayor, I think to be clean, we would recommend repealing the resolution and then directing us to report back to you on the status no later than the end of January.

Mayor Amyx: Okay.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager I can provide an update to Diane at any given time. Just put it up on the City Manager's report to say, here's where we're at, here's what's happened. I don't want to wait until those 90 days and there's inquiring minds out there, where are we at? What have you done? We can do that.

Mayor Amyx: Repeal 7139? Okay, we will do that. Brian, thank you very much for your work on this.

Brian Jimenez:
Code Enforcement Manager Okay.

Mayor Amyx: Okay I would entertain a motion then that we repeal resolution number 7139, allow Mr. Janis time to complete the purchase of the property and move ahead. You're going to provide us updates from Brian, make sure that we're staying on top of this, so if we have to move quickly because it's not being done properly, we can get that back on the agenda and then just do it, okay?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager Certainly will.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to repeal Resolution 7139 and direct staff to report back to the City Commission on the matter no later than the end of January, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Consider adopting the Issue Action Report from the Horizon 2020/Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee to provide the base for completing a new comprehensive plan, and consider adopting Joint City Resolution No. 7143/County Resolution No. . (Adopted by Planning Commission on 9-21-15)**

Jeff Crick, Planner, presented the staff report.

Mayor Amyx:

Okay. Jeff thank you and thank you and all the members of staff that worked on the issues action report for work with the committee. I know it's a lot of work and it went well, it really did, so anyway, okay. You have things you want to add now or you want to take public comment first? Public comment on this item. Any public comment? Candice?

Candice Davis:
Lawrence Association of
Neighborhoods

This may be a little premature but I wanted to be sure, and honestly I know Jeff has done a great job. I haven't personally read through the entire document but I just want to be sure that this chapter on neighborhoods will be considered in the future. It's listed under residential land use and what I'd like to do is share a copy of a letter that was sent from LAN to the Horizon 2020 committee. This was in July of this year and it laid out what I would like to see on behalf of LAN done to improve that chapter. It's not like its extensive or anything, it's really just juggling it around and like Jeff was talking to have a more readable document. I want to pass this around. I hope I'm not jumping the gun. First I want to say too, I know this was an incredible amount of work and a lot of dedication to the people who showed up at these meetings over this almost 2 years, so there was a lot of listening going on and I know how difficult it was. I also want to impress upon you how much LAN supports having this document, Horizon 2020 and how we feel that it really is important to have good long range planning in our city and a document to refer to. I guess there was a bit of concern on our part that maybe our neighborhood representative didn't necessarily reflect some of the positions that those in LAN represented. I do want to mention that there are 45 neighborhoods in the City of Lawrence and 15 to 18 of them are active at LAN meetings. At any rate, this Chapter 5 on residential land use, the only thing I'd really like to do is incorporate something that has to do with existing residential neighborhoods. There is a portion on there on residential development but that implies new development. I think it would be important to have something that is existing residential neighborhoods and that would involve more redevelopment. The idea of neighborhood concept, to me should be an introductory statement. I've really just outlined what could be done to that chapter, it's just 2 pages and it's pretty simple and

not very threatening. I think it's reasonable and fair so I just want to draw this to your attention. The other thing is, since I'm up here, as the chair of LAN, I would like to invite all the commissioners to come to LAN meetings from time to time and I want to say that Lisa Larsen was there at our last meeting and we really appreciated that. I think it gives you a sense of what goes on in our neighborhoods and the concerns of the average citizen. I hope that you'll consider perhaps even rotating coming to LAN meetings occasionally. Just add that to your list. I know your time is valuable, so thank you very much.

Mayor Amyx:

Thank you. Other comment.

Hugh Carter:
Lawrence Chamber of
Commerce

I just wanted to verbally briefly endorse this steering committee's issue action report on behalf of the Chamber and to commend the commission, the steering committee, and staff, on what we really believe has been a really good community process, inclusive. I think, in the end, one year, 9 months, I didn't realize but honestly that sounds like a while but this has just been done at a good measured pace with plenty of input and I think the final report reflects that in the quality of it. Looking at the summer/fall of next year goal of finishing all of the ... or implementing all of the changes is a fairly aggressive timeline, I respect that but it would be just fine if it takes a little longer to make sure we get it right, because while we endorse this process to date, and again really appreciate it and I want to pause real quick too and specifically say, Scott McCullough, Amy Miller, Jeff Crick, staff did a fantastic job of not just reaching out to engage the community but really doing it in a meaningful way where we really felt heard and things were really worked through. I think I heard that from many other groups as well, so it was a good feeling. Going forward now, as you choose which items you're going to tackle and prioritize them and then get to the task of actually creating the amendments, that's where the rubber really hits the road. We want to say that we stand ready to help with that process as well because I know that one of the most challenging things with any plan is interpretations. As we go to write these amendments, being able to play devil's advocate and look and see if we're on the same page with interpretations, I know that will get fun. We're ready to help in any way with that. Again, thank you for adding a memo from our CEO Larry McElwain commending and naming the committee as well and thank you, let us know how we can help going forward.

Mayor Amyx:

Thanks Hugh. Other public comment. Okay, thank you all. Thanks again. Back to the commission, yes, vice mayor you had something.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Yeah, this afternoon, I was on a ladder all day and my boyfriend helped me, he played the spotter and helped me

move what felt like a 50 pound ladder. He had the joy of reading all of the action steps to me today and then writing down my thoughts, so I'm more than happy to go over these bit by bit. Just buckle in, to what I'm saying.

Mayor Amyx: Okay.

Vice Mayor Soden: Should we pull up on the screen? The first one, I wanted to look at was issue 2. I have to say, I think he might have enjoyed it. I'm going to get him converted to City Hall issues maybe. You might go down to the action steps. Perfect. Before I go into this one, I did notice that there was not any kind of issue relating to public safety and I didn't know if that was something that the commission might think about adding or we can just leave it out but I thought I should bring it up because it doesn't mention public safety at all.

Mayor Amyx: Okay, as part of land use and the whole deal in downtown?

Vice Mayor Soden: As its own issue somehow, obviously police facilities is an important one.

Mayor Amyx: Okay that's fine.

Vice Mayor Soden: Here we go, issue 2, action steps. We got 2.1, continue the market study; I think that's great. Then it says, possibly expand downtown study to include residentially used space to determine the households located within the area. I just wanted to verify that was just downtown.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

Right.

Vice Mayor Soden: 2.2, involve key downtown stakeholders in the city's cultural arts plan and other future plans to maintain downtown Lawrence as the cultural centerpiece of the city. I feel like we need to add something in there that says without neglecting other parts of the city because that's actually something that campaign a bit about, about how all of our cultural assets are downtown and how I feel that's actually and issue for a city.

Mayor Amyx: Excuse me, didn't we have the discussion about making sure those arts and culture was citywide and it is in another part of the plan?

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

Yeah, I'm not sure that phraseology portrays that, that's exactly what the cultural plan does, is go city wide, we had a pretty good discussion on that. I don't see the harm in adding that as a clarifier.

Vice Mayor Soden: Yeah, I feel like it needs to be clarified, I guess is what I'm

saying.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

I think we didn't add it because this is specific to a downtown action step and again highlighting that downtown really is the centerpiece of arts and culture for us, even though its spread city wide and we want it to be spread city wide.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Perhaps, we can tinker just a tiny bit more with it then. Let's see here. 2.4 has to do with the downtown Lawrence parking study, which I think would be fantastic. I was curious how soon we thought we were going to tackle that, within a couple of years, 5 years, sooner the better is what I'm saying.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

I'm not sure. It's a little bit resource driven and directional by the commission to take a strong look at that but we think it was important enough to make a future work item.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Yeah, definitely, because I did remember when we were going through this that you have been working on it for almost 2 years, so some things that were happening 2 years ago perhaps might have already been a little bit more updated by now.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

I think we've approached it in different smaller segments than a comprehensive study of parking downtown. As opportunities come up or as projects come forth or as different needs are determined, we've taken little stabs at it. We've not done, from my perspective a comprehensive review of parking downtown.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Yeah, well I'm looking forward to doing that sooner than later.

Mayor Amyx:

The time that this was actually being discussed, we were finishing the parking garage next to the new library and so what would be the next step of that discussion of parking, so...?

Vice Mayor Soden:

Yeah, absolutely. 2.5 encourage the activation of alleys when possible to provide a safer, more viable place for people and strengthen economic opportunities for business. I wasn't sure if you were meaning this in terms of transportation or of actually having store frontage on alleys and not just on our streets.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

Actual store fronts. Exploring the idea; some cities now are taking and activating alleys as pedestrian ways and using the back portion of a building... essentially dividing a building from front to back and sending one store front to the street and one store front to the alley, so it could be an interesting pilot project to explore at some point.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Do you have any street you have in mind or alley you have in mind?

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

No, it was fairly conceptual and high level at the point of this discussion.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Interesting, okay so that's it for 2 unless anyone else had anything for 2. We can skip to 6, issue 6. The last step, This has to do with create quality neighborhoods for all ages, I should point that out. This third action step is study and develop incentives for projects that implement best practices and that follow the neighborhood plans as adopted. Using the word incentives there I found a little troubling. It seemed to be something that could easily snowball in the future, so I'm not sure if we want to keep the word incentives in there or change it to something else, perhaps encourage, more general term than incentives, like encourage? How do you guys feel about that?

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

I believe the context was to get a little bit extra out of a project so that if we needed a trail developed or transit components or elements that we were able to work with development to get some good neighborhood needs accomplished and that may take some different incentives from a different angle for example.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Are you using the word incentives not necessarily to mean like a TIFF or TDD?

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

It might be more density or greater height or setback issues or something like that.

Leslie:

That sounds more like exceptions or variances the way you say that.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

We use it in the MU district in terms of a bonus table for example. Our MU district has a table where if you're within a certain transit system you get a few reduced parking spaces for example and we call them incentives in the code and by our lingo but they're not financial incentives, they're development incentives.

Vice Mayor Soden:

I don't know if there might be a better word, because that is misleading a little bit the way it is.

K.T. Walsh:

Excuse me, Scott, could you use your mic please, thank you.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Is your mic not working?

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

Turn it up, I'm pretty close. Okay.

Vice Mayor Soden:	All right. Oh, I skipped 6.1, study and define the aspects and details to best address the longer term need and desires of neighborhoods in the larger community context. That seems like one of the sentences that sounds really good when you read it but then when you look at it, you're, "What is that actually saying to me?" Perhaps you can tell me what that is saying to me, because it seems very vague and broad.
Scott McCullough: Planning & Development Services Director	We had a healthy discussion in the committee around neighborhoods. When you look at this action item, it's create quality neighborhoods for all ages and there was quite a bit of discussion about the strength, much like Candice had requested, the strength of existing neighborhoods and what resources we can put to those existing neighborhoods to maintain their vitality in the context of the city as it grows.
Vice Mayor Soden:	That sounds like a great work action step, how you said it now.
Scott McCullough: Planning & Development Services Director	I'm glad we're videotaping.
Vice Mayor Soden:	Because that actually makes sense to me. All right, thank you. Okay, so issue 7, create employment opportunities. 7.2 identify strategies such as a dedicated economic development funding source to help attract, develop and retain employers. Obviously, I like the green jobs part. I was a little bit worried that this might be something that looks like it's starting to be set in stone and that could also snowball in the future. I don't want it to look like specifically spelling out a dedicated economic development funding source that we're already pre-approving something that I know certain organizations are interested in. I just wanted to make sure that was not what we're doing in this action step.
Scott McCullough: Planning & Development Services Director	It doesn't lock us into any of them. It's talking about identifying strategies. I might add that this item continued to be the highest rated issue when we looked at the community surveys and when we heard from folks who came in and talked to us, creation of employment opportunities. We had some bold discussions about; well where we are ... What are our strengths in economic development? What are our deficiencies in economic development? As the commission knows, we compete with the region and the nation for a lot of our economic development opportunities. When you look at our ability to fund economic development compared to our competition, if you will, that's one of the deficiencies is a lack of solid funding source. We felt like it was time to at least have some of those discussions. The other part of the economic development is our growing knowledge base about what it takes for the government to play a role in primary job creation,

the industrial parks, for example Venture Park, being a great example of a project that is coming together and I know will give us some positive outcome eventually. We need to look at those components specifically as well as our general economic development policies is what the board landed on.

Vice Mayor Soden: I just want to make sure that by saying that, we're not setting up scenarios in the future where we have dedicated sources of funding and then that just turns into checks that we write to companies to relocate here. That is not a snowball I want to create.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director I think what this does is gets us talking about the issue.

Vice Mayor Soden: 7.3, we've got here, study various potential incentives to help promote downtown Lawrence as a place of employment, which I found odd because it already is full of businesses that have employees so maybe you can give an example.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director It is. I think the example that I can think of is if we are giving our employment segment of downtown, the right kinds and right types and right amount of parking.

Vice Mayor Soden: Are you talking about how to create.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director Office uses, employers, yeah, when you look at downtown you've got a mix of residential, retail, office and they're all very vital. They all play different roles during the day. In a 24 hour period they're all active at different levels and they contribute differently, those uses do. This section of employment is striving to keep downtown as a major employment center in the city and if we think there are deficiencies in that. If there is movement toward downtown not being a heavy employment center then we're going to want to address those through different incentives and policies.

Vice Mayor Soden: Incentives, you don't necessarily mean again via financial incentives, perhaps amenities.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director Again, it could be...

Mayor Amyx: It could be any number of things as we discussed it in the committee.

Vice Mayor Soden: Like I said, I was looking at this for potential snowballs, so this was another one where incentives is a hot button word right now, so understand how we're using it in the document a little

better.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

Our use of incentives in this document is the broad sense of incentives, not any specific one financial incentive or funding incentive.

Vice Mayor Soden:

In issue 9, we have again, there's only one action step, that's plan for the size and location of retail development is issue 9 and 9.1, the action step itself is study incentives that would be desirable to encourage and foster redevelopment in existing commercial which, from the looks for 25th and 27th in Iowa we don't need to incentivize redevelopment, it's already occurring naturally, so I was a little concerned about that.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

It is, but this is a plan for 20, 30, 40 years out so what our experience shows us is that there are going to be areas of the city that we may want to incentivize development and we should have policies in place to help with that.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Incentivize again isn't necessarily financial incentive.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

It's not necessarily financial. It may be, but it's not necessarily.

Commissioner Herbert:

If I could chime in, the way I read it, almost every example you pointed out is prefaced by the word study, which in my reading of it means not issue but rather leave open as an option.

Commissioner Larsen:

Is there a better word to use?

Commissioner Herbert:

Is there a need for a better word to use? Ultimately, it's a steering document, it's not a...

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

The way we use this document then is we go to work, and when I say we, I mean, Jeff, goes to work usually and will build a package of policies that goes to the planning commission, city commission and county commission. That package and sometimes options of packages of policy statements is what this commission will get to debate and discuss and get input from the citizens on. This says study the centers and whether or not we want to encourage and foster redevelopment in existing commercial areas, will be back before you for debate in the future.

Mayor Amyx:

When this amendment does come back, as Jeff presents it to the planning commission and to us and to the planning commission, we will have the opportunity at that point to rewrite that item and have our stamp of approval on it.

Scott McCullough:

Absolutely, right.

Planning & Development
Services Director

Vice Mayor Soden:

Issue 16 is the next one. This one is, plan for and provide arts and cultural amenities. Action step 3, complete and incorporate the East Ninth work plan into the comprehensive plan, which seems oddly specific to include that in there. I think just sticking to the cultural plan might be a more prudent thing to say rather than specifically spelling out a \$3 million project.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

That's a fair comment and I think it was just such a hot button issue at the time that it found its way in here.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Right, I think it might be good to rephrase it or remove it because that's quite a commitment that we are making with this statement.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

I think the committee was excited about the idea of a ... its first arts corridor plan.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Do we have a check for \$3 million?

Mayor Amyx:

No, we do not.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

There was excitement at the committee for the first arts corridor plan and despite all the different opinions and perspectives that felt good to talk about arts and culture in a planning sense.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Perhaps, we could make that action step a little vaguer then and talk about corridors in general and how they are interesting to study and exciting to talk about.

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

I do think the cultural arts plan is the key plan. That's the one that is city wide and that may drive ... That may affect development potentially in the future as well.

Vice Mayor Soden:

I would like to take that one out.

Commissioner Larsen:

It does seem like the other action steps are much vaguer and then you get this one that seems to be pretty specific.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Very hot button.

Commissioner Larsen:

Yeah.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Then the last one, issue 19, which has to do with enhancing the transportation network, which I have a personal fascination with street cars as everyone is learning at city hall, but we don't

have to add that in here. I did want to say, maybe add an action step about the BNSF depot. I thought that might be a good idea, have its own little action step.

Commissioner Boley:

It's pretty specific.

Vice Mayor Soden:

It is very specific. If it's too specific, we don't have to do it but as far as I'm aware it's not a hot button issue. Maybe it is, I don't know.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

It will hopefully be completely resolved by the time this final plan is adopted. That would be our hope.

Vice Mayor Soden:

Okay, well that was my last one.

Mayor Amyx:

Other items for the commission.

Commissioner Larsen:

I just have one and Leslie pretty much covered everything else; issue number 4, protect natural resources, I just had a question on a couple of them. 4.4 where you add policies based on the adopted Climate Protection Task Force. That task force is done?

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

Yes, the discussion was that they had certain recommendations and policies adopted by the city commission that isn't in the current comprehensive plan. It felt like it needed to be moved over, not necessarily new policies but just move them into the plan.

Commissioner Larsen:

Okay and then monitor regulatory language for changes, is that a committee that does that or is that just staff that staff?

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

Staff.

Commissioner Larsen:

Just staff that watches that. Okay.

Mayor Amyx:

Okay, gentlemen? Okay, well needless to say, the work that's going to be done is as this is a work plan as suggested, these amendments and items are going to come back to help us bring Horizon 2020 up to this point in time and beyond, rather than being about 20 years behind. We are going to have the opportunity to again be able to draft our own language, make changes to what Jeff and the planning commission and the staff brings to us and be able to probably have discussions between the city and the county commissions as to whether or not we are going to approve because it is a joint plan. I think the work that was done by the 10 members of the committee and I have the great opportunity of co-chairing this with Commissioner Thellman. I don't think any of us planned on an

18 month period by any means but it was one that I think that was very good. It gave us an opportunity to talk about so many different things. Here again, in the end, no matter what the direction looks like right now is not going to be, probably, what the final direction is, as it is debated amongst the 2 bodies and by the public as it comes forward.

Vice Mayor Soden: We're going to debate about it more in the future, is that what you're saying?

Mayor Amyx: There's going to be a number of amendments that come through and every one of these action items as of right now, is going to come back before us as individual or in groups and as we bring the comprehensive plan up to date. The idea now is we are sending to staff ... well it's going to the county commission first obviously but we're sending to the staff to come forward and say these are the action steps that's necessary, write new language around those to incorporate in the comprehensive plan. That's what we're doing tonight.

Vice Mayor Soden: I see why Hugh thought July might be an aggressive timeline.

Mayor Amyx: No, we're on time.

Vice Mayor Soden: I get it now.

Mayor Amyx: After 18 months, it might be a little bit quick, but it'll be all right. No, Jeff will have it done, it will be fine.

Vice Mayor Soden: Well thank you for all the time and I certainly don't want to make people feel like it was a waste of time just because I had issues with a few things. I certainly appreciate all of the work that went into it.

Mayor Amyx: I want to assure you, Vice Mayor, as this item comes back before us and we will debate whether or not Ninth Street is in or out, okay?

Vice Mayor Soden: I wait with bated breath.

Mayor Amyx: I'm sure you ... yeah, I'm sure you will. Okay, any other questions of Jeff, any other comments?

Scott McCullough:
Planning & Development
Services Director

Thank you.

Mayor Amyx: Thank you all very much. Thanks to the public, the folks that came down and went to the public meetings and forums and took their time to actually come down and give comment. It's really how it's supposed to work. We talk about our future

through our comprehensive planning and that's what it was about, so it worked out well, okay. If there is no other comment, I would entertain a motion then to adopt the issues action report from Horizon 2020 comprehensive plan update steering committee and adopt joint city resolution number 7143.

Moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to adopt the Issue Action Report from H2020/Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee, and adopt Joint City Resolution No. 7143/County Resolution No. _____, Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Consider the following items related to the Transportation Alternatives Applications:**

- a) **Lawrence Loop Shared-Use Path Connector Project; and**
- b) **Safe Routes to School, Phase 2.**

David Cronin, City Engineer, presented the staff report.

Nick Voss, Project Engineer, presented the report on the Safe Routes to School Application. He said for the intersections, staff was proposing installing rectangular rapid flashing beacons.

Mayor Amyx: Is that solar powered?

Nick Voss: They can be solar powered or powered by electricity and we'd
Project Engineer likely look at them on a case by case basis depending on how close power was and what kind of trees we had in the area.

Mayor Amyx: If power is available are you going to do both?

Nick Voss: We would look at it. No, I think it would be one or the other and
Project Engineer doing both is certainly something that we could look into but we would research that more on a case by case basis.

Mayor Amyx: All the information that you have, these work quite well.

Nick Voss: Yes.
Project Engineer

Mayor Amyx: Just checking. I like the idea of not having to pay another part of
the electric bill but realize I want to make sure that they work.

Nick Voss: Yeah, and I think typically it's cheaper to install the solar power
Project Engineer and the only ... Some communities have had problems with them because of trees in the area.

Vice Mayor Soden: There are no trees in that picture.

Nick Voss: No, there was not.
Project Engineer

Mayor Amyx: I've got to believe that some of the places these are going to go,
there's probably going to be a lot of trees.

Nick Voss:
Project Engineer

Yes.

Mayor Amyx:

Any questions?

Commissioner Herbert:

Presumably given that these are both applications for the transportation alternative grant, I'm assuming it's the same pot of money we're competing from, and if so is there any risk in essentially competing against ourselves with multiple applications?

Nick Voss:
Project Engineer

I'll let Dave Cronin handle that.

David Cronin:
City Engineer

What I would say is that we have a strong possibility of getting funding for both. What's also possible is that we may get a percentage of funding of both. They may say, "Well do you want half of this project and half of this project or a percentage?" I don't really like having to rank the projects, it's the first time we've had to do it and it's part of the application and they also use that. Some communities may submit 2 bicycle pedestrian projects and it may help them define those. I think since these are still different categories, even though it's under the same pool of funding, I think they're both great projects. Lawrence has done a great job on this phase 1 study, probably better than other communities, so we may already rank stronger in that when applying for these funds, so that may play into it but I don't know how they're going to look at it but ultimately they are still scoring every application based off certain criteria so we'd hope that they'd follow through on that and we could potentially get funding for both projects.

Mayor Amyx:

Other questions?

Commissioner Larsen:

The \$750,000 that includes ... that's just for the loop, is that correct?

David Cronin:
City Engineer

Yeah, that's correct, that's the construction cost of the loop application.

Commissioner Larsen:

For the loop, but we would be responsible for an additional \$100,000 design, is that correct?

David Cronin:
City Engineer

Potentially, we would need to determine how we would proceed with the design of the project. Some of these projects will be done with in house city staff. With this project having ... It will probably be a little more intensive with community involvement and meetings. We would just have to look at. First, if we got the entire corridor or all 4 sections, I think that would probably be a project that we would need to have someone help us with

designing and the plans, especially with, we'll have retaining walls and a lot of other stuff that it would be more fitting for a consultant to help us with. That was just a ballpark number, if we were able to get the entire grant that that could be an additional cost. We would, after we receive notification from KDOT on the awarding and I think we are anticipating that to be in spring of 2016, then we would proceed with bringing a recommendation to the commission for designing either or both projects and what that could cost.

Commissioner Larsen: It's just that that seems like a high percentage. If it's \$750,000 and our design is \$100,000 that's 13% for a design cost; that seems high.

David Cronin:
City Engineer I was being a little conservative on the numbers, I don't want to underestimate it, especially with a lot of the studying that may need to be involved with some of the pieces of it. It could certainly be less than that and we would go through a normal RFQ process for that, negotiate the scope and fee on that route.

Mayor Amyx: Okay any questions? Thanks David, thanks Nick. Any public comment on these items or these applications?

KT. Walsh:
East Lawrence
Neighborhood Association Good evening Mayor and commissioners. Of course this is wonderful. We want these trails, we want safe routes to school, and it's fabulous. I hope this comes to pass. There's just a few concerns and it has to do with the gap that isn't part of this grant, I don't believe. It's that little part where you go from the depot, railroad depot, to City Hall. This has been talked about for many years. There have been, for many years, concerns by the people like Dale and Ron's Auto on Connecticut and the Pearson's auto shop. John and Gary Brown, Christy Brandt, the Transue family, Barry Solinsky, all people who are in that block. There are 2 homes in that block that are on the historic register. The Journal-World, when it was more successful a few years ago, was sending a realtor around and calling everyone on that block trying to buy their land. Also, the city, I think, was doing a good thing, and cut down some trees at the end of Connecticut right across from Dale and Ron's Auto there. I think they were helping but the neighbors when, "Oh my god, the trail is going through." They just need to be included in the loop and they also need to know how far down the road; the designing wouldn't even happen until 2016. They do ask, "Where should we put our fences? Should we plant trees? Will they be torn down?" All we're saying is bring them on as quickly as possible and we can help you facilitate that. Thank you.

Mayor Amyx: Thank you. Other comment?

Chris Tilden:
Lawrence Douglas County Good evening Mayor, and members of the commission. I just want to add a few comments relative to safe routes to school.

Health Department

One, I commend public works for their involvement in helping guide the process as well as the other participants. Nick mentioned 2 schools that have been really tier 1 schools. We created a tier system, tier 1, 2 and 3. We've only been at this a year, and particularly with the bond issue, with some schools that are not even in their current location, there's been differential participation by the schools. It has been great to see, not just these 2 schools, but all 18 elementary and middle schools in Lawrence participating in the process. We've had great parent involvement across all of the schools. The tier 3 that we developed, this low level of participation, all the schools have blown past that and they're at tier 2 level. I expect by next year we'll have quite a few more schools participating in the tier 1 process, which is not just about creating sidewalks but also looking at opportunities for education, encouragement, parent engagement. The school district has put in place this year, for the first time, curriculum for second graders around pedestrian safety, for fifth grade bicycling safety. Lawrence Unchained has been working with the housing authority and others on bike education in the community. It really has been a community effort and just I've really enjoyed being part of it, it's just been a fabulous process. I wanted to speak to safe routes, the loop project also we've obviously been engaged in and feel like it's a great opportunity to enhance multi-modal transportation in the city, so thank you for your consideration of both these applications.

Mayor Amyx:

Thanks Chris.

Commissioner Boley:

Chris, I've got a question for you. If you look in the staff memo, with these rectangular rapid flashing beacons, what they do is they increase the yield rates of vehicles at crosswalks from around 20% to around 80%, which I think is good. I'm real interested in how that will be communicated to the children who are using them, because we've still got 20% that aren't yielding. They can talk to the engineers about that, but I'm real interested in how this is rolled out, if we get the grant and these things come in, we need to be talking to the kids and their parents about what this will do. I'd like for the Health Department to be included in there.

Chris Tilden:
Lawrence Douglas County
Health Department

Yeah, and that's why it's been invaluable for this to be a true partnership. As Nick indicated, since January, we have had every other week meetings of Health Department staff, public works, transportation planners, the school district, both Denise Johnson and Ron May have both focused from the district on the education side as well as the transportation side and public safety, because we recognize that this is a public safety concern. Our number 1 concern is how to we create greater safety to alleviate those concerns of parents who may be concerned about letting their kids walk to school. We still have

less than 1 in 5 of our school children walking to school and we really think we ought to be able to ... With the neighborhood school system we have we really think we ought to be able to improve those numbers over time. Part of this is education and enforcement and encouragement and so we as a team certainly will be looking at not simply putting these in place but talking with parents, talking with school children and talking with the community about what it means to have these new ...

Commissioner Boley: I hope we're successful and we can have those conversations.

Chris Tilden:
Lawrence Douglas County
Health Department

Yeah, absolutely.

Commissioner Boley: Thanks Chris.

Chris Tilden:
Lawrence Douglas County
Health Department

Thanks for the question.

Mayor Amyx: Thanks Chris, okay is there any other comment? Okay, so David, got a question, in the recommendation, in going back again, do you want us to do the ranking or have we already settled all of that by just the applications?

David Cronin:
City Engineer

We haven't settled it through the application. I think it might be appropriate for either you to direct us to rank them or you rank them. I think that given that the ... If you're trying to make a decision, given the Lawrence loop has a greater funding potential as far as dollar amount that may be the priority. I think that would be what I would rank them if I was ranking them and it's a stronger category as far as the bicycle pedestrian; we'll get a lot more of those applications. That's what I would recommend ranking them but I think that was part of what we were asking tonight is to get that feedback as well as if we should ... That would be the feedback from the commission to rank them that way. That's what we could do. They're both number 1 projects in my mind. I also should mention, with the ongoing bicycle pedestrian task force, they've been looking at priorities of things. They've split priorities into the bicycle type projects and the pedestrian projects. The bicycle project; the draft of their number 1 priorities is the Lawrence loop and on the pedestrian side it's the safe routes to school, so those are both the highest priority. Not to make things tougher but that's ...and like I said, they're both be ranked independently, so putting a number next to them in my mind doesn't negate one or the other.

Commissioner Herbert: Mike, that got to the root of my original question, when I was asking about, is it a smart thing for us to be competing against ourselves? I'm afraid the minute we rank them; we send the

message that one is not a priority to our city in comparison to the other. I want us to get them both funded but I...

Mayor Amyx: Let's don't worry.

Commissioner Herbert: Just let him do it?

Mayor Amyx: Yeah. Negotiate the deal.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager I think sometimes with these things it's a matter of how many applications happen to be submitted in one of the categories, and we never know that, it's a little bit of a shot in the dark too.

Commissioner Boley: You guys have done a good job, just keep going.

Mayor Amyx: We put all the faith in you and Nick how's that? Don't let us down.

David Cronin:
City Engineer We like to wheel and deal with KDOT.

Mayor Amyx: Pick right, pick right, okay. Any other questions or comments on this side? Okay, so the item before us is to authorize staff to submit the transportation alternatives application to the Lawrence loop, the shared use path connector project and adopt resolution number 7144 supporting the project and the safe routes to school phase 1 project and adopt resolution number 7145 supporting the project and directing David and staff to rank the projects. Okay, entertain a motion to adopt both of those resolutions.

Moved by Vice Mayor Soden, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to authorize staff to submit Transportation Alternatives Application for the Lawrence Loop Shared-Use Path Connector Project and adopt Resolution No. 7144, supporting the project, and the Safe Routes to School, Phase 1 Project, adopt Resolution No. 7145, supporting the project; and, direct staff on ranking of the Transportation Alternatives projects.

- c) Consider submitting a letter of support for the University of Kansas for its Transportation Alternatives Grant Application for the Jayhawk Boulevard Streetscaping Project and consider authorizing a match of \$50,000 in City of Lawrence/KU Kansas Department of Transportation funds for the project.**

Paul Graves, Deputy Director of KU Design and Construction Management presented the report.

Bob Nugent, Public Transit Administrator, presented the staff report regarding the funding authorization.

Mayor Amyx: Danny, do you have anything?

Danny Kaiser: I think they covered it. I'm happy to answer any questions.

KU Transit Administrator

Mayor Amyx: You have any questions for this gentleman? Okay, thank you. I did enjoy the token though, that was all right. Public comment on this item. Vice Mayor this speaks to your trolley stuff.

Vice Mayor Soden: I'm so fascinated with street cars. I'm totally excited about exploring the possibility of grants paying for it but that would be super cool.

Mayor Amyx: What was the question you asked earlier if we had ... The Horizon 2020 committee had \$3 million? Remember that question, okay.

Vice Mayor Soden: Yeah, 3 million bucks.

Mayor Amyx: Any other questions. Sorry. I just didn't want you to forget that.

Vice Mayor Soden: I will never forget that.

Mayor Amyx: Okay we got you. Okay, if there is nothing else. This looks like a great project and proud to be partners with KU in making sure that this happens. Just figure out a way to bring a straight bus downtown all the time. Anyway, entertain a motion to authorize staff to submit a letter of support to the University of Kansas for its transportation alternative grant application for Jayhawk boulevard streetscaping project and authorize a match of \$50,000 of City of Lawrence KU Kansas department of transportation.

Moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Vice Mayor Soden, to authorize staff to submit a letter of support for the University of Kansas for its Transportation Alternatives Grant Application for the Jayhawk Boulevard Streetscaping Project and authorize a match of \$50,000 in City of Lawrence/KU Kansas Department of Transportation funds. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Consider setting a bid date of December 15, 2015 for Bid No. B1554, Project No. UT1209 - Clinton Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Taste and Odor Improvements.**

Dave Wagner, Utilities Director, presented the staff report.

Andy Ensz, Project Engineer, gave more details about the project.

Rachel Thompson, Project Engineer, Burns & McDonald, gave an update on the history and improvements that they were moving forward with at the Water Treatment Plant.

Mayor Amyx: Rachel, Question? Other cities, do they treat water out of reservoirs, Right?

Rachel Thompson:
Project Engineer Correct.

Burns & McDonald

Mayor Amyx:

Are they experiencing the same thing in other reservoirs.

Rachel Thompson:
Project Engineer
Burns & McDonald

Yes. It's a common problem. We've worked with Kansas City Missouri on taste and odor issues at their facility. We're working with Harrisonville, Missouri, taste and odor issues at their plant as well. Powder activated carbon is used at a lot of different facilities, but for some of these higher taste and odor events, it kind of reaches its limit of effectiveness. That's where we're looking at adding these additional processes to help bolster the effectiveness of that.

Mayor Amyx:

So if you go back in time and they said June 11th of whatever day of the year it was, 12 or whatever, was the day that we had the greatest amount calls. As I was telling these guys, it was my birthday, I remember that day. They called me first. The deal here is during heavy drought time, at that time, does that have anything to do with it, by your estimation? The reason is, is because our water levels are back up. We've had rain this year, you know on and on and on. Does that have something to do with it? I guess what I'm getting at, is this money well spent.

Rachel Thompson:
Project Engineer
Burns & McDonald

Sure. So, there are a number of different factors that play into that. I was going to go back to Andy's graph that shows. You can see there seasonal events happening all the time. Drought probably did play into that 2012 super high event, but that's not to say that that event won't occur again. As Andy was mentioning the goal of the treatment facility is 5 milligram per liter goal and if you look at this graph, there are frequent events where were hitting over 50 milligrams per liter so that requires a 90% or greater removal at the treatment facility. That's a pretty high amount when you're talking about a physical process going through the plant. In addition to that, as we've mentioned there's a lot of aspects of this project that will benefit the City in other ways besides taste and order. The overall improvements to the reliability of this system, the maintenance issues at different and some of those different chemical fee systems and the preparation for future regulations, I think, all roll into a very well type of project and I think it's beneficial to the City. I don't know if you guys have anything else you want to say on that.

Mayor Amyx:

Okay so, yeah, I'm probably going to support this but you, Randy or whoever can answer this, this is simply about taste and odor. This has nothing to do with health issues of any kind.

Rachel Thompson:
Project Engineer

That is correct. At this point in time, Andy mentioned the toxins, and that's something that the city has monitored and

Burns & McDonald

looked at. They aren't present in concerning amounts at this point. This would set them up for a better removal of those compounds if they are there in the future, but I'll let Dave answer that.

Dave Wagner:
Utilities Director

I think we mentioned it is more than just taste and odor. One, there's a maintenance aspect to it. We're improving some equipment there. I think the other thing that's exciting to us, when we really talk about health is that reduction in dissolved organic carbon helps us mitigate even further disinfection byproducts formation, which is a health issue. We consistently meet the regulated criteria for that but quite frankly the lower the better. This will help us do even better, than what we do today. We do a really good job today. I think that number, if I could hit zero, practically, I'd love to hit zero disinfection byproducts. Not reality, but the lower the better so there are other benefits besides just the annoyances of you getting calls on your birthday. Nobody will give you a call on your birthday if the THM's are too high on disinfection byproducts, they won't know it, but we know it at the plant, so that's something that we're really trying to hit hard, so it does improve it.

Commissioner Herbert:

I do have a really quick question. I'm looking at actually the graph that's up there. There doesn't seem to be a consistent pattern with the spike in the raw and the spike in the tap. I'm looking specifically at in between September and December of 2013, the raw seems to have a pretty low rating but we're seeing a really high rating in our tap, whereas you look at June 2015 and there's a really big spike in raw and no spike at all in the tap. Are we having system breakdowns at that point? What is causing this inconsistency? Because I would assume the 2 numbers would essentially move together and that doesn't seem to be the case at all.

Rachel Thompson:
Project Engineer
Burns & McDonald

Some of that is variability. One of the things that we did recognize in the study that we conducted in 2013 was at those higher ... when those higher levels of taste and odor compounds are coming into the water treatment plant, the response is to increase the dose of powdered activated carbon. One of the problems with that is, when the dose increases it starts to carry over into downstream processes where it's not supposed to be and when that powdered activated carbon comes into contact with chlorine, we ended up seeing a re-release of compounds. The powdered activated carbon had captured the compounds and then if it interacted with chlorine we saw a re-release. Some of that that you're seeing is some of those effects that we noted in the taste and odor study.

Commissioner Herbert:

Then the other thing, to get to Mike's question about whether or not this is an effective use of money. As I look at June

2015, that's been the most recent spike, if you will, that we've had. There seems to be almost no impact whatsoever on the tap. I guess I would reiterate the Mayor's question of, using obviously a very limited sample size, given our most recent spike at the raw level that there didn't seem to be an impact at the tap, so...

Andy Enszt:
Project Engineer

We did have some complaints during that event. The green line is not very high relative to the blue, there were some complaints.

Commissioner Herbert:

Yeah, because your chart had indicated that for an untrained tester, so to speak, you could get to a level of 12 before there would be a noticed effect, is that right?

Andy Enszt:
Project Engineer

I think depending on the person, yeah, it could be anywhere from 10 and above. Just with the scale there, there could be 5 or 6, it's possible that ... We did have some complaints related to that event.

Commissioner Herbert:

I'm just trying to make sure that we have advanced our technology enough. Because if you look at the graph, with the exception of that 2012 incident, we seem to have it under control to an acceptable level.

Rachel Thompson:
Project Engineer
Burns & McDonald

I would also add that that's one of the benefits of doing the dual phase approach. This phase 1 project really incorporates a lot of other aspects. When you look at the overall chemical interaction at the water treatment plant, we are doing a lot to streamline the process and that's not only going to affect taste and odor, and the other things that we've mentioned, but it's also going to affect finished water quality which goes into the distribution system and affects the life of the distribution system. There's far reaching aspects to this project beyond taste and odor that the city is definitely going to see benefits from.

Commissioner Herbert:

Okay, thank you.

Mayor Amyx:

The other part of the deal is, we sell very good treated water, and people, for what we pay, should not have to call, with taste and odor problems.

Dave Wagner:
Utilities Director

I think that's the objective, Mayor is to at least manage that reasonably and responsibly. That was my caveat when I walked up was initially one of, make sure you understand the expectation. If it happens like it did in 2012, we still may get some calls, so we'll try to avoid the birthday again, but the reality is there's no guarantee that we won't get taste and odor calls. I think we're really trying to point out that there are a lot of other benefits to this project. It's probably mislabeled taste and odor. There's a lot of optimization, there's a lot of

improvements and efficiencies that we're going to get out of this as well. One of those side benefits is we should do a better job of managing taste and odor as well. I think that's built into it. That's why we embarked on it but we saw a lot of other opportunities as well with the project.

Mayor Amyx: Dredging is still next. I still think that that's a problem but anyway. Questions?

Commissioner Larsen: I don't have any questions, I like the idea of the fact that we're addressing taste and odor but it's also addressing our health issues with the THM's, the trihalomethanes, and that aspect of it I think that that's a good way to spend the money, make sure we don't get those out into the distribution system.

Mayor Amyx: Good, Leslie you got anything.

Vice Mayor Soden: Mm-mm (negative).

Mayor Amyx: Stuart, you got anything.

Commissioner Boley: I'm good.

Mayor Amyx: Okay, thanks guys. Public comment? Andy thank you. Okay, yeah, the water is good, right. Got some little bit to go. Okay the item before us is to set a bid date of December 15th of 2015 for the bids for this project and it's for the Clinton water treatment plant phase 1 taste and odor improvements. I would entertain a motion to set that bid date.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to set a bid date of December 15, 2015 for Bid No. B1554, Project No. UT1209 – Clinton Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Taste and Odor Improvements. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Review existing 2015 Legislative Priority Statement and direct staff concerning issues for inclusion in the 2016 Policy Statement.**

Diane Stoddard, Interim City Manager, City Attorney, presented the staff report.

Mayor Amyx: Is it too late to ask to change the elections back to April?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager There may be some ships that have sailed.

Mayor Amyx: Okay, so you're saying that that probably is too late to be included.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager Probably.

Commissioner Herbert: The league of municipalities included it in their 2016.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

I think that some of that is up to you all if you would like us to include it. I was commenting more on probably the likelihood of having that change back.

Commissioner Herbert:

We can still yell about it.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

That is true.

Commissioner Herbert:

I would be interested, and again, this ship may have sailed, but I would be interested in looking at some language regarding concealed carry laws as they apply to public buildings and specifically the degree to which the City of Lawrence is going to be out of pocket quite a bit of money because we have to alter all of our buildings in reaction to that law. I understand their intent behind the law, I suppose, but I don't think they understood the actual financial burden that such a policy was going to place on places like the City Hall of Lawrence where we previously up to this point haven't required anyone to have to go through a metal detector. Now we may be looking at that, Municipal Court, all of these buildings. I don't want to speak for the whole group up here but that's a financial burden that was dropped on us pretty heavily and I think a public rejection of that would be ...

Mayor Amyx:

I think that's a good point, Matthew, that's a good point.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

Sometimes just providing in this document information about what that possible dollar amount impact is, is helpful some.

Commissioner Herbert:

For sure.

Mayor Amyx:

Do we have that information? We were pretty close to having...

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

I think we have some general estimates, is that right, Henry? We could draft that for you.

Mayor Amyx:

I think that would be good.

Vice Mayor Soden:

I'm interested in adding what the sustainability advisory board suggested with the pace enabling legislation. Pace creates energy efficiency and renewable energy assessments that are tied to the property and repaid through the home or business owner's property taxes. I think I supported it a year and a half ago, so it's nice to see it here again.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

Yeah, it definitely needs to be in there and included as well as Matthew's thoughts on that. I think those are very good thoughts.

Commissioner Boley:

I'd like to see something about the tax load. I'm not one to

raise taxes but I think they need to take care of their business and let us take care of our business.

Mayor Amyx:

Was there a lot of discussion last year, in last year's session, when they talked about the increase in the sales tax, wasn't it going to come off on food at some point, the increase that the state adopted?

Commissioner Boley:

Don't hold your breath.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

They tried to do that.

Mayor Amyx:

I think it does and it comes up, we should make sure that they don't.

Commissioner Boley:

They talked about doing it but they didn't do it.

Mayor Amyx:

We've got to remind them.

Toni Wheeler:
City Attorney

That's correct, there was some legislation that was introduced, I believe, that would have made, but it did not pass. It may come up again. If you have a position on that that you'd like us to express on behalf of the city this would be certainly the appropriate document to put that in.

Mayor Amyx:

I think we ought to do that, sales tax over 9%..

Commissioner Herbert:

Massively regressive.

Commissioner Boley:

Yes, massively regressive.

Mayor Amyx:

I think we ought to look at that because it hurts everybody.

Commissioner Herbert:

Especially people that have to eat, those people especially.

Mayor Amyx:

That would be me. No I think we ought to do that because they had talk about it.

Commissioner Boley:

Nice to hear you saying sales tax.

Mayor Amyx:

I know. That one didn't make any sense to me but that's a whole another deal. Tony, was there any legal matters that needed to be added into this? Staff had the opportunity for input on these or Brian, financial stuff that we really need to be looking at? You don't have to answer them now but as we start developing this, let's make sure that staff's had the opportunity to submit anything that we may be forgetting here that we want to include as part of our statement.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

Will do.

Mayor Amyx: Okay.

Vice Mayor Soden: Would this document be a crazy ... you know I'm going to have the crazy ideas, a crazy thing to put in, perhaps encouragement of light rail between the major cities of Kansas? That would be ... It's too broad for us, I suppose.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager Well I think to the extent that you want to mention those kinds of things, those are certainly roles for the state, one that this body has dealt with is the K-10 connector and that is an issue that I personally believe is a difficult issue for 2 communities to try and settle amongst themselves without some help from the state. That may be ... it's generally about transportation matters amongst communities but we could maybe even point to that. I know Johnson County has expressed some interest in us trying to re-approach the state on that subject.

Mayor Amyx: I think that's a good idea because we had the request come through our budget and we weren't able to hit what Johnson County had asked us to do so I think it's definitely appropriate to do that.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager Tony brought up a good point, the same complex issues relate to mental health issues and our ability to be able to solve those as a standalone community versus a larger picture. That may be something with your priority in that area that you'd want to mention as well.

Commissioner Boley: Perhaps express our concern about the hospitals around the state and our hospital too.

Vice Mayor Soden: Yeah that's a good one, thank you Tony.

Commissioner Larsen: Can we emphasize that they need to quit taking money from KDOT all the money from KDOT to pay for things that shouldn't be paid for with KDOT money?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager Yes, and we had something, I was just looking at this statement from last year, we had a general statement about trying to...

Commissioner Larsen: Fully funded, I did see that in there but...

Commissioner Herbert: Uphold your responsibilities.

Commissioner Boley: We could mention the children's initiative fund too, actually.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager We can certainly continue to keep that in there.

Commissioner Boley: The children's initiative fund, they're tapping that too.

Vice Mayor Soden: What about the block grant model that they switched to, could we say something about that, rather than the per pupil dollar amount?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager For different schools, education?

Vice Mayor Soden: Yeah, is that out of our ... I guess that's more a school board thing.

Mayor Amyx: That's at the district and ought to bring that one up.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager If you did want to include something about schools, I would just want to make sure that we would visit with the district about maybe what their suggestions would be.

Vice Mayor Soden: Yeah, maybe that's a terrible idea.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager To help them. Well, sometimes though, it may be helpful to reinforce. We did have some language in there for K-10 and higher Ed and both of those are important for our community as a whole. We probably just want to make sure that our language works with things that they're saying, which we can certainly do.

Vice Mayor Soden: Yeah, this is why you're the professional.

Mayor Amyx: Keep Matthew on it. We can be specific about keeping Matthew hired.

Commissioner Herbert: It might take more than a legislative statement on this.

Mayor Amyx: Needless to say, there are a number of things that can be added to this. I would suggest that ... as I suggested a minute ago that Diane, work with your staff and see if there's other things from staff that we're missing. Commissioners if you have any other things that you would like to have included in this, send it to Diane, so that we can get it. Diane you put it all together and then we'll start making it so that it makes some sense.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager Will do, I'll plan on bringing that back to you then in December.

Vice Mayor Soden: I do want to keep the renewable energy, the last paragraph but I don't know if they changed that or not.

Mayor Amyx: Public comment.

K.T. Walsh: Mayor and commissioners, as per your comment about light

rail, I don't know, the train situation where they're trying to connect the trains with Oklahoma and Texas and we'd have more trains coming through Lawrence every day, can the legislature have an effect on that? I'm looking at Diane because she knows all things railroad.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

I think what you're speaking of is that Northern Flyer project and a few years ago this body did submit a letter in support of that Northern Flyer, which would require some state funding. I think it required funding on down the line from Oklahoma and Texas and what not to be able to make that happen, but that project would certainly be beneficial to Lawrence if it occurred.

K.T. Walsh:

Maybe we could check and see if that could be on our list if it's still in play.

Mayor Amyx:

Still a project.

K.T. Walsh:

Then the other thing that I wish you would put in is please return the money for arts and culture. Please, from the state level we need it, thank you.

Mayor Amyx:

Okay. Any other comments?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

Great, we can certainly take all the input and work on a draft for you and get with staff, so we'll bring that back in December and then of course there will be opportunity for you to continue to tweak it how you wish.

Mayor Amyx:

Okay.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

Thank you.

Mayor Amyx:

Again if you guys have anything else you want to add, make sure you get it to Diane quickly, okay.

No action was taken on this item.

6. **Consider motion to recess into executive session for approximately 20 minutes for consultation with attorneys for the city which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. The justification for the executive session is to keep attorney-client matters confidential at this time. At the conclusion of the executive session, the City Commission will resume its regular meeting.**

Moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to recess into executive session for approximately 20 minutes for consultation with attorneys for the city which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. The justification for the executive session is to keep attorney-client matters confidential at this time. Motion carried unanimously.

Nothing to report following the executive session.

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Diane Stoddard, Interim City Manager, outlined potential future agenda items.

G: COMMISSION ITEMS:

Vice Mayor Soden: I wanted to bring up the indigenous peoples day. I guess we got an official request for.

Diane Stoddard: We did Vice Mayor.
Interim City Manager

Soden: For an annual event, what people thought about that.

Mayor Amyx: Is it something we need to put on the agenda? Is that what you're asking?

Vice Mayor Soden: Uhmmm (affirmative)

Commissioner Larsen: I think we should.

Mayor Amyx: Let's work with Diane and we'll set a date. Okay?
Vice Mayor Soden: Uhmmm (affirmative)

H: CALENDAR:

Diane Stoddard, Interim City Manager, reviewed calendar items

I: CURRENT VACANCIES – BOARDS/COMMISSIONS:

Existing and upcoming vacancies on City of Lawrence Boards and Commissions were listed on the agenda.

Moved by Vice Mayor Soden, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to adjourn at 9:06 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION ON JANUARY 19, 2016.



Brandon McGuire, Acting City Clerk