

## **Council Minutes – July 1, 2014**

COUNCIL CHAMBER, Topeka, Kansas, Tuesday, July 1, 2014. The Councilmembers of the City of Topeka met in regular session at 6:00 P.M., with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Hiller, Brown, Ortiz, Everhart, Manspeaker, Schwartz, Schmidt and Harmon -8. Mayor Larry E. Wolgast presided -1. Absent: Councilmember De La Isla -1.

AFTER THE MEETING was called to order, Councilmember Harmon asked for a moment of silent meditation.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present in the chamber.

A PRESENTATION of the 2014 City of Topeka Resource Allocation Study for the Police and Fire Departments was presented. Jim Colson, City Manager, reported the study is a first step in a long process with the goal to provide an objective comparison and support an informed discussion about long-term resource allocation objectives. He stated the study provides an objective baseline to identify how the City invests its resources throughout the organization with the focus on public safety and public works. He recognizes the City has highly limited resources and noted the study is nothing more than a starting point providing an opportunity to compare staffing and resource allocation based on similar communities. He commended police and fire department personnel for helping with the project and achieving an objective and fair study. He introduced Mr. Arnold Gordon and Mr. Leo Hafner and provided a brief overview of their credentials. He noted Mr. Gordon and Mr. Hafner conducted the study while he remained as neutral as possible throughout the process only providing input when necessary.

Leo Hafner stated that he served as a methodology consultant for the study. He reported they identified 17 comparative benchmark cities based on the following criteria with the demographic information for each city being gathered from the 2010 United States Census:

- Relatively Similar Demographics of Topeka (population, size in square miles, population density): 7 cities
- Other Capital Cities: 5 cities
- Other Large Kansas Cities: 5 cities

Mr. Hafner stated they were tasked to address the portion of the General fund that continues to increase on an annual basis due to the funding of public safety. He reported it was very difficult to analyze the issue because cities fund public safety in many different ways and use different sources of funding; therefore, it appears that other cities spend as much as 40% less than Topeka. He highlighted the format of the report and the summary of major findings and stressed the importance of understanding that the observations provide a basis for informed decision making only.

Arnold Gordon commended those involved in the Allocation Study. He reported they compared budgets of other cities including personnel costs, equipment costs and response time. He stated the study should be used to begin assessing how the City of Topeka can do things better and bring to light new questions with the understanding the average may not be the right number for the City of Topeka based on a complex variety of potential factors.

Mayor Wolgast thanked Mr. Hafner and Mr. Gordon for their work and leadership in providing the information to the Council.

Jim Colson reported they would continue to work with the police and fire departments by conducting more research and continue conversations to better understand each department and how they relate to the study. He noted they would present recommendations to the Council on a departmental basis to address the study at a later date.

Councilmember Hiller asked that staff keep the Council informed as the process moves forward.

Councilmember Schwartz thanked Mr. Hafner for offering his expertise and volunteering to assist with the study.

Councilmember Harmon requested the Allocation Study be posted on the City's website.

THE CONSENT AGENDA was presented as follows:

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the appointment of Amy Cohen to the Topeka Human Relations Commission to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2015, was presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 8636 introduced by Councilmember Sylvia Ortiz, granting Leonard Gonzales an exception to the provisions of City of Topeka Code Section 9.45.150, et seq., concerning noise prohibitions, was presented.

MINUTES of the regular meeting of June 10, 2014, were presented.

NO License applications were presented.

Councilmember Schmidt moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion seconded by Councilmember Everhart carried unanimously. (8-0-0)

ELECTION of Councilmember to fill a vacancy on the Metropolitan Topeka Planning Organization (MTPO) was presented.

Mayor Wolgast provided a brief overview of board responsibilities.

Councilmember Manspeaker moved to nominate Councilmember Brown. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hiller.

Hearing no further nominations, Mayor Wolgast asked the Council to cast their votes on selection of a Metropolitan Topeka Planning Organization Policy Board member.

After a tally of the ballots, the City Clerk announced Councilmember Brown received eight (8) votes.

Mayor Wolgast announced that Councilmember Brown would serve as the new member of the Metropolitan Topeka Planning Organization (MTPO) Board.

APPROVAL of a one-year wage re-opener labor agreement between the City of Topeka and the Teamsters Union Local No. 696 was presented. (*Contract No. 43754*)

Jim Colson, City Manager, reported the total cost of the 2015 wage increase would be \$12,678 equivalent to a 0.96% increase; with a total impact of \$37,242 or a 2.17% increase to the 2015 operating budget.

Councilmember Manspeaker moved to approve the labor agreement. The motion seconded by Councilmember Everhart carried unanimously. Mayor Wolgast voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

ORDINANCE NO. 19911 introduced by City Manager Jim Colson, amending the “District Map” referred to and made a part of the Zoning Ordinances by Section 18.50.050 of the Topeka Municipal Code, by providing for certain changes in zoning on property at 1200 and 1207 SW Executive Drive from “O&I-2” Office and Institutional District ALL TO “O&I-3” Office and Institutional District was presented. (*Z14/6*)

Jim Colson, City Manager, reported approval would allow for a 12,000 square foot building expansion to connect the two separate office buildings.

Councilmember Harmon moved to adopt the ordinance. The motion seconded by Councilmember Schmidt carried unanimously. Mayor Wolgast voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

The ordinance was adopted on roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Hiller, Brown, Ortiz, Everhart, Manspeaker, Schwartz, Schmidt, Harmon and Mayor Wolgast -9. Absent: De La Isla -1.

ORDINANCE NO. 19912 introduced by City Manager Jim Colson, amending the “District Map” referred to and made a part of the Zoning Ordinances by Section 18.50.050 of the Topeka

Municipal Code, by providing for certain changes in zoning on property approximately 200 feet south of SW 21<sup>st</sup> Street, all to the south of the properties at 4007 and 4009 SW 21<sup>st</sup> Street was presented. (Z14/7)

Jim Colson, City Manager, reported approval would allow additional parking in association with a 2,000 square foot Dunkin Donuts building to be constructed on property located directly to the north of 4007 and 4009 SW 21st Street.

Councilmember Schmidt moved to adopt the ordinance. The motion seconded by Councilmember Brown carried unanimously. Mayor Wolgast voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

The ordinance was adopted on roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Hiller, Brown, Ortiz, Everhart, Manspeaker, Schwartz, Schmidt, Harmon and Mayor Wolgast -9. Absent: De La Isla -1.

RESOLUTION NO. 8637 introduced by City Manager Jim Colson, expressing the intent to expand the area for Heartland Park STAR Bond Project District was presented.

Jim Colson, City Manager, reported approval would set the public hearing for the proposed expansion of the Heartland Park Redevelopment District and proposed amendment to the project plan, as well as, allow the City to request authority from the Secretary of Commerce to issue additional STAR bonds if the District is expanded and the project plan approved.

Chad Sublet, City Attorney, requested the following amendments to the resolution:

- Amend line 11 of the resolution after the word “K.S.A.” to read “12-17,160” instead of “12-1760.”
- Amend line 16 of the resolution after the word “K.S.A.” to read “12-17,160” instead of “12,17-60.”
- Amend line 60 of the resolution by inserting, “August 12, 2014, beginning at 6:00 p.m.” after the word “on.”

Councilmember Everhart moved to approve the resolution with the inclusions as stated by the City Attorney. The motion seconded by Councilmember Hiller carried. Councilmember Manspeaker voted “no.” Mayor Wolgast voted “yes.” (8-1-0)

Retail Cereal Malt Beverage License applications were presented for the following:

<u>Business Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
29 <sup>th</sup> Quick Stop	3101 SW 29 <sup>th</sup> Street
Mike’s Market	2620 NE Sardou Avenue
U Market	935 SE 21 <sup>st</sup> Street

Councilmember Schwartz moved to approve the retail cereal malt beverage license applications as presented. The motion seconded by Councilmember Ortiz carried unanimously. Mayor Wolgast voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

DISCUSSION of the Citizens Government Review Committee recommendations was presented.

Mayor Wolgast reported the discussion was being facilitated to provide the Governing Body an opportunity to consider the recommendations made by the Citizens Government Review Committee presented at the May 20, 2014, Council meeting. He made the following statements:

- The Governing Body as the option to adopt some, all or none of the recommendations.
- An action item will be placed on the July 15, 2014, Council agenda based on the discussion.
- If the Governing Body adopts some or all of the recommendations the Legal Department will draft one or more charter ordinances for consideration by the Governing Body. Some recommendations may have to be approved by the voters in conjunction with a regular election (August or November 2014).
- He provided a brief overview of the recommendations of the Committee concerning Mayoral voting, Veto Powers, References to “Council” and “Governing Body,” Expanding Mayoral Functions, Amending the charter to be consistent with State law, Election of Council Members, Governing Body Salaries and Consolidation of City-County Government.

Mayor Wolgast asked Mary Feighny, Assistant City Attorney, to provide comments on the proposed changes to the charter ordinance to comply with State law.

Mary Feighny, Assistant City Attorney, stated the City of Topeka opted out of state statutes relating to ordinance format, publication and other minor requirements years ago; however, two years ago, the State Legislature amended ordinance requirements and now the laws apply to all cities; therefore, the City's charter ordinance is out of compliance with state statutes. She noted the recommendations are very minor in nature.

Councilmember Schwartz asked Committee members to provide input on the basis of their recommendations, specifically relating to at-large elections.

Jim Reardon, Committee Chair, and Judy Moler, Committee member, reported recommendations were suggested by former mayors, business leaders and many citizens in the community, as well as, current and former councilmembers have expressed an interest in changing the format of elections to include at-large districts.

Councilmember Schmidt reported the election of councilmembers was discussed in several Committee meetings and he expressed his support of the at-large election concept because at some level each Councilmember represents the city as a whole. He noted the change would ensure accountability and allow representatives to be elected by citizens in each district.

Councilmembers Manspeaker, Everhart, Brown, Hiller, Ortiz and Schwartz spoke in opposition of changing the election process to include at-large districts due to the following:

- The Unified School District (U.S.D.) No. 501 Board of Education election is a confusing process creating an unnecessary buffer for the electorate.
- At-large elections would cause an increase in campaign expenses for candidates.
- At-large elections are not favored by citizens, they prefer district representation.
- There is no proof at-large elections would improve the current dynamics of the Council.
- Consideration of City-County Consolidation would be a better use of time.
- Council representatives already represent the entire city at any given time.

In response, Jim Reardon stated the Committee liked the idea of considering at-large elections and they believed the easiest way to accomplish it would be to mirror U.S.D No. 501 Board of Education elections because it would not require redistricting.

Judy Moler stated Committee members took proposed changes in elections very serious; there was a lot of discussion among citizens regarding at-large representation; and the Committee voted unanimously in favor of changing the election process.

Councilmember Hiller referenced the proposed amendments to Charter Ordinance Section AS-29(b) relating to Forfeiture of Office. She asked if the proposed change addresses residency requirements because she would prefer the requirement remain intact. She also asked if state law addresses the residency requirement; and for the purpose of functionality, could state statute numbers be included in the charter ordinance where language redundancies occur.

Mary Feighny stated she would check on the possibility of including state statute references in the charter ordinance; however, it would not be necessary as state law would be referenced when the charter ordinance is codified in the Topeka Municipal Code.

Councilmember Ortiz asked Committee members to comment on increased salary suggestions.

Jim Reardon stated it has been many years since the Council has received an increase and many citizens expressed their support of an increase in salary for councilmembers and the mayor.

Judy Moler reported Committee members believe an increase would encourage a larger pool of candidates and provide fair compensation for their services.

Councilmember Ortiz noted Councilmembers received a salary increase in 2007 from \$7,000 to \$10,000 annually.

Allyn Lockner distributed a handout. He stated he supports the following recommendations made by the Committee based on the idea that the form of government follows the functions of government:

- Clarify the powers of the Mayor and Council which will facilitate the performance of their respective roles in governing the city of Topeka.
- Allow the Mayor to better serve as leader of the city of Topeka since he or she is the only elected City official who represents all voters citywide as provided in the Topeka Municipal Code.
- Empower members of the Council to represent their districts, to inform all voting stakeholders in Topeka about the issues in their districts and to weigh their district and the city-wide issues and policies.
- Establish a long-range planning committee of City and County leaders to discuss the improved efficiency and/or effectiveness that can be obtained from the consolidations of Topeka and Shawnee County governments and possibly expand membership of the Shawnee County Commission.

Judy Moler thanked the Council for allowing her to serve on the Committee and stated the experience was interesting and educational. She reported the recommendations were intended to streamline the form of government now in place. She stated she understands this may not be the time to change elections to include at-large district representation; however, it is worthy of discussion as they do not believe the issue will go away. She encouraged the Council to consider all recommendations made by the Committee.

Maryanna Quilty distributed a handout outlining the Committee's recommendations supported by the League of Women Voters of Topeka Shawnee County. She thanked Committee members for their service and commended them for a job well done.

Councilmember Harmon commended the Committee for their work and stated he was impressed with the thorough scope of the report. He reported the majority of the recommendations are technical in nature and he is not certain how the changes will intersect with the Charter Ordinance and Council Rules. He stated the report warrants closer study by all members of the Governing Body and he has not had time to study the recommendations in detail.

He requested action on the item be delayed until after the 2015 budget process has been complete.

Councilmember Everhart stated she concurs with Councilmember Harmon and would prefer to focus on the report in depth sometime after August, 2014.

Councilmember Hiller spoke in support of delaying action on the item. She requested that they address all recommendations at the same time, including changes to the charter ordinance, as well as, the Topeka City Council Rules and Procedures.

Mayor Wolgast stated he would support a delay for a short time period; however, items pertaining to state statute are considered technical in nature.

Jim Colson state he would consult with staff and present the action item at a later date.

DISCUSSION concerning extension of the Countywide Retailers' Sales Tax question to be placed on the November 4, 2014, General Election ballot, was presented.

Jim Colson, City Manager, reported the objective of the matter is to capture consensus of the Governing Body in regards to the proposal, so a resolution can be drafted and presented to the County, with the hope of reaching an agreement. He discussed the following:

- Council Worksheet dated July 1, 2014 (**Attachment A**) outlines City and County projects totaling \$268.5 million. He reported the proposal by the County is for 15 years not 12; Items 1 through 13 are City project priorities as they were listed in Resolution No. 8617 approved by the Council on May 13, 2014; and Items 14 through 18 are County project priorities. He stated there is a \$28.5 million gap between all the projects listed and the anticipated sales tax revenue to be generated. He noted Items 2 and 3 will be funded through shared sources (*Citywide Half-Cent Sales Tax*); Item 8 (SW 29<sup>th</sup> Street from Fairlawn to Wanamaker), Item 9 (SW 37<sup>th</sup> Street from Scapa Place to Burlingame) and Item 11 (Bikeways Master Plan) were added back to the proposal after being removed by the County; and Item 12 (Infill Sidewalks) was added to the proposal.
- A handout (**Attachment B**) outlining suggestions from the Future Forward group regarding suggested use of sales tax revenues over a 16 year timeframe.

In conclusion, City Manager Colson stated the Governing Body must decide if 15 is the right number of years and if it is then they must decide how they would cut \$28.5 million out of the budget; however, if the Council decides 12 years is a better timeframe then staff will assist the Council in determining what projects to include.

Councilmember Everhart questioned why SE 37<sup>th</sup> Street from Adams Street to Kansas Avenue was removed from the list.

Doug Whitacre, Public Works Director, reported the project was removed because it was improved approximately 3 years ago and the long-term transportation plan anticipates the need for a 5-lane road; however, the traffic intensity and/or growth would not justify a 5-lane road at this time.

Mayor Wolgast questioned why Item 12 (Infill Sidewalks) was added to the list.

Jim Colson reported the Infill Sidewalks was added to the list as a result of continued requests made by Governing Body members, as well as, meeting discussions.

Councilmember Hiller stated that she was the person to suggest considering infill sidewalks; however, her suggestion was that they not be considered for this tax but instead for a separate city-only tax at some future time where half of a cent could generate \$1 million per year for two years. She noted it was discussed that \$40 million would be needed to complete the Bikeways Master Plan (Item 11) with a recommendation of \$30 million to be used for this purpose. She stated that she believes it was not the intent of the motion made by the Council to limit the funding of the Bikeways Master Plan to \$3.2 million.

Councilmember Manspeaker expressed concern with a third party organization providing input on suggested projects to be funded by the sales tax extension. He noted the decision should be made by County and City officials.

Jim Colson reported the private sector group (Future Forward) believed it was necessary for the information to be conveyed to the Council so they remain informed.

Mayor Wolgast questioned why “Attachment A” of the interlocal agreement was not provided to the Governing Body for review.

Jim Colson stated he made the determination the document should not be discussed at this time and it would be in the best interest of the Governing Body to focus on the content of the proposal instead of how the funds would be spent.

Councilmember Schmidt expressed his thanks to those involved in the process which he believes has been consistently transparent. He distributed a handout (*Attachment C*) outlining suggested uses of the sales tax funds and noted he would be open to suggested changes to the proposal.

Councilmember Ortiz questioned why staff suggested removing the word “expansion” from the proposed ballot language, specifically relating to Item 5. (SW 17<sup>th</sup> Street from Adams to Washburn).

Doug Whitacre, Public Works Director, reported the determination was made that SW 17<sup>th</sup> Street should remain the same width; however, they still need to improve stormwater infrastructure and sidewalks in the area.

Jim Colson reported the word “expansion” was included in error.

Councilmember Hiller spoke in support of Councilmember Schmidt’s proposal overall. She requested project descriptions for each project, as well as, the Kansas Expo Centre. She expressed the importance of how the construction of projects are paced and stated that she believes projects should be considered for only 7 years, not 3 to 18 years as outlined in the current proposal.

Deputy Mayor Everhart questioned the differences in the Council Worksheet (*Attachment A*) and Councilmember Schmidt's proposal (*Attachment C*).

Councilmember Schmidt reported Item 15. (NW 46<sup>th</sup> Street between Button Road (N) and Rochester) was excluded in his proposal.

Deputy Mayor Everhart spoke in support of the projects outlined in City of Topeka Resolution No. 8617 approved on May 13, 2014, which included the SW 37<sup>th</sup> Street from Adams to Kansas. She questioned if the number of years being suggested could accomplish the projects that are being proposed.

Councilmember Schwartz expressed concern with the timeframe of 15 years as proposed by Councilmember Schmidt. She stated she would prefer 12 years because improvement needs change over a short period of time.

Councilmember Schmidt stated he would be fine with what would be agreeable to all members of the Governing Body.

Councilmember Manspeaker stated his main concern was that the proposal provides the most equity in the shortest amount of time for all citizens of Topeka and Shawnee County.

Jim Colson reported the City would seek the best solution for the resources available in terms of specific projects.

Jim Mullins suggested presenting the proposal as two separate issues (1) Economic Development and (2) Topeka Zoo and the Kansas Expo Centre projects. He stated he believes economic development efforts have been ineffective and need to be more transparent.

Andy Fry spoke in support of funding the Bikeways Master Plan and believes extension of the sales tax would provide an opportunity to shape the city and complete the City-County Bikeways Plan.

Shawnee County Commissioner Kevin Cook spoke in support of extending the sales tax and stated he believes the proposal truly represents democracy in action. He encouraged Governing Body members to rely on the expertise of City and County Public Works officials to make informed decisions relating to specific project details.

Rich Eckert, Shawnee County Counselor, spoke in support of extending the sales tax initiative and believes it will be very successful. He encouraged the Governing Body to continue to work with Shawnee County Commissioners to reach an acceptable agreement.

Councilmember Hiller questioned how the projects would be scheduled and if the Kansas Expo Centre proposal would be negotiable.

Rich Eckert stated they must establish the list of projects first before a schedule could be set.

Jim Parrish spoke in support of the sales tax extension. He reported that he is a member of Future Forward and the handout provided to Mr. Colson was intended to be used for informational purposes. He asked the Governing Body to consider the following:

- Extend the sales tax for 17 years so all necessary projects could be completed.
- Include SE 37<sup>th</sup> Street from Adams to Kansas in the proposal.
- Support the implementation of the County Trails System.
- Consider funding an event center in downtown Topeka.

Ralph Krumins thanked the Council for supporting bikeway and trail infrastructure efforts. He spoke in support of extending the sales tax and commended the City and County for the progress that has been made to date. He noted the extension would be critical to continue economic development and bikeway enhancements.

Joseph Ledbetter spoke in support of presenting two separate proposals to voters (1) Economic Development and (2) Infrastructure. He made the following statements:

- 15 years is too long for a sales tax extension because 95% of the communities that implement a sales tax do so based on the needs of community infrastructure with an average timeframe of 7 to 8 years.
- Citizens want more transparency in regards to the economic development process.
- He highlighted Topeka-Shawnee County employment statistics.
- He believes members of The Topeka Chamber of Commerce should not be a part of sales tax extension conversations.
- The questions he asked the auditor at the last JEDO Board meeting have not been answered.
- He expressed concern with the following items concerning the interlocal agreement:
  - Section 5 – the language regarding funds only being allocated to the County
  - He would like to see specific dollar amounts and project plans
  - Section 7 - Include the term “veterans”
  - The agreement should be limited to a three-year term and include language to address the Kansas Cash Basis Law and Kansas Open Records Act
  - Section 8 - the word “enhancement” needs to be clearly defined
  - A clear definition of the ballot language needs to be drafted because it is difficult to modify once presented to voters
  - Section 9 - the language prevents future amendments to the agreement

Councilmember Harmon reported 75% to 80% of the current Countywide Half-Cent Sales Tax revenues are generated in City limits and Shawnee County is proposing that the City receive only 26% or \$63 million of the sales tax revenue funds for street improvements and the Topeka Zoo. He suggested the City impose a Citywide Half-Cent Sales Tax for a period of 12 years. He suggested the proceeds be distributed in the following manner:

- \$5 million for economic development
- \$66 million for city infrastructure (street and road projects)
- \$10 million for the Topeka Zoo
- \$15 million for sidewalks (specifically in the center and east Topeka including Oakland) and trails/bikeways
- Include the three street projects removed from the County’s proposal (1) SW 29<sup>th</sup> Street from Fairlawn to Wanamaker (2) SW 37<sup>th</sup> Street from Scapa Place to Burlingame and (3) SW 27<sup>th</sup> Street from Adams to Kansas

Councilmember Harmon stated he believes the proposal simplifies the issue and as a Governing Body they owe it to the citizens of Topeka, as well as, Shawnee County to at least consider the proposal. He noted if the County wants to impose a Countywide Sales Tax for the

purpose of addressing the Kansas Expo Centre and Willard Bridge improvements then they should do so.

Councilmember Manspeaker expressed his appreciation to Councilmember Harmon for the proposal. He stated his main concern is for the City and County to work together on the issue while keeping the best interests of all citizens in mind. He thanked Shawnee County Commissioner Cook and Shawnee County Counselor Eckert for their dialog and encouraged the Governing Body to continue conversations in good faith.

Councilmember Hiller thanked Councilmember Harmon for presenting his proposal. She reported she has many questions; however, in the interest of the late hour, she requested the following questions be answered before they move forward on the issue:

- (1) Requested a presentation by H.R. Cook on the improvements to the Kansas Expo Centre.
- (2) How critical is the repair of the Willard Bridge? (*Comments were made by Shawnee County Commissioner Shelly Buhler that the State of Kansas would pay 100% of the costs of bridge repair if it fails.*)
- (3) What alternate plans does the County have to fund the trails system if they do not use sales tax funds?
- (4) Are the three remaining bridge repairs a priority for this plan or could they wait?
- (5) How was City staff planning to blend the timing and funding of the four projects that are on the list that are also included the 2015 - 2017 Capital Improvement Program?
- (6) What alternate funding plans does the City have to fund the Bikeways system if they do not use sales tax funds?
- (7) If the sales tax proposal is approved for 15 years is there language that could be included in the proposal to allow for a mid-term check on revenue funds and release any excess revenue funds for use in other programs before the end of the 15 years?

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CITY MANAGER, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL;

Councilmember Harmon reported his home phone line was being repaired and asked constituents to contact the Council Office or email him directly for assistance. He commended Fiesta Mexicana 5K Run/Walk Event organizers for a successful event held on June 28, 2014.

Councilmember Hiller encouraged citizens to utilize the Small Business and Entrepreneurial & Minority Business Development training being offered by GO Topeka and The Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce. She asked what the strategy is to address noisy cars, specifically loud music during the summer months. She thanked the Topeka Fire Department for distributing fireworks safety tips to the public.

Councilmember Brown announced upcoming Fiesta Mexicana events during the week of July 12-19, 2014. He also announced the First Friday Art Walk would be held on July 10, 2014, instead of July 4, 2014, due to the holiday.

Councilmember Ortiz reminded citizens to be mindful of children and animals during the upcoming holiday weekend and to properly dispose of firework debris. She announced the Movies in the Park event would be held on July 5, 2014, at Chesney Park.

Councilmember Manspeaker referenced a violent crime that recently took place in his district (BP Gas Station located at 1401 SW Huntoon Street) and commended the heroic actions of the citizens involved in the incident. He stated that these are the types of people the sales tax funds should focus on by helping reduce violent crime, poverty, gangs, drug abuse and other community issues. He stated he believes the Council's job as elected officials is to prevent crime and provide the necessary resources for effective policing. He expressed concern with the costs of renting barricades for block parties and parades for neighborhoods and suggested the City invest in purchasing their own barricades and charge neighborhoods a flat rate or implement a refundable deposit. He also expressed concern with how difficult it is to start a small business in the City of Topeka and suggested staff work to implement an easier process.

Councilmember Ortiz asked if the barricades stacked near the intersection of NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Golden Avenue could be used by neighborhoods.

Councilmember Ortiz moved to extend the Council meeting past 10:00 p.m. The motion seconded by Councilmember Harmon carried unanimously. (8-0-0)

Joseph Ledbetter appeared to speak under public comment.

NO FURTHER BUSINESS appearing the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.



*Brenda Younger*

Brenda Younger  
City Clerk

**Council Worksheet - 7/01/14**  
**Countywide Half-Cent Sales Tax**

City Project Location	Lanes	Total Cost	Change from County Proposal
1. SW 6 <sup>th</sup> – Gage to Fairlawn Rd.	3	\$5.6M	No change
2. 12 <sup>th</sup> Street – Gage to Kansas Avenue	2	\$6.6M *other funding from Citywide Half-Cent	County cut budget in half – no change. Remove word “expansion” in ballot language.
3. Huntoon – Gage to SW Harrison	2	\$5.8M *other funding from Citywide Half-Cent	County cut budget in half – no change. Remove word “expansion” in ballot language.
4. SE California – 37 <sup>th</sup> to 45 <sup>th</sup>	3	\$5.6M	No change
5. SW 17 <sup>th</sup> St. – Adams to Washburn	3	\$8.3M	Remove word “expansion” in ballot language.
6. SE 17 <sup>th</sup> St. – MacVicar to I-470	3	\$14.6M	No change
7. Topeka Blvd. – 15 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup>	5	\$4.9M	No change
8. SW 29 <sup>th</sup> St. – Fairlawn to Wanemaker	5	\$6.1M	Added back in from original proposal
9. SW 37 <sup>th</sup> St. – Scapa Place to Burlingame	5	\$3.7M	Added back in from original proposal
10. NE Seward – Sumner to Forest	3	\$1.5M	No change
11. Bikeways Master Plan		\$3.2M	Added back in from original proposal
12. Infill Sidewalks		\$15M (or \$1M/year)	Added to the proposal
13. Topeka Zoo Enhancements		\$10M	No change
		City Total: \$90.9M	This ups City's portion by \$28M, from \$62.9M to \$90.9M
<b>County Projects</b>			
14. NW Rochester Road – US Hwy 24 to NW 50 <sup>th</sup>		\$13.7M	
15. NW 46 <sup>th</sup> Street – Button Rd (N) to Rochester Rd		\$9.4M	
16. County Bridges and NW Carlson Road Bridge over the Kansas River		\$34.5M	
17. Kansas Expocentre		\$45M	
18. Economic Development		\$75M	
		<b>Total: \$268.5M</b>	
		<b>\$16M per year for 15 years = \$240M</b>	

Information received from private sector supporters (Future Forward).

Below are the conditions that we agreed to at the conclusion of our Future Forward meeting this morning to share with city elected officials regarding the sales tax extension:

1. We agree to November election timeframe
2. We support a time frame of a 16 year tax extension
3. The additional \$16 M for the 16th year would be proposed to be utilized as follows:
  - a. \$5 M for economic development
  - b. \$ 6 M for SW 29th from Fairlawn to Wannamaker
  - c. \$2.5 M for implementation of the County Trails system
  - d. \$2.5 M for planning for planning and research for a major downtown events/entertainment facility

**Current Working proposal:**

(\$75 million) \$5 million/year Economic Development

\$45 million Kansas ExpoCentre

\$10 million Zoo

\$20 million for Willard Bridge

\$15 million County Trail System or (\$2.5 for Bikeways and \$12.5 for trails)

**Special projects \$150 million**

■ \$5.6 million for improvements to S.W. 6th Street between S.W. Gage Boulevard and Fairlawn Road, with reconstruction including widening, new curbs and gutters, and stormwater and sidewalk improvements.

■ \$8.3 million for improvements to 17th Street between S.E. Adams and S.W. Washburn, with reconstruction to include new curbs and gutters, and stormwater and sidewalk improvements.

■ \$14.6 million for improvements to S.W. 17th between S.W. MacVicar Avenue and Interstate 470, with reconstruction to include new curbs and gutters, and stormwater and sidewalk improvements.

■ \$5.6 million for improvements to S.E. California Avenue between S.E. 37th and 45th streets, with reconstruction to include widening, new curbs and gutters, and stormwater and sidewalk improvements.

■ \$1.5 million for improvements to N.E. Seward Avenue between N.E. Sumner and Forest, with reconstruction to include widening, new curbs and gutters, and stormwater and sidewalk improvements.

■ \$4.9 million for the expansion of S.W. Topeka Boulevard between S.W. 15th and 21st.

■ \$5.8 million for the expansion of S.W. Huntoon between S.W. Harrison and Gage.

■ \$6.6 million for the expansion of SW 12th between Kansas and SW Gage

■ \$13.7 million for NW Rochester between US 24 and NW.50th.

■ \$ 6 million for SW 29th from Wannamaker to Fairlawn

**Street infrastructure \$72.6 million**

**Total: \$237.6 million (\$15.84 million/year @ 15 years)**