

**City of Westwood, Kansas
City Council Meeting
4700 Rainbow Boulevard
December 18, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.**

Council Present: David E. Waters, Mayor
Jeff Harris, Council President
Jason Hannaman, Councilmember
Laura Steele, Councilmember
Holly Wimer, Councilmember

Council Absent: None

Staff Present: Leslie Herring, City Administrator
Curtis Mansell, Police Chief
John Sullivan, Public Works Director
Abby Schneweis, City Clerk

Call to Order

Mayor Waters called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on December 18, 2025. Ms. Schneweis called the roll. A quorum was present. The evening’s meeting was held in a hybrid manner, with attendees joining both in person and via Zoom.

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Waters requested the Governing Body consider moving agenda items IV. A. and B. to be read immediately after the agenda item III. Motion by Councilmember Harris to approve the December 18, 2025, agenda as with suggested changes. Second by Councilmember Hannaman. Motion carried by a 4-0 voice vote.

Proclamations

Proclamation honoring Andrew Buckman’s service to the City of Westwood

Mayor Waters read a proclamation honoring Andrew Buckman’s service to the City of Westwood as a member of the City Council.

Proclamation honoring Jason Hannaman’s service to the City of Westwood

Mayor Waters read a proclamation honoring Jason Hannaman’s service to the City of Westwood as a member of the City Council.

Councilmember Hannaman offered concluding remarks. He expressed his deep appreciation for the opportunity to serve the Westwood community and thanked the City staff and his fellow Governing Body members for their partnership and dedication during his term.

Administer Oath of Office to Stephanie Becker and Spencer Day and Affirmation of Office to Jeff Harris

Ms. Schneweis administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilmembers Stephanie Becker and Spencer Day.

Ms. Schneweis administered the Affirmation of Office to re-elected Councilmember Jeff Harris.

Public Comment

Beth Springgate, 4947 Booth, asked where the City would post notices on the website. Ms. Springgate also asked if a publication schedule had been established.

Presentations

2026 UCS Human Services Fund

Erika García Reyes, Director of Resource Allocation at United Community Services of Johnson County, provided a presentation on the 2026 Human Services Fund and requested continued participation from the City.

Johnson County Utility Assistance Program

Brandy Hodge from Johnson County Aging & Human Services provided a presentation on the 2026 Utility Assistance Program.

Notify JoCo

Dan Robeson, Deputy Director of Johnson County Emergency Management, provided an informational presentation on the Notify JoCo emergency notification system.

Consent Agenda

All items listed below are considered to be routine by the Governing Body and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Governing Body so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately following approval of the consent agenda.

- A. Consider November 13, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Consider Appropriations Ordinance 781

Motion by Councilmember Harris to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Second by Councilmember Wimer. Ms. Schneweis conducted a roll call vote. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Waters welcomed the new Councilmembers and thanked the staff for their work on the year-end transitions.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Wimer thanked members of the Governing Body and staff for moving the City Council meeting one week from December 11th.

Staff Reports

Administrative Report

Ms. Herring provided an overview of the December 2025 Administrative Report included in the agenda packet and offered to answer questions.

Public Works Report

Mr. Sullivan provided an overview of the November and December 2025 Public Works Reports included in the agenda packet and offered to answer questions.

Public Safety Report

Chief Mansell provided an overview of the November 2025 Public Safety Report included in the agenda packet and offered to answer questions.

Treasurer's Report

The December 2025 Treasurer's Report was included in the packet, no questions or comments were made about the report.

City Attorney's Report

Ryan Denk's law partner Seth Juryck attended the meeting in Denk's absence. He did not have anything to report.

Old Business

No Old Business items were considered.

New Business

Consider Charter Ordinance No. 20 naming an official City newspaper

K.S.A. 12-1651(a) requires cities of the second and third class to designate an official city newspaper for the publication of official city business, provided the newspaper meets the qualifications set forth in K.S.A. 12-1651(b). However, under the home rule provisions of the Kansas Constitution (Kan. Const. Art. 12, § 5), cities may exempt themselves from nonuniform acts of the legislature by adopting a charter ordinance.

Currently, all city ordinances are published in The Legal Record. Charter Ordinance No. 20 designates the City's official website as the official city newspaper, thereby exempting the city from the requirements of K.S.A. 12-1651.

Adoption of Charter Ordinance No. 20 allows the city to post ordinances on its website to satisfy statutory publication requirements, rather than in a print newspaper. Notices subject to publication include, but are not limited to: Budget hearings, Financial notices, and Legal notices. Notices that are required by law to be published in a newspaper of general circulation will continue to be published in a newspaper designated by resolution, beginning sixty-one (61) days after the charter ordinance is published.

Staff estimates that the adoption of Charter Ordinance No. 20 will result in annual savings of several hundred dollars in publication costs.

If adopted, Charter Ordinance No. 20 must be published in The Legal Record once per week for two consecutive weeks. It will take effect on the sixty-first (61st) day following the final publication.

Motion by Councilmember Harris to adopt Charter Ordinance No. 20, designating the city website as the official newspaper. Second by Councilmember Steele. Ms. Schneweis performed a roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider agreement with Johnson County for CARS funding for public improvements on W. 47th Place

W. 47th Place will undergo resurfacing and geometric improvements in 2026, including a two-inch mill and overlay and a Complete Streets redesign. The total construction project cost is currently estimated to be \$1,958,074, with the total cost to Westwood estimated to be \$1,014,074. As a designated County

Assistance Road System ("CARS") Program Road, this work on W. 47th Place qualifies for up to 50% financial assistance from Johnson County. The funding agreement from CARS is for \$944,000. Enclosed is the agreement for Johnson County CARS funding for the W. 47th Place work.

Staff Comments/Recommendation: The engineering/design phase for this project is wrapping up and we are currently reviewing the plans and working toward a 1st quarter letting (construction contract competitive bidding process). As such, the plans submitted illustrate the [pretty close to] final design for the project and highlights are presented in your packet materials for your information and for you to have an opportunity to ask questions about the project and what can be expected upon project construction and completion next year.

Budget Impact: Westwood expects the portion it is responsible for to come from the CID II funds related to Woodside Village in the amount of \$1,014,074 for this project between 2025 design engineering and 2026 construction.

Motion by Councilmember Wimer to authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement between Johnson County, Kansas, and the City of Westwood, Kansas, for the 2026 Public Improvement of W. 47th Place from Rainbow Blvd. to State Line Rd. Second by Councilmember Steele. Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote.

Executive Session

The Governing Body did not hold an executive session.

Announcements/Governing Body Comments

No announcements were made by the Governing Body.

Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Harris to adjourn the meeting. Second by Councilmember Wimer. Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
David E. Waters, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Abby Schneweis, City Clerk