

**City of Westwood, Kansas
City Council Meeting
4700 Rainbow Boulevard
January 8, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.**

Council Present: David E. Waters, Mayor
Jeff Harris, Council President
Steph Becker, Councilmember
Spencer Day, Councilmember – via Zoom
Laura Steele, Councilmember

Council Absent: Holly Wimer, Councilmember

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

Call to Order

Mayor Waters called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on January 8, 2026. Ms. Schneweis called the roll. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Harris to approve the January 8, 2026 agenda as submitted. Second by Councilmember Steele. Motion carried by a 4-0 voice vote.

Public Comment

No comments were made by the public.

Presentations and Proclamations

Kansas Statehouse Update

Representative Rui Xu provided an overview of the upcoming Kansas legislative session.

Retailers Sales Tax overview

Barb Bengimina, Field Services Representative with Kansas Department of Revenue, provided an overview of sales tax collection operations.

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 December 18, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

- B. Consider Appropriations Ordinance 782

Motion by Councilmember Harris to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Second by Councilmember Steele. Ms. Schneweis conducted a roll call vote. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Waters said he presented at the State of the Cities event held earlier in the week.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Harris recently participated in a ride-along with CFD2. During his time with the firefighters, he shared four key takeaways:

1. Ensure your home has large, well-lit house numbers so it can be easily located during an emergency.
2. When an emergency vehicle has its lights and sirens on, pull over to allow them to navigate the roads quickly and safely.
3. Firefighters are happy to assist disabled residents with replacing smoke detector batteries, but these services are often misused by able-bodied individuals.
4. Hoarding poses a serious risk to both residents and first responders during a fire, as it makes homes much harder to navigate in an emergency.

Staff Reports

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Ryan provided an overview of the December 2025 Treasurer's Report that was included in the packet, no questions or comments were made about the report.

Administrative Report

Ms. Herring provided an overview of the January 2026 Administrative Report included in the agenda packet and offered to answer questions.

Public Works Report

Mr. Sullivan provided an overview of the December 2025 and January 2026 Public Works Reports included in the agenda packet and offered to answer questions.

Public Safety Report

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

City Attorney's Report

Mr. Denk did not have anything to report.

Inventory of Council goals & status report, 2015-2025

Ms. Herring provided an overview of the presentation included in the agenda packet. No action was taken by the Governing Body.

Old Business

No Old Business items were considered.

New Business

No New Business items were considered.

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 Day. Motion carried by a 4-0 voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

David E. Waters, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Abby Schneweis, City Clerk