

**City of Westwood, Kansas  
City Council Meeting  
December 21, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.**

Council Present: David E. Waters, Mayor  
Andrew Buckman, Councilmember  
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  
Ryan Denk, City Attorney

**Call to Order**

Mayor Waters called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on December 21, 2023. Ms. Herring called the roll. A quorum was present. The evening's meeting was being held on December 21<sup>st</sup> due to a lack of quorum for the regularly scheduled City council meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>. The evening's meeting was held in a hybrid manner, with attendees joining both in person and via Zoom.

**Administer Affirmation of Oath of Office for Mayor David E. Waters and Councilmembers Laura Steele and Holly Wimer**

Ms. Herring, in her role as a notary public, administered the oaths of office for Mayor Waters and Councilmembers Steele and Wimer.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Councilmember Harris to approve the December 21, 2023 City Council meeting agenda as submitted. Second by Councilmember Wimer. Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote.

**Public Comment**

Becki Brown, 2107 W 49<sup>th</sup> Terrace, said she believes the notoriety the City Council has brought to the city in regard to the Karbank proposal is wrong.

Lori Moore, 4951 Fairway, said she loves the City Hall building and acknowledged it is probably a valuable piece of property. Ms. Moore questioned why the City Hall property was not considered during the negotiations of the Karbank proposal.

Bernard Brown, 2805 W 51<sup>st</sup> Terrace, referred to a letter he sent to the Governing Body and said the Governing Body should withdraw its threat tort lawsuits against residents.

David Gomoletz, 2427 W 48<sup>th</sup> Street, said he depends on integrity in the leadership of the Governing Body and he currently has a strong sense of that integrity.

### **Presentations and Proclamations**

No presentations or proclamations were made.

### **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 9, 2023, City Council Meeting Minutes and November 27, 2023, Special City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Consider Appropriations Ordinance 757

Motion by Councilmember Hannaman to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Second by Councilmember Buckman. Ms. Herring conducted a roll call vote. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Waters wished the community a safe and happy holiday season.

### **Councilmember Reports**

No reports were made.

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Administrative Report**

Ms. Herring provided an overview of the December 2023 Administrative Report included in the agenda packet and offered to answer questions.

#### **Public Works Report**

The November and December 2023 Public Works Report was included in the agenda packet, no questions or comments were made about the report.

#### **Public Safety Report**

Chief Mansell provided an overview of the November 2023 Public Safety Report included in the agenda packet and offered to answer questions.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The November 2023 Treasurer's Report was included in the agenda packet, no questions or comments were made about the report.

#### **City Attorney's Report**

Mr. Denk did not have any items to report.

### **Old Business**

No Old Business items were considered.

## **New Business**

### **Consider renewal of Information Technology Services Agreement with Johnson County, KS**

Since January 2016, the City of Westwood has contracted with Johnson County's Department of Technology and Innovation (DTI) for technology support services for the Police Department, alone. The Administration and Public Works Departments were added to the support services agreement in 2023, with implementation wrapping-up now and the first billing for services being the fourth quarter of 2023. The 2024 contract amount is \$27,371.71. This is an increase of \$2,000.27 above the 2023 contract amount of \$25,335.44. The 2024 budget provides for an inflationary increase in the 2023 contract amount.

Motion by Councilmember Buckman to authorize the City Administrator to execute the Renewal of Information Technology Services Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners of Johnson County, Kansas and the City of Westwood for the 2024 calendar year. Second by Councilmember Wimer. Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote.

### **Consider 2024 Addendum to the Public Works Service Agreement with the City of Mission Woods**

Each year the Public Works Service Agreement with the City of Mission Woods is reviewed and revised as needed. The hourly wages have been adjusted to reflect budgeted 2024 wages and benefit rates and the street sweeping cost has been adjusted. No other adjustments are recommended. The Mission Woods Governing Body will consider this Addendum at its January meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Steele to authorize the Mayor to execute the Public Works Service Agreement Addendum for FY 2024 with the City of Mission Woods. Second by Councilmember Wimer. Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote.

### **Consider 2024 Addendum to the Public Works Service Agreement with the City of Westwood Hills.**

Each year the Public Works Service Agreement with the City of Westwood Hills is reviewed and revised as needed. The hourly wages have been adjusted to reflect budgeted 2024 wages and benefit rates. No other adjustments are recommended. The Westwood Hills Governing Body will consider this Addendum at its January regular meeting.

Motion By Councilmember Wimer to authorize the Mayor to execute the Public Works Service Agreement Addendum for FY 2024 with the City of Westwood Hills. Second by Councilmember Hannaman. Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote.

### **Consider purchase of Axon Fleet 3 Basic In-car Cameras**

The Westwood Police Department's current BodyCam's (Model BC100) were purchased in 2015. This model has been discontinued and there is no longer support for repairs/maintenance and failures are already being experienced. The current Watchguard in-car cameras were purchased in 2014 and this model will no longer be supported for repairs/maintenance. Currently the video management (storage, filing & deletion) of both car and body cameras is a manual process. Issues associated with officers having to manually activate body cameras can be perceived negatively (e.g. must have something to hide, didn't turn it on). In the system being recommended here, if the vehicle's emergency lights are on, the body camera and vehicle camera turn on automatically. Additionally, officer manpower is spent manually uploading, categorizing and producing court evidence. The new system will automate all these processes.

Following research and planning for this purchase over the past several years, staff proposes a new integrated Axon Enterprises vehicle and body cam system. This system includes automated download and a library system for storage and is compatible with our current Records Management System: NICHE. Video will be electronically categorized and logged by case/event and video can be attached to reports for submission electronically to the City Prosecutor allowing for full discovery.

The proposed agreement provides for:

- four (4) in-car systems, including all hardware and mounting;
- ten (10) body worn cameras with chest mounting clips;
- new user training;
- subscription and cloud evidence storage service; and
- five (5) year no fault warranty which includes free body camera replacement at 30 months and 60 months.

\$20,000 is budgeted in fiscal year 2024 in the Equipment Reserve Fund for this planned purchase within the Equipment Replacement Fund. As discussed during the budget work sessions this past summer in preparing the 2024 City budget, ongoing subscription payments (beginning in 2025) will be included in the Police Department's General Fund operating budget. The Year 1 (2024) payment is \$16,418.02, with four subsequent yearly payments of \$16,418.02 (in-car cameras in the annual amount of \$6,947.52 plus body cameras in the annual amount of \$9,470.50).

The city attorney has reviewed the contract and notes that the length of the term should be pointed out; it is five (5) years with an automatic renewal for another five (5) years. As such, he notes that the City is potentially committing to Axon for ten (10) years and that Axon has the ability to increase the fees annually by 3% per year during the renewal term. He notes, however, that there is non-appropriation language in the Agreement which would allow the City to cancel the contract if the City Council declines to approve budgetary authority for this expenditure during any budget year.

By approving this 2024 expenditure in 2023, Axon has discounted the total five (5) year cost by \$10,000, which savings are prorated over the initial five-year term.

Motion by Councilmember Hannaman to authorize the City Administrator to execute the quote from Axon Enterprise, Inc. for in-car cameras and body cameras for the Police Department as presented. Second by Councilmember Wimer. Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote.

#### **Announcements/Governing Body Comments**

No announcements were made.

#### **Executive Session**

Motion by Councilmember Harris to recess into Executive Session for 45 minutes for the purposes of consultation with the City Attorney on matters relating to real property located at and around 5000 Rainbow Blvd. which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship under K.S.A. 75-4319(b)2 for 45 minutes and to return by 8:25 p.m. Second by Councilmember Hannaman.

At 8:25 p.m. the Governing Body returned to the dais. Mayor Waters announced no actions were taken during Executive Session.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Councilmember Hannaman to adjourn the meeting. Second by Councilmember Steele.  
Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
David E. Waters, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Abby Schneweis, City Clerk

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