The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in regular session Thursday, October 13, 2016, with eleven members present: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Walker, Commissioner At-Large Second District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; Murguia, Commissioner Third District; Johnson, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Markley, Commissioner Sixth District; Walters, Commissioner Seventh District; Philbrook, Commissioner Eighth District; and Holland, Mayor/CEO, presiding. The following officials were also in attendance: Doug Bach, County Administrator; Ken Moore, Chief Legal Counsel; Bridgette Cobbins, Unified Government Clerk; Gordon Criswell and Joe Connor, Assistant County Administrators; Maureen Mahoney, Asst. to Mayor/Chief of Staff; Patrick Waters and Misty Brown; Senior Attorneys; George Brajkovic, Economic Development Director; Marlon Goff, Urban Development Manager; Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer; and Captain Curtis Nicholson, Sergeant-at-Arms.

MAYOR HOLLAND called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Holland.

INVOCATION was given by Reverend Artrell Harris, Roswell Church of Christ.

Mayor Holland asked if there were any revisions to the agenda. Bridgette Cobbins, UG Clerk, said we have a blue sheet that has been distributed. Under the Consent Agenda, we’re deleting Item No. 3. The necessary properties were acquired for the project without going through legal proceedings. Under the Administrator’s Agenda, we have a new item. It is Item No. 1. It will be a presentation by the USD 500 for their proposed bond issue.
MAYOR’S AGENDA

ITEM NO. 1 – 16821… VOTING DELEGATES: KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (KAC)

Synopsis: Designation of Joe Connor as voting delegate and Bridgette Cobbins and Kathy Briney as alternate voting delegates for the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) 41st Annual Conference to be held in Overland Park, KS.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Holland asked if any member of the audience, or any commissioner, who would like to remove an item from the Consent Agenda please move forward to the microphone at this time. Otherwise, all items not removed will be taken upon in a single vote.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve the Consent Agenda. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

ITEM NO. 1 – 16796…COMMUNICATION: 2017 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Synopsis: A communication submitting a proposed 2017 holiday schedule, submitted by Bridgette Cobbins, UG Clerk.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.
ITEM NO. 2 – 16817… TWO ORDINANCES: PQ CORPORATION IRBS

Synopsis: Request approval of the following ordinances authorizing the issuance of Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds (PQ Corporation Project), submitted by George Brajkovic, Economic Development.

- Series 2016A - $21,000
- Series 2016B - $4,000,000

On December 5, 2013, the Commission unanimously adopted Resolution No. R-127-13 to issue $219M of IRBs in multiple series and a 75% tax abatement for PQ Corporation’s multiphase expansion at 1700 Kansas Avenue.

Action: ORDINANCE NO. O-58-16, “An ordinance authorizing the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, to issue Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds (PQ Corporation Project) Series 2016A, in a principal amount not to exceed $21,000,000, for the purpose of providing funds to pay the cost of acquiring, improving, constructing, installing and equipping of an industrial facility, including land, buildings, structures, improvements and fixtures; authorizing the Unified Government to enter into certain documents and the taking of other actions in connection with the issuance of said bonds.” Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve the ordinance. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

Action: ORDINANCE NO. O-59-16, “An ordinance authorizing the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, to Issue Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds (PQ Corporation Project) Series 2016B, in a principal amount not to exceed $4,000,000, for the purpose of providing funds to pay the cost of acquiring, improving, constructing, installing and equipping of an industrial facility, including land, buildings, structures, improvements and fixtures;
authorizing the Unified Government to enter into certain documents and the taking of other actions in connection with the issuance of said bonds.”

**Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve the ordinance.** Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murgia.

**ITEM NO. 3 – 16818…ORDINANCE: STONEHAVEN STORM SEWER**

**Synopsis:** An ordinance authorizing the Chief Counsel to commence legal proceedings to acquire property for the Stonehaven Storm Sewer Project (CMIP #5034), submitted by Ryan Haga, Attorney, Legal Department. On March 10, 2016, the commission adopted Resolution No. R-26-16 finding the project to be a necessary and valid improvement and authorizing a survey of land for said project.

**Action:** DELETED

**ITEM NO. 4 – 16819…ORDINANCE: 26TH & GRANDVIEW EMERGENCY SANITARY SEWER**

**Synopsis:** An ordinance authorizing the Chief Counsel to commence legal proceedings to acquire property for the 26th & Grandview Emergency Sanitary Sewer Project (CMIP #6166), submitted by Ryan Haga, Attorney, Legal Department. On September 13, 2016, the Commission unanimously adopted Resolution No. R-67-16 finding the project to be a necessary and valid improvement and authorizing a survey of land for said project.

**Action:** ORDINANCE NO. O-60-16, “An ordinance condemning land for the construction, maintenance, operation, reconstruction, and improvements of the 26th & Grandview Emergency Sanitary Sewer Project – CMIP 6166, all in Wyandotte County, Kansas; and directing the Chief Counsel to institute proceedings as provided by law to acquire said land in this ordinance described by condemnation proceedings.” **Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve the ordinance.** Roll call

October 13, 2016
ITEM NO. 5 – 16820….NOMINATION: BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Synopsis: Nomination for Boards and Commissions:
Jim Kendall to the Library Board, 10/13/16 to 3/31/18, submitted by Commissioner Walker.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

ITEM NO. 6 – 16811…PLAT: VISTA CONDOMINIUMS – 3RD PLAT

Synopsis: Plat of Vista Condominiums – 3rd Plat, located at 3838 Rainbow Blvd., and being developed by John D. Sorrick, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor, and Wayne Moody, Interim County Engineer.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve and authorized the Mayor to sign said plat. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

ITEM NO. 7 – PLAT: WHITE CHURCH HEIGHTS

Synopsis: Plat of White Church Heights, located at 85th Street and Greeley Avenue, being developed by Clinkenbeard Investments, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor, and Wayne Moody, Interim County Engineer.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve and authorized the Mayor to sign said plat. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.
ITEM NO. 8 - MINUTES

Synopsis: Minutes from regular session of September 15, 2016, and special session of September 29, 2016.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pilbrook, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

ITEM NO. 9 - WEEKLY BUSINESS MATERIAL

Synopsis: Weekly business material dated September 22 and 29, and October 6, 2016.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to receive and file and authorize fund transfers. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

No items of business.

STANDING COMMITTEES’ AGENDA

ITEM NO. 1 – 16810…RESOLUTION: SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO AMEND THE 1964 UNIVERSITY-ROSEDALE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN

Synopsis: A resolution setting October 27, 2016, as a public hearing date to consider amendments to the University-Rosedale Urban Renewal Plan in consideration of the Rainbow Village hotel development at the NW corner of 34th & Rainbow Blvd., submitted by Marlon Goff, Economic Development. This item was scheduled to appear before the Economic Development and Finance Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner McKiernan, on October 10, 2016. It was requested, and approved by the Mayor, to fast track this item to the October 13, 2016 full commission meeting.

October 13, 2016
Action: RESOLUTION NO. R-72-16, “A resolution calling and providing for notice of a public hearing to be held on October 27, 2016 on the advisability of amending the University-Rosedale Urban Renewal Plan.” Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Murguia, to adopt the resolution. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

ITEM NO. 2 – 16815…RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES’ BONDS

Synopsis: Request approval of the following Board of Public Utilities’ bond issuances, submitted by Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer.

- Resolution authorizing the issuance of $62M of utility system revenue bonds to finance improvements to the utility system.

- Ordinance authorizing the issuance of $53M of Utility System Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2016-B, and $62.5M of Utility System Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series 2016C.

This item was scheduled to appear before the Economic Development and Finance Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner McKiernan, on October 10, 2016. It was requested, and approved by the Mayor, to fast track this item to the October 13, 2016 full commission meeting.

Action: RESOLUTION NO. R-73-16. “A resolution authorizing the issuance of Utility System Revenue Bonds of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, for the purpose of providing funds to finance improvements to the utility system.” Commissioner Philbrook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKiernan, to adopt the resolution.


October 13, 2016
Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, for the purpose of financing the cost of certain improvements, refunding certain outstanding utility system revenue bonds in order to achieve interest cost savings and paying the cost of issuing said bonds; authorizing the execution and approval of certain documents in connection with the issuance of said bonds, and authorizing certain other actions in connection with the issuance of said bonds.”  **Commissioner Philbrook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKiernan, to approve the ordinance.** Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

**Commissioner Kane** said I know that that’s a lot of money and I know that our folks did a good job. There’s other issues, I guess, that are going to come up in a future date at a commission meeting. We have a meeting with the BPU Board. **Mayor Holland** said I don’t know that we’re planning a meeting with the BPU Board, but we are having, in two weeks, on the 27th, we have an ordinance on telecommunications that we need to update to bring our laws up to speed with the state of Kansas for changes that were made by the legislature. In that, that is also the ordinance that controls which of our streets and main thoroughfares are underground. I anticipate there will be a discussion about Leavenworth Road in two weeks about whether or not we will designate that as an underground required thoroughfare. You will see that well in advance. You’ll see that a week in advance and we’ll have a thorough conversation about that in two weeks.  **Commissioner Kane** said are we going to have it amongst ourselves or are we going to have it with the BPU Board. **Mayor Holland** said that’s a good question. It is an ordinance that is coming before us. We can invite the Board of Public Utilities to be at that meeting if we would like. **Commissioner Kane** said I would like that because this is going to affect both parties. I want to hear what their side of it is, have their explanations, so we have ours and so all of us can collectively come up with an agreement. I don’t want to do anything without the board not knowing what’s going on and I want to know what the board thinks about what is going on. It’s transparency. We talk about that all of the time. I’ve got some concerns about all of it, but I don’t know what their concerns are so I want to hear them. I don’t know if I need to make a motion that we have a joint meeting with the BPU Board and their administrative staff, but I think that’s something that we should really, really do.

October 13, 2016
Mayor Holland said I think the question is, Commissioner, in terms of meeting notifications and having a joint meeting with the two boards, we have done that in the past, it’s a little complicated to pull off, but we are able to do that. The question is, is there a way that we can structure the conversation in such a way that we give the board members or their chair or designee, if they all want to speak or one wants to speak on their behalf, to be able to present to the Commission the view of the Board of Public Utilities Board before we make a vote. I think we could do that in a number of ways and accomplish the level of dialogue that you’re wanting to do if you’re comfortable with that. Commissioner Kane said we need to know what they think. We need to know what the state changes are going to be. They need to know what the state changes are going to be and then that way we can collectively make a decision that isn’t bad for either side. Mayor Holland said I agree. If you’re comfortable with that recognition, I think Mr. Bach and I can work together to make that invitation to the Board and to distribute the ordinance to them as well so they can see it in advance of that as well. Commissioner Kane said is that okay with you guys? I don’t want to speak out of turn, but I think that would be in all of our best interest.

Roll call was taken on the resolution and there were ten “Ayes,” Johnson, Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia.

ADMINISTRATOR’S AGENDA
ITEM NO. 1 – 16828…PRESENTATION: USD 500 BOND ISSUE
Synopsis: Presentation by USD 500 regarding their proposed bond issue.

Mayor Holland said we have special guests here with District 500, Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools, Dr. Cindy Lane is here, the Superintendent of Schools; to talk about a proposed bond issue that will be on the ballot in the November election. I’d like to invite Dr. Lane for you to come forward at this time and to make presentation. As you know, all of our school districts are very important partners in our community. We work closely with them in a lot of different areas. I thought it was important since they have a major undertaking that we should be aware of it and we should give our viewers an opportunity to hear about it as well.

Dr. Cindy Lane, Superintendent of USD 500, said with me tonight is our Chief Operations Officer, Dr. Kelly Mather, but you also might have noticed a very tall gentlemen sitting with us,
our Chief of Police, Henry Horn, who is just here because he wanted to offer support. Thank you for carving out time for us to share with you about the bond referendum and before I hand it off to Dr. Mather to give you the details on that. I want to set some context for how we got to this point in our journey and just remind everyone that strong communities rely on strong schools. This community, in 2012, was recognized by the America’s Promise Alliance, the Colin Powell organization; as being one of the 100 best places for young people in the nation. We’re very proud of that and we hold that up as a reminder that, yes, there is much work to do, but we’re being recognized across the nation as doing great things and partnership with you all and with service organizations, business across our city.

I don’t know that you’re aware that last school year our school board received their second Honorary Magna Award, which is the highest award given by the National Association of School Boards for the innovative work happening right here in Kansas City, Kansas public schools. We are pleased and proud to work with you, proud of our city for supporting our young people, proud of our board members for working hard and thinking outside of the box, but most importantly we’re proud of our kids. In 2015, we had 72% of all high school graduates admitted to college. I just want to let that sit with you for a minute. 72% of all kids, from all five high schools admitted to college. $68M in scholarships earned. Two Gates of Millennium scholars, two awarded to KCK kids when only 1,000 are awarded across the nation, outstanding achievements and by the way that’s our sixth Gates Millennium scholar, sixth or seventh that we’ve had in the last six years. We’re proud of our kids.

Last year, our students not only graduated with their high school diploma, but 45% walked across the stage with at least three college credit hours and some as many as 42 college credit hours, earned while in high school. In addition to that, we are very focused on careers. 65% of our young people graduated not only with their high school diploma, but with a credential. A credential in welding, CNA, a hospitality kind of thing, whatever aligned to their pathway. We’re having great success. Our kids are working hard and we appreciate all your support. I wanted to lay that context for you as we begin to talk about needs that we have in the system, but no more important than reaching this essential goal that is on your screen and you have in your packet and that is to graduate each and every one of our students college and career prepared. We define college and career prepared by Diploma Plus.

Right now we encourage our young people to take college classes while they’re with us or to have their technical credential when they graduate from high school. For the class of 2021, this year’s eighth graders, they are required not only to have their high school diploma because
you all know a high school diploma is not enough to obtain those high pay, high demand jobs, they must have their high school diploma and at least one of the seven ways to graduate Diploma Plus. I’ll highlight a couple for you. College hours, at least a year of college completed when they graduate from high school. Their technical credential completed when they graduate from high school. Acceptance into the military when they graduate from high school and then there are four others that we have outlined for you. So great things happening for our kids in the school system and this work begins not just at high school but all the way down in early childhood.

As we started doing this work, we were proud of the fact that 15 years ago we did a bond referendum, $120M, that this community supported and put air conditioning in every one of our buildings, new windows. You all remember that. It was great. We were one of the last school districts to provide air conditioning in our schools. It made us much more pleasant learning environment and we didn’t have to close school because it was too hot. Now if we could just figure out how not to close school because it snows. Mayor Holland said you have a reputation among my children of never closing schools even when it snows. Dr. Lane said none-the-less proud of that and since that time in the last eight years we have either rebuilt completely or renovated 14 facilities without a tax increase and we’ve been proud of that. About 18 months ago we asked an architect firm to do a visual inspection of all of our schools to tell us what do we have in terms of strong facility assets and what do we need to do. They came back with a three volume report that won’t surprise you because you’ve managed to touch large facility issues as well, $500M in maintenance needs, $500M including roofs and plumbing and kinds of things. We formed a community advisory group and said help us figure out how we’re going to address $500M in needs because saving and trying to address that as we go we knew was not the right strategy. The community advisory group made up of individuals from across our community came together and for six months studied that report and made recommendations to our board for a ten-year facility plan. This bond referendum address half of that need and the decision was made to request $235M bonds because we could do that without increasing taxes in our community. In other words, it takes the current bond that we’re paying on for air conditioning and it extends it forward, the same rate of pay that we’re currently paying for facilities will cover this. We’re pleased that we’re able to do this scope of work without a tax increase and I’m going to invite Dr. Mather up to tell you exactly what that work will entail and then I’ll come back for a couple of closing remarks.

October 13, 2016
Dr. Kelly Mather said thank you for allowing us to speak tonight in regards to the bond referendum. I’ve been tasked, a large task, of outlining very quickly all of the projects within the $235M bond referendum. As we continue to shape the minds of our youth and our future we do believe that our students deserve the best in the facilities as well. As Dr. Lane clearly outlined the process in which we got there with the Community Vision Team, it was an arduous task to go through three volumes of facility assessments to come up with these projects. What I’d like to do is quickly highlight some of the big things that are in it.

New construction, as we think about that. We are looking at building two brand new middle schools, I’ll talk about those momentarily and two brand new elementary schools and a third elementary repurposed school.

Before I talk about the new construction, I want to highlight that the bond referendum will support every single student and every single school. I think that is important, meaning that there’s so many large scope of projects across this bond referendum that all schools will be touched, all kids will be touched in some way and differently respective to the needs of their particular facility.

Back to the new construction because those are the big projects, two brand new middle schools, one being Northwest Middle School being replaced. It is the hope of the school district to place a new facility on the ground that we own there at Northwest. That will be completely raised and a new facility put there.

A second middle school is actually combining two middle schools. It’s combining West Middle School with Coronado Middle School not because our enrollment growth is declining, in fact, our growth is actually increasing at the middle school level so you think that’s kind of odd. Why would we then consolidate two schools? Frankly, we were trying to be as fiscally responsible as possible. We had such high needs in two of our middle schools, Coronado and Arrowhead, for a roof replacement that the dollar amount was excessive to a point that we could build virtually half of a middle school for the cost to replace two significant roofs. We went back and we figured with the committees in-depth look and some assistance from an architectural firm that we can repair one of those roofs for a more reasonable cost and then combine West Middle School and Coronado Middle School and make a bit larger middle school, most likely about 800 to 850 students in the school. That way we can impact a larger number of our kids in a brand new facility. It is the hope right now, with not having done any design at this point, that project will be built on the Coronado property that we own there. Those are the two new middle schools that we’re looking at, but we want to reuse West Middle School. The actual
infrastructure of West Middle School is in good shape. We want to go in, gut that school and completely repurpose it to a brand new elementary school. We would then put William Allen White and Parker combined into one elementary school located in the existing West Middle School facility. At this point we intend to raise both those elementary schools.

Another brand new elementary school is going to be Welborn Elementary School. Many of you know that it’s on Leavenworth Road, has two buildings, K-5 but they have their children split and that building is about 102 years old. It’s our oldest elementary school. We recognize the need obviously there to do something immediately.

The third new elementary school is going to be a combination of White Church and Bethel Elementary School on the White Church property. We want to combine those schools because we believe we can build a much nicer, larger elementary school servicing all of the kids in both of those communities while at the same time repurposing Bethel Elementary School into an Early Childhood Center. We continue to have a need to support more early childhood aged students. We serve approximately half of the number of students in our community right now so we would like to be able to repurpose and gut that particular facility and make it compatible for early childhood education and that infrastructure in that facility is suitable for that. That’s kind of an over scope of the large projects.

Some of the things that are also as critically important in this scope of work will be the inclusion of brand new science labs in every high school. At least two science labs in every high school. We always tease about running water and hot and cold water in those science labs. It’s well overdue and needed in all of our high schools. That will include things like completely replumbing some of our high schools in order to do that effectively, lots of costs there.

Another thing is really looking at flex-space for Diploma Plus initiative that Dr. Lane talked about. We want to develop in every one of our high schools, but what we’re referencing is flexible space for career exploration for the high school students. Not sitting in traditional rolls in classrooms all of the time, but we’re going to have open space where there’s much more project based, hands on learning experiences where students will have the opportunity to explore and a variety of different occupations and determine perhaps which direction in life they would like to go. We’re looking at a minimum of about 3,200 sq. ft. in our high school plus a smaller 800 sq. ft. spot so about 4,000 sq. ft. of flex-space in the high schools to start. In the middle schools we’re also going to include flexible space in all of the middle schools, seven of the middle schools if we do the consolidation. We’re looking at approximately one 1,600 sq. ft.
space and one 800 sq. ft. space to start out. Again, this space can be used for a lot of career exploration, exposure to our kids in a variety of careers so we’re excited about that as well.

Some other things that come up that I like to talk about one is, I know it’s probably hard to believe, but we have schools that have no playground. We have about six schools with absolutely no playground equipment. Perhaps some asphalt or greenspace, but no playground equipment, so we have inserted in this bond referendum the opportunity for those schools all to have appropriate, meaningful playground equipment.

Another upgrade will be kitchen renovations. We have a number of our schools that do not have adequate and appropriate space to either cook or serve our students their meals, their breakfast and their lunch. We have nine elementary schools that will have a renovation, complete renovation. Not necessarily a full blown kitchen but a renovation so that they can adequately and appropriately serve our students. Then we will also do one middle school. Rosedale Middle School, we will take that cafeteria, for those of you that know that’s currently on the third floor at Rosedale Middle School and bring it to the first floor. It currently takes us about 2 to 2.5 hours to actually cart all of our food up on a freight elevator, serve our students and bring it all back down. It’s not the most efficient process for us so it’s time to actually put that cafeteria on the first floor and this referendum will provide us that opportunity to do as well.

Something else, and I think I’ve got most of the big details, I talked about how every school will be touched. We will be looking at safety and security enhancements in every one of our schools. We recognize what’s happening in the communities nationwide. We feel our schools are extremely safe. As a matter of fact, we pride ourselves on that. We want to continue to create a safe, comfortable environment for all of our kids. All of the schools will be looked at for safety and security enhancements. Those will very dependent on the needs of the respective school. An idea of what one might look like, if you’ve been in any of our brand new elementary schools, is that we create a Vesta Village enter into the school. It forces visitors to go right into the office area and sign in, that way we know who’s in the facility at all times. That’s one example of a safe and secure enhancement that we will be looking at. I think I’ve highlighted all of the critical areas. If I’ve missed anything I’m sure Dr. Lane will help me out.

**Dr. Lane** said let me summarize what Dr. Mather shared. For a new building, safety and security in every school, playgrounds for schools that don’t have them, kitchens for schools that don’t have them, college and career spaces renovated in every one of our buildings and there was one other I wanted to point out, maintenance, about $30M worth of just general maintenance that
needs to happen in the schools. Every school is impacted. This is the first of a ten-year plan and we believe we can get this work done in five years. I neglected to share with you that we’re a growing district, if you didn’t know that. We’ve been growing 400 or 500 kids a year for the last six years. We’re over 23,000 children right now, we’re over that. That makes us about 10,000 students larger than our sister district across the river. To give you some perspective we’re the fourth largest school district in the metropolitan area on the Kansas side. So that’s a big sign, I think, to the community that people are feeling good about being in our community and sending their children to our schools.

My last comments will be economic impact. It’s great for kids, it’s great for schools, but what’s the impact on the community. We had an analysis done of what will this bond do for the economics in Kansas City, Kansas and the analysis says $307M worth of impact to our community, including 935 jobs, including $150M in salaries and $27M in local sales. I would be glad to answer questions. What we really want is your support and your encouragement to make sure people get out and are informed about this. It’s the last item on the ballot November 8 and if your inspired about nothing else, we hope your inspired about this.

**Mayor Holland** said I can tell you we’re more inspired by the last item on the ballot then the first one that will appear on the ballot.

**Commissioner Bynum** said, Dr. Lane and Dr. Mather, thank you for this presentation. One question I have and you sort of I think answered it at the end. You think overall this will take five years. We are getting ready for a major rebuild of Leavenworth Road and I’m curious about the timing of our rebuild and your rebuild of Welborn Elementary School. Hopefully, we will communicate and coordinate so that all goes as smoothly as it possibly can. **Dr. Lane** said that’s a good point. We’ll make sure that we connect and we know what’s happening and can develop that timeline appropriately.

**Commissioner Kane** said I just want to thank the school board, you two, the group that you pulled together because I know it took a long time and you had to weed out, you wanted more, but you said alright we’d love to have more but not to effect the community. We’re going to solve this much, improve this much. The thing that I talk about a lot is the senior citizens took us to our days, the students take us to our tomorrows and educators our futures in your hands. I think you’re doing a really good job with our future and I appreciate it.

October 13, 2016
Commissioner Philbrook said I don’t think I can say enough to thank District 500 for their forward thinking attitude and how they plan on affecting our workforce in the future, in the near future and way down the line. I so do appreciate that because we have been needing that for a long time. Thank you for helping us instill into our children the fact that they can have a bright future, they just have to work at it and we have people to help them get there. I appreciate that.

The other thing I want to share with you very quickly is that I have heard a lot of positive feedback from the teenagers that I get to see in my practice about how much they like to have the police officers. They can get to know them and they feel more comfortable so if they have a problem they feel like they can come and tell them without creating issues for themselves and being ratted out so to speak. Thank you for all of your work.

Mayor Holland said I appreciate very much the work that you’ve done. Our kids deserve the best possible education and the best possible facility. I very much appreciate your leadership, not only on the local level but on the state level. You’ve been on the frontlines and leading the charge for adequate funding for kids and no one has stood up more for the children in Wyandotte County than Dr. Cindy Lane. I very much appreciate your leadership in that.

There are a couple of important ballot issues that the public needs to be aware of. Obviously, we’re going to be voting for President. God bless all of us. Then we’re going to vote. We have a number of state representatives and senators we’re going to vote for. The ballots very long but there is a referendum for all of our Supreme Court Justices. There is a group of very conservative people in the state of Kansas who believe that the Supreme Court was wrong to send the legislature back to fully fund our schools. They have decided to take this provision where you can remove a Judge for misconduct, but to use it as a political tool to politicize our Judges and our Supreme Court and it’s very important. I just want to advocate personally that we vote yes to retain our Supreme Court Justices and not politicize that office. They are to do a job on their own. They’ve done their job. The Legislature has their job to do. The Governor has his job to do and we need to retain our Judges. Then we need to continue down the ballot, to the bottom and see this referendum for our schools. It is a zero tax increase. The school district can only present information and educate. It’s going to take the rest of us to advocate for it and to say please vote yes to give our kids the best education. Economic Development depends on the quality of the schools. When we have quality schools it increases the property values of all our residential property around it. It increases the value in our
community and the ability to provide services. This is a win-win for us to be able to do it with a zero tax increase is big, but I think when we have the chance to speak to this, to the groups I’m going to, I’m encouraging people to retain our Supreme Court Justices who are supporting public schools and public education and to support this bond issue to support our kids locally. Thank you for your leadership.

**Commissioner Walker** said you mentioned advocating, endorse, would it be helpful or appropriate for us to formally as a Commission to endorse, can we do that or not legally? **Ken Moore, Chief Counsel**, said this is not an action item on the agenda so we really can’t do anything tonight. **Commissioner Walker** said I don’t mean tonight but I mean before the next meeting if the school district and their leaders felt that would help which wouldn’t hurt. **Mayor Holland** said every endorsement cuts two ways. Amen. **Commissioner Walker** said I mean I think we all support it. No one is speaking if they don’t. If some type of formal action on our part is both legal and we could do it at the next meeting and the school district is receptive to that being beneficial to the outcome, then I think we should do it. Otherwise, I’m contented to say it here tonight and advocate for it. **Mr. Moore** said we can look into that and see about placing it on the agenda next time. **Mayor Holland** said absolutely. **Commissioner Walker** said I wouldn’t do it without the school board and the superintendents desire that we—I don’t want to be harmful, I want to be helpful. **Mayor Holland** said thank you Commissioner.

**Mayor Holland** said thank you and we look forward to a positive outcome.

**Action:** No action taken. Information only.

**COMMISSIONERS’ AGENDA**
No items of business.

**LAND BANK BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ AGENDA**
No items of business.

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**
No items of business.

October 13, 2016
MAYOR HOLLAND ADJOURNED
THE MEETING AT 7:40 P.M.

October 13, 2016

______________________________
Bridgette Cobbins
Unified Government Clerk

tk