The meeting of the Economic Development and Finance Standing Committee was held on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 6:32 p.m., remotely via Zoom and on-site. The following members were present: Commissioner Burroughs, Chairman; Commissioners McKiernan, Townsend, Johnson, Walters, and BPU Board Member Jeff Bryant. The following officials were also in attendance: Melissa Sieben, Emerick Cross and Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrators; Misty Brown, Acting Chief Counsel; Alley Porter, Commission Liaison; Lynn Melton, Assistant to the Mayor’s Office; Jud Knapp, Interim Land Bank Manager; Katherine Carttar, Director of Economic Development; Angie Lawson, Deputy Chief Counsel; Wendy Green, Assistant Counsel; Debbie Jonscher, Deputy Chief Financial Officer; Rick Mikesic, Director of Revenue/County Treasurer; Shaya Lockett, Program Coordinator for Economic Development; Stephanie Moore, Management Analyst for Economic Development; Carol Godsil, Deputy Clerk; and Allie Facio, UG Clerk’s Office.

**Chairman Burroughs** said before I call the meeting to order, I want to announce that due to COVID-19, some committee members, staff, and public are attending remotely via Zoom as well as on-site. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when they are not speaking to avoid background noise. During the meeting, please make sure that you announce yourself by name and title every time you speak so the public that is observing knows who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants and is a current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General.

Due to COVID-19 requirements, in person public comments have been suspended unless otherwise required by law. The public is allowed to participate by Zoom or submit comments by email prior to the meeting and those comments will be included in the record of this meeting.

**Chairman Burroughs called the meeting to order.** Roll call was taken, and all members were present as shown above.
Chairman Burroughs said we do have one revision this evening to our agenda. Item No. 8 has been added, which is a resolution adopting the second amendment to the Downtown Campus Development Agreement.

Approval of Standing Committee minutes from September 28, 2020. On motion of BPU Board Member Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, the minutes were approved. Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Bryant, Walters, Johnson, Townsend, McKiernan, Burroughs.

Committee Agenda:

Item No. 1 – 20634…RESOLUTION: SECOND AMENDMENT TO MULTI-SPORT STADIUM SPECIFIC VENTURE AGREEMENT

Synopsis: Adopting the Second Amendment to Multi-Sport Stadium Specific Venture Agreement to increase the ticket tax by $1.25 to cover debt service for the parking improvements and the ground lease costs associated with said parking improvements, submitted by Deborah Jonscher, Deputy Chief Financial Officer. The second amendment will increase the ticket tax on Sporting KC tickets from $2.25 to $3.50 per ticket.

Deborah Jonscher, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, said this is the second amendment to the multi-sport stadium agreement. I have a short presentation.
As I said, this is the second amendment to the Multi-Sport Stadium Specific Venture Agreement. This is the Sporting KC ticket tax. The second amendment will increase the ticket tax on Sporting KC tickets from the current rate of $2.25 to $3.50.

Just wanted to give a little bit of history here on what’s been done in the past. In 2010, the Unified Government entered into the agreement. At that time, the ticket tax was set at $1.00. In 2011, there was also a community improvement district created at .1% and a transportation development district at .9%. In 2015, we had the first amendment to the agreement, and that amendment increased the ticket tax from $1.00 to $2.25. Now we have in 2021, we have a recommendation for the second amendment that would increase the ticket tax to $3.50.

We put together a little graph just showing kind of where we are right now showing the revenues that we have collected from 2010 to 2020. Along this, the expenses that we have. Over off on the right-hand side, I’ve listed out, for instance, the 2019 revenues, we collected $834,000. That’s
broken down to just under $13,000 for the community improvement district tax, $117,000 for the TDD, and the ticket tax collected was $703,000.

The expenses that this revenue goes to cover are debt expenses related to the parking improvements for Sporting. It covers the annual parking lease, which is currently $351,000. It adjusts every five years for a CPI, and there is a CPI increase set for 2021. We haven’t determined that rate yet, but we will probably be doing that here in the next couple of weeks. Then, the amortization of the debt that was issued for the improvements on the parking lot. They’ve been currently at about $750,000 per year. We did refinance this issue in 2020, that did lower, as you can see on this graph or on this table, the expenses have been, since 2012, have been around $1 million to $1.1 million per year. You see that in 2020, the payment dropped to $623,000 and that is directly related to the refinancing. 2020 and 2021, the payments dropped to around $600,000, and then in 2022, they do pick back up closer to $1 million. But as you can see, as of the end of 2020, we are at about just under $3.5 million in a deficit for collections, revenue collections, to cover the debts.

So, we are proposing that we increase the ticket tax by $1.25. Based on our projections, that deficit would be collected over the remaining life of the bonds. The bonds are set to mature in 2031, and our projection is that deficit would be made up by the time the bonds are paid off.

So, there is Commission action for tonight, and it’s to approve the resolution. I did just want to note, we have had conversations in 2020 with officials from Sporting, and they are in agreement and have signed off on the increase. Any questions?
Chairman Burroughs asked, does any of the members of the committee have any questions? I’ll ask the Clerk if any comments were received from the public. Ms. Godsil said no public comments were received.

Chairman Burroughs said, Debbie, one question I might have. That’s a ten-year cycle to retire the deficit with the new increase to $3.50 at this time, correct? Ms. Jonscher said that’s correct. That takes us to the end of the current maturity on the bonds.

Chairman Burroughs said having no questions, does any member have any other comments? Seeing none, I’d entertain a motion. This is an action item.

Bridgette Cobbins, Interim Assistant County Administrator, said it looks like Gayle Townsend has her hand up, sir. Chairman Burroughs said I’m sorry, I didn’t see that. Let me pull that part of my screen up. I apologize, Commissioner Townsend.

Commissioner Townsend said I just have one question for clarification. I went through this. The language appeared to me to state that, I guess several years ago we anticipated an increase. So, from what I’m hearing Ms. Jonscher say tonight, if we make the increase sought tonight, that should be sufficient for the rest of the life of this bond? Ms. Jonscher said that is correct, based on our projections that we’ve done. However, if there are — I know we’re not receiving — we are going to be receiving a payment from Sporting in 2020, but it’s only about 10%, I think, of what we received in 2019, and obviously that was due to a shortened season and restrictions on the seating capacity. If that continues into the future, that could affect our projections, but as of right now, we’re projecting that if we return to normal in 2021, we would collect enough by the time the bonds pay off to cover all of the expenses. We do plan to monitor it over the next several years to see how our projections are performing.

Commissioner Townsend said okay. Hopefully, this will take care of the debt but it will still continue to be monitored. Ms. Jonscher said right.

Chairman Burroughs asked, any other questions from committee? I don’t see any other hands at this time. I’d entertain a motion.
Action: Commissioner Walters made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Townsend, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Bryant, Walters, Johnson, Townsend, McKiernan, Burroughs.

ITEM No. 2 – 20636…RESOLUTION: BROWNFIELDS COALITION GRANT
Synopsis: Resolution for the UG to enter into the Kansas City Regional Brownfields Assessment Coalition with the Mid-America Regional Coalition, Kansas City, MO, and Jackson County, MO, to accept and implement a Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant funded by a Cooperative Agreement with the EPA, submitted by Stephanie Moore, Economic Development. The total grant is for $600,000 to be equally divided by the Coalition members.

Stephanie Moore, Management Analyst for Economic Development, said this is the Brownfields presentation. In your packet, you would have received the MOA that we’re going to talk about with the resolution to approve this.
So, the coalition has four coalition members: Mid-America Regional Council is the lead member, they’re our fiscal agent, and then the city of Kansas City, Missouri, Jackson County, and the Unified Government.

So, Jud kind of talked about a Brownfield in his previous one. Basically, that’s any property that may have or the presence of potential hazardous materials like drums on the site or maybe underground storage tanks.
This grant is to assess and do those assessments to find out and confirm or deny if there are pollutants on this site.

- **Testing to determine if hazardous substances, materials, pollutants or contaminants are present on or within a property.**

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**Award**

- **May 2020:** EPA awarded $600,000 to MARC for implementation of the Brownfield Coalition Assessment grant
- At least $400,000 of the grant funds will be used to conduct environmental assessments on at least 10 properties during the three-year grant
- Equally divided between the four regional members for coalition approved projects

So, the award we got, you may remember back, I think, in June, we had a big press conference. We applied for this almost a year ago, no, it’s been December of last year when we applied, and we were successful. Our award is $600,000. Now, we don’t get all of that. Some of that money will go to the admin of Mid-America Regional Council, get some of that as our fiscal agent, and then $400,000 of that will be used on at least ten sites throughout the three-year grant period. Then, we’ll get those equally divided between the coalition members.
So, here’s a little bit of the process. Mid-America Regional Council, they’ll do the procurement, they’ll also do the reporting to the EPA. Then, those four coalition members approve the projects, and then assessments would be done and conducted on the sites.

This is how a site — we already have three priority sites already approved in the grant. If we wanted to apply for additional sites, this is the process here. So, we would get at least two more, possibly three, if the coalition approves that, and the EPA would have to approve what site we’re looking at. Each site is capped at $100,000. That would be a majority vote from the coalition members, and they post those public meetings with public comments.
Then, one of our — the priority site we put in the grant is 1726 Quindaro for that northeast co-op grocery store. It used to be a hardware store. So, we want to make sure that is safe for the community.

So, what I would need tonight is your guys’ approval to move this on to the full Commission on the 28th, and then the Mayor would sign that memorandum of agreement. You have any questions? Chairman Burroughs asked, committee, any questions?

Commissioner Townsend said, Ms. Moore, a question. The priority sites, there were three mentioned, one of which happens to be in my district. According to the material I’ve read, $100,000 is the maximum to be spent on these three sites, is that correct? Ms. Moore said no, ma’am. It’d be $100,000 per site. It would be capped at that. Not everybody’s going to get that
kind of money and not every site will need that. The grant just won’t work for that, so we would keep tabs on our budget. They’re capped at that so that each project can get a little bit of funding. You would see these other sites. In Grandview there’s a site and I believe in Kansas City, Missouri, they listed out their locations.

Commissioner Townsend said right, maybe that’s the wrong question. $100,000, would that be the uppermost limit? Would the Brownfield inquiry into 1726 Quindaro be the uppermost limit to that? Ms. Moore said it doesn’t appear that we’re going to need that type of money because it was not — there’s no drums on the site with materials in it, no gasoline or anything, underground storage tanks. So, this one should be a rather, I wouldn’t say easy, because nothing’s easy in Brownfields, but it should not be that upper limit of cost.

Commissioner Townsend said okay, but that is the upper limit for these properties, correct? Ms. Moore said that is the max across the board. All the projects are capped at that $100,000. Commissioner Townsend said okay.

The next thing, is there any other entity that will have to make application for the Quindaro site or these other two? These three are going to be investigated without any further action by any other organization, is that correct? Ms. Moore said yeah, we’re already partnering with the owner with Project Valley and Pride and Northeast Energy. They’re already part of our partners currently before we even applied for the grant.

Commissioner Townsend said I just wanted to make sure in my mind that there was no other application process for the persons who are intimately involved in that site. Thank you.

Chairman Burroughs said I see no other hands raised, so I’ll ask the Clerk, are there comments from the public? Ms. Godsil said no public comments were received. Chairman Burroughs said with that, this is an action item. I would entertain a motion.

Action: Commissioner Walters made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Townsend, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Bryant, Walters, Johnson, Townsend, McKiernan, Burroughs.
ITEM No. 3 – 20637…RESOLUTION: KCKCC STUDENT HOUSING PROJECT IRBs

Synopsis: Intent to issue industrial revenue bonds in the amount not to exceed $20,000,000 to finance the costs of acquiring, constructing, improving, and equipping a student housing facility for the benefit of the Kansas City Kansas Community College Foundation, submitted by Katherine Carttar, Director of Economic Development. (sales tax exemption only)

Katherine Carttar, Director of Economic Development, said this is a resolution of intent that you all are voting on tonight for industrial revenue bonds in the amount not to exceed $20 million for the Kansas City Kansas Community College Student Housing Project.
This is for sales tax exemption only. So, just a little bit about the project. This is a student housing facility on their main campus. They went through an RFP process over the last year to determine the builder and how the financing and all of that would work. They’re looking at approximately 100,000 square feet with 260 units. The construction cost is just right around $20 million. They’re anticipating that the facility will open to students in August of 2022. This project will be funded by student housing system & revenue bonds, that KCK Community College are providing. As I mentioned, this will not be a property tax abatement; this will be solely a sales tax exemption.

So, going through a few of the pictures just to give you an idea of what this looks like. Also, Michael Beach, the CFO of the community college, is on the line if you have additional questions. I can give a very cursory review of some nice pictures so you know kind of what they’re planning.
Here you can see the location on their campus. They are planning to have quite a lot of amenities, so this will be kind of more than your normal student housing. As you can see, they have a lovely patio, firepits, hammock groves, basketball courts, and amphitheater, etc. It should be really very lovely.

Here’s kind of a floor plan.
You can see what the elevations look like.

And then a couple of pretty renderings. So, if you have any questions, I’m happy to answer or I believe Mr. Beach is also available.
Chairman Burroughs asked committee, any questions?

Commissioner McKiernan asked, Katherine, could you go back to the overhead view, the map view? I just want to verify that I know where this is. This is immediately southwest of the majority of their campus buildings, right? Is that the police academy facility that is to the right of this picture? Ms. Carttar said I believe so, no?

Michael Beach, KCKCC CFO said so, the police academy is the building that you can see in the very lower end of the screen, directly south of the amphitheater. The buildings to the east are the current Royal Ridge Apartments that the college leases for the existing student housing. Commissioner McKiernan said perfect. I knew that building wasn’t set far enough off the road to be the police academy building, but I was having a hard time figuring out. This is exactly where I thought it was. That’s all I needed. Thank you.

Mr. Beach said actually for clarification, that actually — that section on the lower end of the screen is actually the parking lot to the police academy building, not the actual police academy building itself.

Chairman Burroughs asked, any other questions? Good question, Commissioner McKiernan. Any other questions from the committee? Seeing none, Katherine, I just have one small question. These IRBs you said for a sales tax exemption, these are sales tax exemption on just the construction items, right? The materials? Ms. Carttar said correct. Yeah, so this would be a very short-term. They would be about a two-year, basically until they finish their construction and then that would… Chairman Burroughs said very good. Thank you for that clarification.
Chairman Burroughs said, if no other questions from the committee, I would ask the Clerk if there was any members of the public wishing to speak. Ms. Godsil said no public comments were received. Chairman Burroughs said thank you. With that I would ask — this is an action item. We will need a motion.

**Action:** Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKiernan, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Bryant, Walters, Johnson, Townsend, McKiernan, Burroughs.

**ITEM No. 4 – 20510...PRESENTATION/RESOLUTION: CASH AND INVESTMENT POLICY**

**Synopsis:** Presentation of the Unified Government’s Cash and Investment Policy and consideration of a resolution adopting said policy, submitted by Rick Mikesic, Director of Revenue/County Treasurer; and Andrea Parra, Deputy Treasurer.

Rick Mikesic, Director of Revenue/County Treasurer, said typically Andrea would be here with us tonight. She sends her apologies, she had a death in the family and so she’s not with us tonight, but I’ll do my best to serve in her absence. Chairman Burroughs said please pass along the Commission’s condolences, please. Mr. Mikesic said I certainly will do that, yes.

The Cash Management and Investment Policy is required to be reviewed annually by the Cash Management Committee, and then approved by the Board of Commissioners on an annual basis. That’s part of the policy itself. If there are changes necessary by the Cash Management
Committee, we have to come to the Board of Commissioners for the approval. Over the past couple of years, there have been some changes made to the Cash Management and Investment Policy, and this year we really have very very little to change.

In fact, it is simply just some formatting changes, so this is it right here. Very quick, three formatting changes that were listed – just a replacing or correcting an extra period and some indentations, that’s really the only change. Nothing significant in regard to the policy or what we’ll be doing or anything like that. So, I’m happy to answer any questions, but we really don’t have much here because we really hammered it pretty well, I think, over the last couple of years.

Chairman Burroughs said, Mr. Mikesic, thank you for the presentation. At this time I’d open it up to the committee. Committee, any questions for the County Treasurer? Sorry, let me make sure nobody’s got their hand up. I see no questions. With that, I would ask the Clerk if any comments were received from the public. Ms. Godsil said no public comments were received. Chairman Burroughs said thank you. With that, if there’s not any other questions, this is an action item. I would entertain a motion.

Action: Commissioner Walters made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Bryant, Walters, Johnson, Townsend, McKiernan, Burroughs.

ITEM No. 5 – 20641… UPDATE: BUSINESS EFFORTS REGARDING COVID-19
Synopsis: Update on business efforts regarding COVID-19 and CARES Act grant funding, submitted by Shayla Lockett, Small Business Liaison.
Shaya Lockett, Small Business Liaison, said I am here to provide an update on our small business COVID-19 efforts.

We will go ahead with the funding overview. We had three separate sources of funding for businesses in our community. The first is our Economic Development Department grants that we have annually, the $50,000. In April, we awarded those. We previously went before the Commission to seek revisions so that those grants could be used as a COVID-19 response. Our second source of funding is our WYCO Loves Local grant, which was awarded through CARES Act funding, and that one we issued grants for over a million dollars. Then a third is through our partnership with ALT-CAP, and we had roughly $266,000 between the PPP loans and the KC Regional Relief Recovery Loan Fund that went to businesses in Wyandotte County.
On this screen, these are the individuals who received the department grants. The Economic Development Department small business grants, they were for $5,000 each. These are the 10 businesses that were able to receive those funds.

WYCO Loves Local application process, which is the grants, we originally received $825,000 in CARES Act funding. That was approved on September 15th. Our staff created an online application and the grants could be used to reimburse revenue loss and/or COVID related expenses. Businesses with 25 or fewer employees are eligible for $10,000 and those with more than 25 employees were eligible for $20,000. We opened our applications on September 17th, and due to receiving an excess of applications than we had funding available for, applications were closed October 7th. An additional $191,000 in CARES Act funding was reallocated to support small businesses on December 4th. At that time, we reached out to eligible businesses that had previously applied, but were not awarded grants or were not awarded their total amount eligible.
This is just an overview of how we scored our applications. A big part of what we wanted to do was make sure we had a significant impact on those businesses that had a more difficult time receiving funds from the Federal and/or State level. So we looked at businesses that were closed due to the stay-at-home order, and businesses that lost revenue between — because of COVID, and also those businesses that had a smaller number of employees. Nationally, those are the businesses that had a more difficult time receiving those funds.
Then our next couple screens show us the list — these are the list of businesses that were able to receive the grant funds. As you can see through this list, there are numerous industries represented.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beautiful Beginnings Early</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childhood Education Center</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volar Thieves of Flight</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosa’s Denver Academy</td>
<td>$6,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City Testing and Engineering</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<td>Backstage Barbershop, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amerex Classic LLC</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turner Dental Group</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amazing Smiles of Kansas City, LLC</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wise Winters and Speakers</td>
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<tr>
<td>ThermoRoll Leaf, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>KC Bowl, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free Parking, LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ed’s Trophies &amp; Awards</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schultz Bros. Electric Co., Inc</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ExpTech, Inc</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keyimpact Studies</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cano’s Barbershop</td>
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<tr>
<td>John’s Java &amp; Jazz</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infusion Designs</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>HT’s Barber and Beauty Salon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seal of Fun Daycare</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coreoab Structures Kansas, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>L &amp; B Brest Inc</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ved’s Little Lamb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rental City, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elevate Bar and Grill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sportsmen Barbershop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonial Club LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hydeman Company</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arc Rental Car KC, LLC</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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</table>

We have everything from restaurant industries to childcare, law firms, entertainment venues, and they’re both smaller and larger companies that received these grant funds. This is the full list of businesses that received grant funding through CARES.
This map here shows the location of the businesses that were able to receive those grant funds, and it shows how they were distributed throughout the county.

So in summary, the grants were awarded to reimburse for revenue loss or COVID-related expenses. We received 133 applications. We were able to award 90 business applications. The awarded applications were from 11 different zip codes in Wyandotte County. Seventy of those awarded applications had — applicants had 25 or fewer employees.

We were able to distribute over $1.3 million in COVID relief to Wyandotte County businesses through these grant funds: the department grant funds, the CARES Act funding, and our partnership with ALT-CAP.
As I said before, this was a true team effort. So, we want to thank all those individuals who assisted in this process and helped us help our businesses in our community.

Chairman Burroughs said, Shaya, thank you for that overview. I think it’s extremely fortunate that we have the individuals looking at those requests, those grant requests to help alleviate some of the concerns our small businesses in our community are dealing with in reference to the COVID-19 pandemic. So thank you and all of those involved. I do appreciate the overview this evening. That’s a lot of money to put back into our local economy. That money had to be distributed by the end of the year, if I remember correctly. Ms. Lockett said that’s correct. Chairman Burroughs said thank you for that.

Chairman Burroughs asked, any questions from the committee?

Commissioner Townsend said, Ms. Lockett, good evening. Good to see you. I’ll say hopeful new year to all of us, that things are better. I think Commissioner Burroughs may have answered my question with the reminder that a certain number of these funds had to be used by the end of 2020. So my current question is, is there any funding still available? What about the small grant loans that the UG usually had, the $50,000 pot? Where are we right now with that type of money or funding or resources? Someone looking tonight may ask that question, some small business.

Ms. Lockett said so we — there is no CARES Act funding currently at this time. We do still have money allocated for the Small Business Grant though I believe we would have to take it back before Commission to get approval to use it for COVID expenses if that’s the direction we take for 2021. Commissioner Townsend said okay, all right. If you could just verify that for me, I’d
appreciate it. You can send me an email that — or to all of the committee just so we know in case we’re asked by our constituents.

Katherine Carttar, Director of Economic Development, said Commissioner, just to add a little more into that. Shaya is exactly right, as it currently stands four days into the year – into the new fiscal year. That $50,000 has reverted back to its normal, kind of small business process. However, that is something that we can certainly look into, kind of using that as additional COVID relief. I will say the ALT-CAP funds, now those are loans; not grants. There are still significant amounts of money. I think the loans go up to $100,000 and are very low interest. I think the first year is 0% interest for those loans that are eligible, and there’s a priority for Wyandotte County businesses. Commissioner Townsend said okay. If one of these businesses wanted to make application, could we refer that entrepreneur to your office then for guidance to ALT-CAP and how to contact them? Ms. Carttar said yes; contact Shaya. Commissioner Townsend said all right, thank you.

Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrator, said, Commissioner, if I might add, we’re also kind of awaiting additional guidance from the Federal stimulus that was passed right at the end of the year, that contained, I believe, from news accounts, additional support for small businesses and paycheck protection. The details, I think, are still pretty much to be determined. So, as soon as we find that information out, we certainly can post it as we did earlier this year to the information on our COVID page. So, I know that’s also something the team will be looking at as we get more information. Commissioner Townsend said thank you, Mr. Howze. Good point. We’ll keep an eye on that as well. Thank you.

Chairman Burroughs said I see no other hands, committee. With that, I’d ask the Clerk if we — Bridgette Cobbins, Interim Assistant County Administrator, said we do have a hand up of a Stacy Damron that’s in attendance, Mr. Chair. Chairman Burroughs said okay, Stacy, welcome to the committee.

Stacy Damron said I’m trying to talk to you. I’ve never done this before. My question is, how can you guys shut the small bars and businesses down like Coach Lite Club, which I own? There’s
Chairman Burroughs asked, Mr. Damron, are you scheduled to speak at the next item on the agenda, which is the public hearing referencing the closing times to bars? Mr. Damron said I am one of those, but I thought that was this one too. I’m not understanding how you guys can close the bars down, but yet we have no money come to us. We’re too small. We do not get your PPA. We don’t get no money to us at all. I just spent three months shut down, and I just spent two more months shut down at 10 o’clock, and there’s no money coming to us whatsoever.

Chairman Burroughs said, Mr. Damron, I believe that we have people online that can answer the question. Those grants just don’t go to businesses without an application process. I would assume that you had filled out an application. Staff, did we lose him? Mr. Damron said so the ones that are hurting is those little, small mom and pop bars. We’re not getting no revenue at all but yet I got to pay my mortgage. I got to pay my electric. I got to pay my money to my taxes. But yet, we get no revenue of any kind. How do you expect us to pay those?

Chairman Burroughs said, Mr. Damron, I, again, I’m going to ask, did you apply to the grant process? Mr. Damron said I did. I was told I was too small. You guys ran out of money before I got there. Chairman Burroughs asked, Shaya, does anyone want to answer Mr. Damron’s comment or comment to Mr. Damron?

Ms. Carttar said I’m not familiar with his application, but they’re too small is not a thing on small businesses; but his last comment is very likely. As you saw from Shaya’s presentation, there was a huge response. So, I think it is highly likely that we ran out of funding prior to him completing his application. Chairman Burroughs said thank you for that.

There was a second round that went through. The dollars that had been returned that weren’t utilized the first round, I believe I heard Ms. Lockett say that there was a second round, and those businesses were contacted for consideration on the second round.

So, Mr. Damron, I don’t have your specifics, but I would encourage you, again, to reach out to the local unit of government should we have additional dollars coming from the federal government, and at that time, that is uncertain at this particular time. Thank you for your comments.

Madam Clerk, any other comments from the public? Ms. Godsil said no public comments were received.
Chairman Burroughs said this was for information only. This was not an action item.

Action: For information only.

Chairman Burroughs said, that will lead us then into Item No. 6, which I believe Mr. Damron stated he wanted to visit, but we heard him in Item No. 5.

ITEM No. 6 – 20642...PUBLIC HEARING: CLOSING TIMES FOR BARS & RESTAURANTS
Synopsis: A public hearing regarding closing times for bars and restaurants in Wyandotte County, KS.

Chairman Burroughs said this is the public hearing in reference to closing times for bars and restaurants. This is a – I, as well as my fellow commissioners, have been contacted by numerous constituents about the 10 p.m. closing time. We want to afford this opportunity for individuals to have their voices heard in a public setting such as this.

At this time, I’ll open the public hearing and ask the Clerk to please read the names who have signed up to speak. We ask that you state your name and city of residency for the record. You will be given up to three minutes to state your comments. Should you go to the two-minute mark, the Clerk will announce that you have one minute remaining. I will ask the clerk to announce the first speaker. Ms. Godsil said our first speaker is Melissa Nead. She is the co-owner of The Dotte Spot Bar & Grill.

Chairman Burroughs said and since this is a public meeting, I do want to remind everyone that — please hold your comments. We ask that you state your name and city of residency again for the record. You will be given up to three minutes to state your comments. I would ask the Clerk at the end of the three minutes to advise the speaker that their time has expired. So with that, I would ask that — I believe Melissa Nead is our first speaker. Welcome Melissa.

Melissa Nead said I am a resident of Kansas City, Kansas. I am the co-owner of The Dotte Spot Bar & Grill. We are located at 82nd and Parallel here in KCK. We are a woman-owned business...
and we’ve been in business since March of 2015. We have a small staff, roughly ten or so employees, all of whom live in Wyandotte County.

I have embraced the opportunity to be a part of the Restart WYCO committee, and got a chance to speak and represent small restaurants and bars as we’re working on getting things reopened.

At The Dotte Spot Bar & Grill, we have complied with all of the guidelines and mandates that have been presented to us throughout this whole process. Of course, it has been a tough year for small businesses, especially tough for our industry, local bars and grills. Restaurants are just really taking the brunt of things here within this pandemic, as you all can imagine.

Currently, we have social distancing. We have taken half of our tables out of service in our dining room. If you’re ever able to come in, you’ll see tables are off the floor. They’ve got x’s through them. We went down from 14 barstools to 4. Things are spaced out. We are following capacity mandates as well. Then, as you know, a few weeks back, we were placed with a 10 p.m. curfew. And while I do personally understand the rationale for the 10 p.m. closing time rule, it is killing us.

We, you know, can’t sustain paying full rent, taxes, licenses, utilities, insurance with such limited operating hours on top of limited capacity and the social distancing requirements as well. We are watching our customers walk across to Johnson County, county lines, and spending their money in Johnson County, Leavenworth County. We’re a sports bar. As you know, Chiefs games, basketball games, they don’t end by 10 p.m., so we’re just not getting customers for those games. They’re going to Tanner’s, they’re going places in Johnson County and spending their money.

The clock is ticking for many small businesses in Wyandotte County. We are all on life support right now. We’re the kind of establishment who sponsors youth baseball, 4-H, golf, tournaments, churches, class reunions for Washington, Schlagle, Wyandotte, Harmon, Piper, Turner, and Ward. We’ve hosted birthday parties, retirement parties in our back room over the years. We are a true neighborhood spot, and the kind of place that communities cannot afford to lose. We need help from the UG and we need it fast. We need the 10 p.m. closing mandate to be modified to midnight to keep us competitive with Johnson County if any of us has a chance of making it.

Chairman Burroughs said thank you, Ms. Nead.

Chairman Burroughs said, I would ask the Clerk to announce the next speaker, please. I do want to remind everyone to make sure to state your name and city of residency for the record, please.
Ms. Godsil said next we have Kim Pond, who is the owner of the Red Eye Bar. Chairman Burroughs said Clerk, I’m sorry I interrupted you. Ms. Pond.

Kim Pond said, I live in Kansas City, Kansas. I own the Red Eye Bar on 61st and State Avenue. I just first want to say, thanks for listening to us because we didn’t know where to go. We really need all the commissioners, everybody to help support us and to get us put on an agenda with the Mayor to vote so we can get this moved as soon as possible. None of us have any idea how long it’s going to be that we have to, you know, close at 10 o’clock. We have no clue. We’re at a loss. We’ve lost all of our major holidays. St. Patrick’s Day being the first one, but the casino got to stay open for St. Patrick’s Day. We had to close at midnight. It’s just – we’re losing everything. My bar alone, I know, does a lot of charity work for the community, and some, you know, like for cancer, and everything else. We’ve lost all those motorcycle runs to raise funds for that. We’ve only done a handful of charity work this year compared to all summer long. We’re trying to raise money to help the homeless, I mean, everything, and we’re not able to do that anymore right now.

People are leaving Wyandotte County with Wyandotte County money, spending it in other countries – or counties – which encourages the spread of COVID. They’re going out to them other counties now, they’re not just staying in Wyandotte, they’re venturing out. Everybody is losing the money. Yes, like Melissa said, a lot of places are going to close down due to the loss of income, people losing their jobs, Wyandotte County losing money. A lot of that money is made right here in Wyandotte County. Again, thank you for your time. I’m done.

Chairman Burroughs said thank you, Ms. Pond. The committee appreciates your statements. Madam Clerk, next speaker please. Ms. Godsil said yes, our next speaker is Blake Lostel, the owner of the Colonial Club.

Blake Lostel said I am a resident of Wyandotte County over in Rosedale. I own the Colonial Club as well as over 20 properties on Strawberry Hill. My biggest concern is, I’ve already taken heavy losses by releasing people from leases as good faith just because of the pandemic, and the Colonial Club had to let go of six employees and we can’t bring them back. We’re down to like a shoestring employee budget.
The problem is, when we went to 10 o’clock, we’ve been toeing the line in helping and doing our part, but when you start destroying peoples’ income like this, there’s no — without any government assistance, it’s a big problem.

So, my biggest concerns are, I’ve talked to the Health Department. Actually one of the representatives called me. She informed me that there was no economic person from the private sector to help make this decision to go to 10 o’clock.

They’ve also released statistics that state that 50% of all deaths from COVID are from people from nursing homes that are over 70 years old. People that are going to bars are between 20 and 50, they’re not the main people that are getting this disease. Most of the bars, from just the two people before me, have caps of 50 people. So if we bring that cap down to 25 people, most people in our bars, in these tiny bars, they’re 10 people, and they are spaced. They’re not making major spread happen.

My second point to that is, I spent over $85,000 this year at Home Depot. Every time I go in there I see people buying poinsettias that are in their 50s. So, this is making me very upset that we are going to lose our businesses by these policies.

I just got a form from Wyandotte stating the COVID preventions. At the very bottom it said that churches and casinos are allowed to not follow these restrictions. This is not a fair playing field is what I’m getting at with these situations I’m pointing out. We just want to be fair. I’m not saying 2 o’clock in the morning; I’m saying 12. Let us make some money to survive and get through this.

I’m going to get off now because I don’t want to waste anybody’s more time, but my next question is: when are we going to vote so that we can bring money back into Wyandotte County and actually have our employees get paid? When is this decision going to be made to match Johnson County, if it is ever going to happen? Because if it doesn’t happen, people are going to get really upset. Thank you.

Ms. Godsil said okay, our last speaker we have signed up is Vicky Kobialka, owner of Kobi’s Bar.

Vicky Kobialka said my name is Vicky Kobialka-Freeman. I own and operate Kobi’s Bar & Grill in Bonner Springs, Kansas, small-owned business for 33 years, I’ve been here. This COVID-19 has been bad for everyone and every business has suffered. One of the most detrimental issues
financially has been the 10 p.m. closing. Two minutes south of my business in Johnson County are several similar restaurants where you’re allowed to open for two more hours until midnight. Five minutes north of my location is Leavenworth County, again similar to my business, and there is no time restrictions allowing these merchants to conduct business until 2 a.m.

These time restrictions are desperate and are literally driving customers and business away, not only for me, but for many other Wyandotte County businesses also. I find it hard to believe that the number of virus cases caused by the pandemic in this little corner of Kansas could cause three neighboring counties to have such variable degrees of restrictions. Please understand the difficulty that this restriction creates for us.

Since March of 2020, I had to lay off over half of my normal operating staff. Even after the initial shutdown was lifted, former employees were hesitant to return back to work, and customers were going to businesses elsewhere with no time restrictions.

We, at Kobi’s Bar & Grill, Bonner Springs, Kansas, has stayed in compliance with all of COVID-19 restriction mandates. Based on the last two quarters’ numbers, I will probably have to close our doors one or two days a week due to the lack of business and these restrictions on operating times. Losses that have occurred in the food industry not only affect me, but also municipal counties and state budgets, too.

January of 2021 would be a good time to consider the small business issues and hopefully improve changes that will reduce the loss of revenue to help hardworking businesses to stay in business. Thank you.

Chairman Burroughs said thank you, Ms. Kobialka.

Chairman Burroughs asked, staff, is there any other speakers? Ms. Godsil said we only had the four sign up ahead of time. Chairman Burroughs said thank you. This was an opportunity to hear from some of our small businesses that have reached out to the commission members. We thought it was appropriate this evening to request that opportunity for those that signed up to speak. I want to thank you for taking the time this evening to join us and share your hardships and the challenges you face due to the COVID pandemic. This was for information only. It was an opportunity for the public to express their comments, and we are grateful that we had four of those that chose to do that this evening. So, thank you. This was for public information.

January 4, 2021
**Action:** For information only.

**ITEM NO. 7 – 20643…FOLLOW-UP: COVID-19**

**Synopsis:** Follow-up by the COVID-19 team, submitted by Juliann VanLiew, Health Department Director.

**Juliann VanLiew, Health Department Director,** said good evening everyone, and thank you so much to the four of those businesses who came here this evening to convey to us what you’re experiencing. I think first and foremost within the Health Department, we want to say that this is awful. We agree that this is awful. These are, first of all, not decisions that we take lightly, and second of all, not meant in anyway to be punitive or to be targeting certain businesses. We’re trying to make the best decision we can with the information that we have. So, we absolutely hear you, and we are going to commit to reevaluating this amongst ourselves and with our fellow jurisdictions around the core four. I know our deputy health officer, Dr. Erin Corriveau, and our health officer, Dr. Allen Greiner, are also on the line, and would like to respond as well.

**Erin Corriveau, Deputy Health Officer,** said I just want to echo Juliann’s sentiment this evening and how grateful we are that you came to the meeting to share with us how your businesses are doing, what you all are seeing and what you’re feeling. It means a lot to us, I think, to understand that. It’s very important that we understand that.

I do want to also echo that we hear you, and I think this is serious. We will absolutely commit to taking this back this Friday to our Director’s meeting.

You know, we initially went with the 10 p.m. order to create consistency around the metro, and the inconsistency that’s been pointed out this evening is in Johnson County. I believe they’re at a midnight closing time at this point in time. We’ve already reached out to them, and we’re having conversations with Johnson County about this as well, so we commit to continuing to talk through this with them. But we do want to try and create some semblance of consistency in our community.

The other thing that I wanted to say in the data that we’re seeing is that sure enough, you know, our young people, those in the 20- and 30-year old range are, you know, comprising the majority of the cases that we’re seeing in Wyandotte County. Whereas it’s true that we don’t see many...
people dying or hospitalized in that age group, unfortunately it does just propagate the spread of
the virus.

The virus is the real issue here and we are still continuing to see severe illness and death from
the virus. So, we continue to worry about really any cases that come up in our community and are
trying to sort of tamp that down. This was part of the attempt to do that and, you know, we
understand also — we’re doing the best we can to consider what we think might spread the virus.
But, you know, again I think the economic impact of this, the mental health impact of this, and all
of that is also on our minds and something that we do need to tend to. So, again, we’ll be taking
this back this week to our colleagues from other jurisdictions for a better look at it because, you
know, again we appreciate what you all have said. Thank you.

Chairman Burroughs said thank you, Dr. Corriveau. Ms. VanLiew said Dr. Greiner, is there
anything you’d like to add?

Allen Greiner, Health Officer, said nothing specific. I think Dr. Corriveau summed it up nicely.
I just want to contribute as well that we really appreciate the input. We know this has had a
devastating impact on businesses. I think that these businesses — and many of you have been
real pillars of the community. You understand the balance here between trying to do something
that will slow this down so we can get back to business as usual versus move ahead with things
that we think could be risky. We’re just trying to juggle that every day and it’s a real struggle.

So, we appreciate the input and we’ll continue to try to balance those things because we want
to be like, you know, some of the places in the world that have gotten back to business as usual,
and we want to do that fast. So, we’re really working on it. We’ll be pushing the entire metro to
get on the same page because we know that’s the most brutal part is that people are driving around
doing different things in different jurisdictions. So, thank you.

Chairman Burroughs said thank you. Juliann, any other information you’d like to share?
Remind the social distancing, handwashing, mask wearing, all those safety precautions are
necessary to ensure that we can push back against this virus as much as we possibly can publicly
and safely. Any closing comments?

Ms. VanLiew said no, you were beautiful just there. That was spot-on, Commissioner. Thank
you so much. I would also, you know, the vaccines are the other antidote to this, right? So we
have set up a very large mass-vaccination site, and we are ready to vaccinate as many people as we can as quickly as we can get our hands on that vaccine. So, just ask you to all please spread that message that when it’s available, people come to get their vaccines so we can really get all of our businesses operating fully. Thank you very much.

Chairman Burroughs said thank you. I do want to thank the three of you for joining us this evening to hear the concerns that we, as commissioners, have been hearing from our small businesses, especially those small businesses, bars and restaurants, the impact, financial and emotional impact it’s had on them. So, thank you for joining us this evening. This was for public information only. I do want to again thank our conferees this evening.

Action: For information only.

ITEM NO. 8 – 20667...RESOLUTION: SECOND AMENDMENT TO DOWNTOWN CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

Synopsis: A resolution adopting the Second Amendment to the Downtown Campus Development Agreement, submitted by Katherine Carttar, Director of Economic Development.

Chairman Burroughs said Item No. 8 was the blue sheet item that you should all have received prior to this evening’s meeting.

Katherine Carttar, Director of Economic Development, said as you can see, this is a second amendment to the development agreement for the Lanier United Downtown Redevelopment Project right there at 5th and Minnesota. Really what this is doing is, we had a date from the first amendment of January 15th as kind of the drop-dead date to have everything in place for the closing to occur, so that is when we would actually transfer the property to Mr. Lanier and his company. What we’re requesting with this second amendment is to push that by 60 days, so to March 15th. There is an ability for Lanier United to get some additional and far more favorable financing. I’ll turn it over here to Willie to kind of explain the circumstance and why we think this is a good extension to grant.
Willie Lanier said we are looking to, as Katherine said, obtain an extension of our drop-dead date, strictly and due only to the opportunity that has been presented to me and the company from LISC regarding funding. LISC has national — has received opportunity based on the 2020 Social Justice Movement, a new fund that is in excess of over $200 million has been created. The fund is tailored to black developers and black economic development across the country. The fund was funded by Netflix, Costco, PayPal, companies of that nature.

LISC reached out to me at the early part of December and said that we would like to submit this project as a target for this new fund that we think would be — it meets all the objectives of this money. At such this time, I had a couple of conversations with them, and I believe it is very valuable.

What it could do for the project is – from a very practical standpoint, up to maybe a one point less in interest rate. Could be some more favorable terms in terms of our ratios that we perform to.

It would also allow me to do, as Katherine said much earlier tonight, absorb some of the costs that have gone up and escalated during 2020 i.e., lumber and so forth, to the extent that we are looking at being somewhat different and looking at a light-gauge metal structure in lieu of lumber, just because the pricing has gotten so high. We may be able to build a better building for almost equal price because of the cost – the fact that lumber is so high.

I do believe that we have methodically gone through everything that I was supposed to do in working with the Unified Government over the past year, and we know that our first amendment that we asked for back in July or June, so to speak, was – in order for us to get our incentives and our rezoning synced up together. We were able to do that through amendment one.

I am asking for amendment two so that we have the ability to flush out any other benefits that the new financing opportunities would bring to the fold here. Clearly, the traditional lenders don’t have the ability and/or private business desire to create lending that’s more attractive such as the new LISC funds have come in most recently. With that, LISC has been put on notice that this is a short fuse in order for us to deliver, this new funding and the closing will not be extended past what I’m requesting for today. Any questions, please?

Chairman Burroughs said thank you, Mr. Lanier.
Chairman Burroughs asked, Commissioners, are there any questions? I don’t see any hands. Well, congratulations, Mr. Lanier. I would assume that your project would be one of the first ones in the metropolitan area to be considered for the new funds that are available. Mr. Lanier said that is correct. Chairman Burroughs said that’s quite an award to be considered on a project such as yours. The potential savings that it would present, should those funds become available – and the question I would have that I believe the Unified Government has put forward some hotel tax money I believe within the development proposal is, is there a possibility that those funds may not need to be used in this project? If the monies are more favorable through the financing? I mean, that’s something I would think that would be a point of discussion for Katherine as well as the Economic Development team.

Mr. Lanier said well, I think for myself, I came to the Unified Government and said that I would try to do two things: I would try to be a catalyst for the downtown redevelopment area, and I would try to create opportunities for those that had not received the opportunities from an employment standpoint. The best I could, as being an individual developer myself, and because of that, I inherently bring more expenses and costs to my projects because of what I tell any municipality on day one what I will do. So I think that although I am going searching for savings, I turn around and I redirect those savings back into the community because that’s consistent with what I said from day one. Chairman Burroughs said and I believe you will, Mr. Lanier, thank you for that comment. Mr. Lanier said yes, sir.

Chairman Burroughs asked, any other questions and comments from the committee? Commissioner Johnson said move to approve as submitted. Chairman Burroughs said, Mr. Johnson, we have to ensure we have no public comment first. Ms. Godsil said no public comments were received.

Action: Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKiernan, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were six “Ayes,” Bryant, Walters, Johnson, Townsend, McKiernan, Burroughs.
Adjourn

Chairman Burroughs adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

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