



**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE
AUGUST 18, 2025**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, August 18, at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Mikkelson presided.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called by the deputy city clerk with the following councilmembers in attendance: Cole Robinson, Terry O'Toole, Inga Selders, Ron Nelson, Lori Sharp, Chi Nguyen, Dave Robinson, Tyler Agniel, Greg Shelton, Nick Reddell, Ian Graves and Terrence Gallagher. Staff present: Eric McCullough, Chief of Police; City Attorney Alex Aggen, Hunter Law Group; Wes Jordan, City Administrator; Nickie Lee, Deputy City Administrator; Meghan Buum, Assistant City Administrator; Jason Hannaman, Finance Director; Cliff Speegle, Public Works Project Manager; Ashley Freburg, Deputy City Clerk.

*Councilmember Lori Sharp departed before the executive session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Mikkelson announced an amendment to the agenda, adding an executive session.

Mr. Reddell made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Agniel and passed 12-0.

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENTS AND SCOUTS

There were no students or scouts present at the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Chief Eric McCullough presented the Prairie Village Police Department's Lifesaving award to officers Jeremiah Smith and Seth Dittmore who, earlier this year, responded to a call of a patient in cardiac arrest. They quickly began CPR and connected an AED to the patient. They continued CPR until paramedics arrived. Without their quick response, application of their training and equipment, the patient may not have survived. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, the patient was doing well and was in attendance for the ceremony.



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Jim Rosberg, Ward 1, spoke about council comments after public comment.
- Dawn Olney, Ward 5, shared support of the city's food composting program.
- Pam Justus, Ward 6, shared her thoughts about individual members of the governing body, and about council comments after public comments.
- Rick Wohlfarth, Ward 4, shared support of the city's food composting program.
- Betsy Lawrence, Ward 5, thanked council members for agreeing to meet with her as a candidate for city council.
- Barbara Cantrell, Ward 4, shared her thoughts on a lawsuit brought against the city by resident Marc Vianello.
- Leon Patton, Ward 5, shared his thoughts on a lawsuit brought against the city by resident Marc Vianello.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Mikkelson asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent agenda for discussion:

1. Consider approval of regular City Council meeting minutes - August 4, 2025
2. Consider approval of expenditure ordinance #3053
3. Consider design agreement with Olsson for the design of the 2025/2026 drainage program (DRAIN-25X)

Mr. Shelton made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken with the following votes cast: "aye": C. Robinson, O'Toole, Selders, Nelson, Sharp, Nguyen, D. Robinson, Agniel, Shelton, Reddell, Graves, Gallagher. The motion passed 12-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Police Pension Board
 - Mr. Graves stated that currently, the Police Pension Plan does not allow officers to purchase service credit from past qualified law enforcement employment. To enhance recruitment and retention, the police department proposed changing this provision in the plan to allow for this option. At the January 16, 2025, meeting, the Pension Board approved staff to move forward with researching if the current plan would allow for this change and identify all necessary administrative details. City staff worked with the city attorney, the pension plan actuary, and the plan's financial trustee. All parties have determined the current plan can be amended to allow for this provision. Administrative details have also been vetted with the actuary and trustee. The proposed plan allows officers to purchase up to five years of service credit. Purchase options include rollovers from allowable plans, lump sum payment and/or payroll deduction. All costs related to purchasing service



PRAIRIE VILLAGE KANSAS

credit will solely be the responsibility of the officer purchasing the service credit. This change will not increase any funding requirements to the plan by the city.

After discussion, Mr. Cole Robinson made a motion to move pension plan amendments forward for final action at a future council meeting. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Mr. O'Toole provided an update from the Planning Commission on the Hen House project underway at the Prairie Village Shops, noting that demolition work that began in March is now complete. He noted that rough-in interior work has begun on the first and second floors, and the roof is estimated to be completed in the final quarter of 2025. However, those involved do not expect the building to be completely closed in until the first quarter of 2026. Tennent construction will be complete mid to late 2026.
- Mr. Cole Robinson provided an update from the Finance Committee. The committee had a meeting earlier in the month regarding the municipal campus project where they considered alternative financing options presented by staff but voted not to pursue those options. He also noted that \$7 million has been spent to date on the project.
- Ms. Nguyen stated that the Diversity Committee will hold a Labor Day of Service event at City Hall Monday, September 1. The committee is currently collecting winter warmth wear—hats, gloves, coats, scarves—to be distributed in partnership with JVS. New and gently used donations can be dropped off at city hall until August 29. Volunteers will then be organizing the donations during the day of service event.
- Mr. Reddell reported from the Shawnee Mission School Board that Lancer Day will be September 5. The event will shut down a portion of Mission Road temporarily. Mr. Reddell also said he visited with the school district about new ordinances regarding e-bikes.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- The Mayor noted great attendance at National Night Out hosted by the police department at the Prairie Village Shops and at KU Kickoff at Corinth Square.
- The Mayor also noted the following upcoming events:
 - JazzFest - September 6
 - School district's annual kickoff - Wednesday August 27
 - Next council meeting - Tuesday, September 2



STAFF REPORTS

- Chief McCullough noted a great turnout at National Night Out. He stated that the event provided the opportunity to give out a lot of information on ebikes. He also stated that applications are being accepted for citizens academy, which begins September 10. Lastly, he introduced Captain Putthoff, who was recently promoted to Captain of staff services.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the council.

NEW BUSINESS

COU2025-35

Consider Reappointment of City Administrator

Mayor Mikkelson asked the council to ratify the appointment of Wes Jordan as Prairie Village City Administrator for an additional four-year term. He noted that Prairie Village is one of the best, safest, cleanest, most well-functioning cities in the world, and he noted Mr. Jordan and staff deserve much of the credit for that.

Mr. Ron Nelson made a motion to ratify the appointment of Wes Jordan to serve as City Administrator for four more years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cole Robinson and passed 12-0.

Mr. Jordan was then sworn in.

COU2025-36

Consider expansion of food composting program

Public Information Officer/Deputy City Clerk Ashley Freburg, in her role as staff liaison to the Environmental Committee provided an update to the governing body on the food composting pilot program that was authorized in April and began in July in an effort to divert food waste from local landfills.

Ms. Freburg noted that the purpose of the pilot program is to gauge interest and feasibility of a new program. Though the pilot was initially established as a 6-month program, it has taken less time to determine the community has substantial interest. In the first week of the program, Prairie Village users purchased more composting supplies than KC Can Compost usually uses in a 6-month period. More than 350 people signed up for the program in its first month. Those same users composted 4,180 lbs. of food scraps, successfully diverting more than two tons of food waste from the landfill in just one month.

The original pilot program placed a smart bin at Wassmer Park and one at Harmon Park with pickup scheduled once per week. However, due to the enthusiasm from composters, the bins routinely fill up within 24 hours after being emptied. To help maintain cleanliness and ensure availability for users, bins are currently being emptied on Mondays,



Wednesdays, and Fridays. However, even with these increased pickups, the demand still outweighs current capacity.

Feedback from residents has been positive. The only complaints received were about the rate at which bins fill up. Public Works staff regularly monitors the bins and have noted no nuisance issues. Staff's goal is to provide opportunities for maximum waste diversion without overwhelming the program.

To that end, city staff recommends purchasing three additional smart bins for Prairie Village users. Staff will work with Public Works and with KC Can Compost to identify bin locations that would allow maximum access while causing minimum disruptions to park visitors or city operations. The bins would continue to be serviced as needed until a schedule can be set that minimizes costs while still providing a clean, accessible program.

Karen Ramsey, Director of Public Programs and Events for KC Can Compost, presented updated statistics to the governing body, noting that as of Monday, August 18, more than 400 people had signed up to use the program, and Prairie Villagers had composted more than 4 tons of food waste.

Mr. Cole Robinson made a motion to expand the food composting drop off program with KC Can Compost. The motion was seconded by Mr. Graves.

Mr. Dave Robinson noted the numbers were strong, but stated the program was only six weeks old.

Mr. Cole Robinson noted there is heavy usage by households surrounding Wassmer Park, which is the location of one of the bins.

Mr. Shelton noted that the annualized cost estimate of \$34,320 breaks down to approximately \$3.43 per household per year.

Mr. Gallagher reiterated that a pilot program is a test. He also noted the landfill is filling up and reminded the council that the city would negotiate a new solid waste contract soon.

After further discussion, a roll call vote was taken with the following votes cast: "aye": C. Robinson, O'Toole, Selders, Nelson, Sharp, Nguyen, D. Robinson, Agniel, Shelton, Reddell, Graves, Gallagher. The motion passed 12-0.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

There was no old business to come before the council committee of the whole.

EXECUTIVE SESSION



PRAIRIE VILLAGE
KANSAS

At 7:30 p.m., Mr. Gallagher made the following motion:

"I move the City Council recess into an executive session for a period of 30 minutes on the subject of consultations with the City Attorney which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2). The Governing Body, City Administrator, Deputy City Administrator, Assistant City Administrator, City Attorney and Finance Director will be present. The open meeting will resume at 8:05 p.m."

The motion was seconded by Mr. Shelton and passed 12-0.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:04 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements were included in the council meeting packet.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mikkelson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Ashley Freburg
Deputy City Clerk