**MINUTES**
**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY**
**SALES TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**
**REGULAR MEETING**
**February 18, 2026**
**3:30 P.M.**

**Call to order:**
The Capital Improvement and Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee met in regular session on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. Present were committee members: Trevor Frerer, Lee Ann Luebber, Erik Lynch, Nathan Mordica and Todd Paterson. Absent: Ken Copeland, Jamie Booker-Norman, Bethany Mckinzie and Fred Osborn. Motion by Trevor Frerer second by Lee Ann Luebber to excuse those absent. Motion passed. City Staff present Leslie Haase, Finance Director; Paul Bloomberg, Parks Director; Jeremy Hagerman, Assistant Director of Public Works- Engineering; Rob Beachner, Capital Improvement Project Manager; Patrick Haase, Project Coordinator Infrastructure; Steven Martinez, Stormwater Engineer; Sared Cifuentes, Stormwater Technician; Assistant Police Chief, Brian Lewis and Gerald Ezell, Fire Chief.

**Approval of minutes:** Motion by Trevor Frerer second by Todd Patterson to approve November 19, 2025, minutes. Motion passed.

Leslie stated that we would start this meeting with Public Safety, as some staff needed to leave the meeting early.

**Review sales tax collections and projects: Reports #3 and 4: Parks and Storm Water Sales Tax:** Finance Director Leslie Haase distributed reports outlining the revenues and expenditures for the parks and storm water sales tax.

**Phase I has been completed.**

**Report #3: Phase II**: On the parks side; no new revenue, still doing projects. We spent $58,648, bringing our total cost to date just over $13.1 million, we still have almost $1.3 million left to spend. On the stormwater side, our expenditures for the year, $91,312; to date, almost $23 million, projects are complete or substantially complete.

**Report #3: Phase III:** Sales tax collections: on the park side, we received $607,624, ARPA state grant reimbursement $1,338,779, we spent $609,194, paid the TIF developer $5,331, expenditures to date just over $14.1 million and still have $17.3 in projects. On the stormwater side, our sales tax revenue $497,147, received back from the state ARPA grant $1,557,654, we have spent this year $1,596,380, paid the TIF developer $4,362, total cost to date just over $11 million and have $8.2 million remaining. Projects on parks side; Dover is substantially complete, as well as Tin Cup Trail, and a lot of projects are under way. On the stormwater side, mostly we are working on the ARPA projects.

**Report #4: Parks Projects:** Leslie stated this report shows the Parks projects; Tin Cup Trail is done, the only remaining project for parks is the Grand Falls Trail.

**Report#4: Storm Water Projects**: Leslie stated those projects are complete.

**Parks Report:**
**Report 6:** Paul Bloomberg presented this report.

**Ewert Park Splash Park w/Ice Ribbon**: Demolition of structures has begun. Putting finishing touches on placement of spray features and other amenities withing the splash and ice ribbon facility. Anticipated completion is mid-October of 2026.

**Synthetic Turf Installation for Ballfields:** This project was awarded to Mid-America Sports Construction. They are currently removing the infield mixture at the four softball fields at the athletic complex and will be installing new turf. It should be completed mid-March. Then they will replace the infield turf at Joe Becker Stadium and Wendell Redden Stadium.

**Overlay/Resurface Sports Courts:** We plan to overlay 5 of the 10 tennis courts at the Athletic Complex and the basketball court at Cunningham Park and overlay the roads in Forest Park Cemetery. This project is in the 2026 budget year.

**Dover Outdoor Recreation Area Bicycle Park (DORA):** This project is now substantially complete. Anticipated final completion is February 2026. The park is currently open and receives great kudos from the community and region. Since Opening in November 2025, we have tracked over 25,000 visitors to the park. Planning for our regional Grand Launch Party is underway which will be held May 2nd. CVB submitted application for our first sanction tournament, and we were awarded the 2026 UCI World Qualifier Championship Event! This will be held August 15-16. We are only 1 of 4 US cities to host the event out of 120 cities worldwide.

**Installation of Security Lighting & Cameras in Parks:** Joplin Industrial Electric has started the security lighting project. We have also awarded TEC the security camera project. Both companies will be working in tandem to complete this project. Below are the parks that will receive lighting and cameras.

Ewert Park
Leonard Park
Humphrey Park
Garvin Park
Landreth Park
Cunningham Park
Parr Hill Park
Momentum Bike Park
Mercy Park
Tin Cup Trailhead
Grand Falls Trailhead & Overlook

**Trail Wayfinding:** We have been awarded the RTP Grant. Part of this grant was the trail wayfinding signage. Designs and RFP are ready for advertising.

**Cunningham Sand Volleyball Courts:** We are waiting for the installation of lighting. Once the lighting is installed this project will be completed.

**Tin Cup Trail:** Public Works is working on this project and will provide an update.

**Low Water Bridge to Grand Falls Trail**: Public Works is working on this project and will provide an update.

**Completed Projects:**
**Park Beautification Park Entryway Sign (5 parks):** This has been completed.

**Electrical Improvement at Mercy Park:** This project has been completed.

**Athletic Complex Improvements(playground):** The upgrades to this playground are completed.

**Proposition Action:** We have hired our third Park Ranger. He has been through training and is now in the field. We have also received his truck, and we are working on getting it wrapped.

**Storm water Report:**
**Report 9**: Jeremy Hagerman presented the storm water report; totals are as follows:

**Small Projects:** Ditch restoration is being planned for 3rd & Northpark, Improvements will include a block retaining wall on west side of ditch to mitigate scouring and undercutting of residential housing on the west side.

**Stormwater Maintenance Spending:** Personnel 20%, operations 9%, projects 7%, over all we are at 16%.

**Ditch Maintenance Totals**- 10,595 feet of ditches , 374 catch basins were cleaned and 963 miles of street sweeping.

**Phase III Stormwater program:**
**Active Parks & Stormwater Capital Improvement Projects**
**ARPA Stormwater Grant Project:** Nine sites where stormwater infrastructure will be improved: This grant funds 3 out of 6 previously "unfunded" projects. Grant $5 million with local funding $3,676,000. Construction from 2025-2026

a. Texas Ave.-11th -15th - A
b. 26th Street Twin Culverts - B
c. 5th & Porter -A
d. 17th & Annie Baxter Ave. -Cancelled
e. (East Town)Valley Street and Division - A
f. 9th Street & St. Louis Ave - A
g. 12th & Wall Ave - B
h. Massachusetts & Murphy Blvd -B
i. Ten Pin Lane - A

**Status:** 9th and St. Louis substantially complete, 26th street Twin Culverts this project to be complete by spring, 5th & Porter is substantially complete, 17th & Annie Baxter has been cancelled, Massachusetts & Murphy Boulevard is 95% complete. Valley & Division (East Town) construction is 90% complete, 9th & St. Louis is complete, 12th & Wall construction is underway, Texas Avenue is 90% complete and Ten Pin Lane utility relocation is underway.

**Sunnyvale Improvements & I-44 culvert Phase I:** The existing storm water collection system in Sunnyvale is undersized and conveys stormwater down streets. Project will include installation of an enclosed storm sewer system sized for a 10-year level of service. Final design plans received from consultant. Right of way and easement acquisition underway. Utility relocation coordination underway. Bidding projected in the Fall/Winter.

I-44 Culvert Phase 1-City has entered into an agreement with AMA to perform a hydraulic study for the I-44 culvert and Silver Creek detention area. The City has an agreement to perform the full design to meet a MODOT project and include the downstream detention improvements.

**Durham Acres:** Design and install improved stormwater collection system to reduce localized flooding in the neighborhood south of Joplin High School. Project is scheduled for later in the program. Further performance monitoring during storm events is in process.

**Old Willow Branch Phase I:** The old Willow Branch storm water collection system varies in age with some parts over 100 years old. The system was improved with a new parallel storm sewer that improved capacity in 2004. This project will evaluate the old system and determine the best way to rehabilitate, reroute, or replace the old system. This project includes funds for a small construction project to implement the most critically needed reconstruction. Have entered into an agreement with Olsson for the design of the Willow Branch Improvements project. After initial study and investigations, the project is now envisioned to run along 7th street to Wall Avenue, then commence north on Wall to 5th before turning east. Work on 7th street will be performed with MODOT's 7th street reconstruction project.

**1st Street & Joplin Avenue:** The existing storm water collection system at 1st & Joplin varies in age with some parts over 100 years old. The system needs rehabilitation, and this project includes an evaluation of the entire system with recommendations for rehabilitation, replacement, and/or rerouting the different segments of the system. This project includes funds for a small construction project to implement the most critically needed reconstruction. This project is scheduled for later in the program.

**Emergency Stormwater Projects:** No current projects

**Completed Parks & Stormwater Capital Improvement Projects:**
**Automated Gate Arms at Murphy Blvd.**
Design and install automated gates that close when a sensor at the Joplin Creek low water bridge west of Main Street shows water going over the bridge. The system also sends a message alerting City and School staff that the gates are closed. Construction is complete.

**Report #7, 8, 9 & 10:**
**Capital Improvement Sales Tax:** Finance Director Leslie Haase presented:
**Financials: Report #7, Phase I:** No new revenue, this one is essentially finished.
**Report #8: Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund Phase I**: The last project, 4th & Murphy, is substantially complete.

**Report #9: Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund Phase II**: No new revenue. We did spend $1,950,278, total expenditures to date just over $51.1 million.

**Report#10: Capital Improvement II Projects**: We still have $6 million left to spend. Connecticut 32nd to 44th is substantially complete, lot of the other projects are underway, 6th street parking garage is the last project to get underway.

**Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund Phase III project analysis:** For this current year we have brought in $1,657,158 in sales tax revenue, we spent $77,238, paid the TIF developer $14,540, total cost to date just over $9.1 million and still have $86.1 million in projects. No projects were completed this quarter, but a lot of projects are underway.

**C.I.S.T II-(2015-2025) Project Status:**
**Current projects:**
**4th & Murphy Intersection/Signal Improvements:** Project to review existing intersection design and traffic signals. Project has been awarded to Sprouls Construction. Project has been completed. Currently compiling all final project closeout documentation.

**Street surface repair:** 2025 Mill and Overlay-Project awarded to Blevins Asphalt. Work began in April and is on-going. Main areas of focus are East Town and the area west of Maiden Lane and north of 7th street. Also included are Schifferdecker from 7th to 32nd and Connecticut Avenue from Campbell Parkway to 32nd Street. Contractor has completed most of the residential streets as well as Schifferdecker Avenue and Connecticut Avenue. Remaining work includes surfacing roadways in Forest Park Cemetery, as well as an asphalt pad at the PSTC and miscellaneous minor items. These items of work will be completed in the spring of 2026. Mill and Overlay project will be advertised for bids in the next few weeks.

**32nd Street to I-44 Overpass:** Improve from 2 lanes to 5 lanes. Project is complete. Final closeout paperwork has been processed, and final payment has been made.

**Zora Improvements, Rangeline to MO 249:** The city received a $4 million Governor's Cost Share Grant in December. These grant funds will be used to help cover the construction costs for the Zora project. Construction of Phase 1, the roundabout at Zora/Duquesne is complete and open to traffic. Held bid opening for Phase 2 on May 15, 2025. Project awarded to Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc. pre-construction meeting has been held. Awaiting final relocation of fiber lines by AT&T prior to starting project. AT&T relocations have been completed. Second Pre-construction meeting held February 13, 2026. Contractor plans to start Phase 2 construction in late February.

**6th & Virginia Parking Garage modifications**: Structural analysis has been completed, plans for proposed repairs have been delivered to the city. Meetings with property owners have been held, with additional meetings planned. Working on construction easement documents. Final plans have been received for review. Working on acquiring construction easements needed for this project.

**20th-Schifferdecker to Country Club Road**: RFQ for Engineering Services was advertised by the City in September, with responses due by October 11th. Responses have been reviewed and scored. Have entered into a design agreement with AMA to design from Schifferdecker west to near the state line. Construction contract awarded to Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc. for widening of 20th street from Schifferdecker Avenue to Central City Road. Construction of roundabout at 20th Street and Country Club is complete and open to traffic. Contractor is performing grading operations and installing storm sewer on 20th street between Central City and Country Club, as well as between Iron Gates and Schifferdecker.

**C.I.S.T (2025-2037) Project Status**: ***New report***
**Current projects:**
**Street surface repair:** 2025 Mill and Overlay-Project awarded to Blevins Asphalt. Work began in April and is on-going. Main areas of focus are East Town and the area west of Maiden Lane and north of 7th street. Also included are Schifferdecker from 7th street to 32nd street, and Connecticut Avenue from Campbell Parkway to 32nd street. Contractor has completed all residential streets as well as Schifferdecker Avenue and Connecticut Avenue. Remaining work includes surfacing roadways in Forest Park Cemetery, as well as an asphalt pad at the PSTC and miscellaneous minor items. These items of work will be completed in the spring of 2026. Mill and Overlay project will be advertised for bids in the next few weeks.

**Bridge Maintenance:** Newman Road Bridge Deck Repairs - City Staff has prepared plans for a project to repair the bridge deck on the Newman Road bridge. Project is currently advertised for bid, with work to be completed this spring.

**Pennsylvania Viaduct Removal:** Have entered into an agreement with Olsson for the design of this project, in conjunction with the Willow Branch Improvements project. A public meeting with local stakeholders will be held soon to discuss the future plans for this area.

**City Owned Sidewalks:** City has executed an agreement with and provided funds to MoDOT for the City owned sidewalks along 7th street. MoDot project has been bid and awarded to D&E Plumbing and Heating. Project notice to proceed to be issued in March 2026.

**Willow Branch Stormwater Improvements:** Have entered into an agreement with Olsson for design of the Willow Branch Improvements project. City has executed an agreement with and provided funds to MoDOT for the portion of the new Willow Branch stormwater system included with MoDOT's 7th St. ROW, between Byers Ave. and Wall Ave. Work in 7th St. will be performed with MoDOT's 7th St. reconstruction project. MoDot project has been bid and awarded to D&E Plumbing and Heating. Project notice to proceed to be issued in March 2026.

**7th Street and Illinois Intersection:** City has executed an agreement with and provided funds to MoDOT for additional improvements to be made at the intersection of 7th and Illinois. Working with MoDOT on an agreement to provide funds for additional improvements at the intersection of 7th and Illinois. Work will be performed with MoDOT's 7th St. reconstruction project. MoDot project has been bid and awarded to D&E Plumbing and Heating. Project notice to proceed to be issued in March 2026.

**20th Street Schifferdecker to Central City:** Widening of 20th street from Schifferdecker to Country Club was included in the previous CIST program. The city received additional funding from Jasper County and the JSRD to extend the project design west to near the State Line. This CIST program included a project to provide additional funding to extend construction to Central City Road, rather than Country Club. Construction contract awarded to Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc. for widening of 20th St. from Schifferdecker Avenue to Central City Road. Construction of roundabout at 20th & Country Club is complete and open to traffic. Contractor is performing grading operations and installing storm sewer on 20th street between Central City and Country Club, as well as between Iron Gates and Schifferdecker.

**I-44 Culvert:** The City has had discussions with MoDOT about the possibility of incorporating the City's I-44 Culvert improvements project into their upcoming Forward 44: Southwest I-44 Improvements project which will include capacity improvements to I-44 in Joplin between Main Street and Range Line Road. The city has entered into an agreement with Allgeier Martin & Associates (AMA) to perform a hydraulic study for the I-44 Culvert and Silver Creek detention area. This study is funded with Parks/Stormwater sales tax funds (project TS0811), as the study was included in the Sunnyvale Improvements and I-44 Phase One project. City is entering into an additional agreement with AMA, for the design of the proposed culvert under I-44. These designs will be incorporated into MoDOT's future I-44 capacity improvements project, between Main St. and Range Line Road.

**Review of Report #12: Public Safety Sales Tax:**
Leslie started with Report 12: Total revenue for 2026, through January 31, is $2,212,794, we spent $66,412 on Public Works street lights, we spent just over $1.3 million on Police, just over $1 million on Fire, Public Safety Training center almost $100,000, paid the TIF Developer almost $20,000, for a total of expenditures of $2,495,789, and ending fund balance of $4,772,302.

**Report#13**: We finished all the capital items, all the staffing is hired, just ongoing operations.

**Police & Fire: Police Department update #14** presented by Assistant Police Chief Brian Lewis. As of February11, 2026, the department has 11 total openings, with one opening being a public safety tax officer position. We currently have 0 applicants that are in the hiring process.

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| Total Authorized | 115 |
| Current Openings | 11 |
| Trainees - MSSU Academy | 6 |
| New Hires | 0 |
| Administrative Leave | 0 |
| Officers in JPD In-House Academy | 6 |
| Military Deployments | 2 |
| Light Duty Officers | 4 |
| Total shortage | 29 |
| Current Available Officers | 86 |

Police Tax capital purchases planned for 2026 budget year are as follows:

**Public Safety Tax**

- 29 replacement tasers (phase 3 of 5) acquired
- Replacement body cam (29) Pending purchase
- Replacement Squad Room table (2) and Chairs(16)-Pending purchase
- Replacement Computer-Pending purchase
- Replacement Mobile Ruggedized laptaps(79) Pending purchase

**Proposition Action Tax**

- 10 Automatic license plate reader cameras (fixed) (phase 3 of 5) received
- Forensic Examiner Cell Equipment (phase 3 of 3) purchased and received

**Fire Report: #15** Presented by Fire Chief Gerald Ezell.
All Public Safety Sales Tax positions are currently filled. The fire department is currently down 9 positions. We have 6 positions filled with trainees at our academy at the present time. All Prop Action positions are filled, with 3 Swing Captains and a Deputy Fire Marshal in place and the swing positions are vital with our current shortage.

**Pension Sales Tax:** Leslie stated this is going very well, we anticipate this will actually reach 120% funded sometime in 2027, we should be getting the next actuary report toward the end of February and will have an updated projection at that time. There is an election in April to extend that tax.

**Use Tax:** Leslie stated total revenue for 2026 so far just over $1.7 million, one-time expenditures $102,253, ongoing expenditures just under $1 million, for total expenditures of $1,081,513. Life-to-date we have collected almost $23 million, one-time expenditures almost $3.6 million, ongoing expenditures $9.2 million. We do have a lot of projects in the pipeline.

**Schedule next meeting of the oversight committee:**
The next meeting of this committee will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

**Adjournment:**
Motion by Todd Patterson second by Trevor Frerer to adjourn. Motion passed.
With there being no further business before the board meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Nathan Mordica, Chairman

Roschelle Forsythe, Secretary