

Public Works Director best way to do that if we are seeing our estimates be high, but we'll bring that David said at 50% complete and we'll be able to give you a lot better estimate in April than right now when we've taken a bigger view of the whole thing.

Mayor Amyx: As was suggested or think suggested by Commissioner Boley, is that we definitely look at the \$75,000 for the turn lane and have it transit.

Chuck Soules:
Public Works Director Yes.

Mayor Amyx: See if we can do that. That's going to free up some potential indebtedness. Let's see if we can get it down as far as you can. I have no problem saying that we need to that intersection with lights. Okay, so we got any other questions, comments?

Vice Mayor Soden: Answers.

Mayor Amyx: What?

Vice Mayor Soden: Answers.

Mayor Amyx: No more answers. Okay.

Moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to concur with staff's recommendation that we do the mil and overlay from Bob Billings Parkway to Kasold, to Wakarusa, and re-stripe the lanes between Kasold and Crossgate, to update the center turn lane and that estimated cost of \$1 million. We can start the dedicated right turn lane, the bus turnout and the eastbound approach to Bob Billings Parkway and Kasold intersection. That's estimated at \$75,000. Again, with the recommendation to see if they can come out of Transit and approve the sight distance at the intersection of St. Andrew's Drive, estimated at \$30,000. Construct the traffic signal at the intersection of Bob Billings Parkway and Stone Meadows Drive at Quail Pointe, estimated \$300,000. The south leg of Inverness Drive at Bob Billings, my recommendation is that we construct a traffic signal at that intersection estimated cost of \$360,000. Make the necessary construction and ordering the adoption for constructing the traffic signal, estimated at \$350,000 at Bob White. Then to construct the 6-foot wide sidewalk on the south side of Bob Billings Parkway from Monterey Way to Inverness Drive, estimated cost of \$220,000. We direct staff to send a request for proposal to design consultants for engineering services to design the project.

3. **Discussion of City Manager position.**

Mayor Amyx presented an update on the City Commission's hiring process for the city manager position.

MayorAmyx: Okay. Next item on the agenda is the discussion of the City Manager's position. Just to give everybody a little bit of background about this project and you all will fill in the gaps because I'm sure half of it I've forgotten because of all the

things that we've been involved with. It's really been a pretty exciting time around City Hall over the last several months. We've had the opportunity to have some really great applicants come forward and want to be considered as the next City Manager for Lawrence, Kansas. I can't say enough about the really, really good people that have opted to step up and asked to go through the process. It's a tough job. You guys all involved with this and here we are, we have 50+ applicants come in and all of a sudden you're thinking "Oh my, these people are all really good." I think it was October 13 during that time frame where we're working with our consultant, Greg Nelson of Ralph Anderson & Associates. Anytime you bring in a consultant, you kind of wonder a little bit, but Ralph Anderson did a great job for us and Greg Nelson did a great job for us in making sure that things ran in a way that we wanted them to run. We made sure that we put out a great brochure that covered so many things that we think that are important. Not only today, but in the future for Lawrence, Kansas. Here, again, we've had some people who've applied that not only can talk about these things, but we've had people sit down and they can show you that they can do it. That speaks volumes. We got a lot of things going on. We've got things from economic development to affordable housing and the gamut between. There are just so many things that Lawrence, Kansas really wants our City Manager to be able to respond to and be able to make solid recommendations for the folks in this community. It's really been good to be able to go through all of this and to really be a part of and have it be extremely professional in the way it all went down. Still in the end, you have to make decisions. Here we are. We've pared it down to a point of 8 people, right? As we go through this process, one of the things that happened was, was that was tough, but all of a sudden everybody says, "You're interviewing them when?" "On Sunday?" "Yeah, all day Sunday." These guys that I've served with they step up and they do their job. Folks, I work with a great group of people. I feel very fortunate. I want to thank you all for first spending your time in doing what's really right for Lawrence, Kansas, but also doing what's really right for the employees of our City. We need to make sure that as we continue this hiring process and we go forward, this person is going to be the boss of our City employees. I know that that's one thing that we take so extremely seriously in this deal, is to make sure that we have the best person who's going to be able to lead our employees in carrying out, not only the policy, but the services that our community demands. As we've gone through, I kept that in the back of my mind. I just know how important that is. Anyway, all of that said, there are two special thank we need to be giving. One is Toni Wheeler. You know the work and the assistance that not only she provided the Commission, but specifically she's been able to help me because I mean to tell you, I'm just lost in all this stuff. Also,

our Interim City Manager Diane Stoddard. I hope she gets to feeling better and I know we all do. She has been a real champ along with all the rest of our staff. I know that this has been a different time, but it's one that our employees have stepped up and just made sure that things were carried out extremely well, extremely professionally and made sure that we never missed anything. We really appreciate all of that work. There's process at this point. I do think that we're here to tell the community and our staff and everybody that'll listen tonight that it is time to move ahead and forward in this process. One of the things that we need to talk a little bit about is the names of the folks that we're going to recommend as finalists and also to talk a little bit about a process of what will happen after we talk about who the finalists are. I don't care which order we do it in but I think one of the things that's really important is that we want to make sure that as we bring finalists in, that they have the opportunity to be able to meet with the City's Executive Team which would include certain department directors and City management staff. That each one of the finalist candidates would get involved with and receive a tour of the City of Lawrence facilities, something that he or she is going to kind of be in charge of, make sure that they operate and all the stuff and then also the big one I think is all three finalists, the candidates will attend an evening public reception and we were planning on having that at the Carnegie Library so that folks will have the opportunity to come personally meet and talk... A couple hour period that evening to be able to actually visit with the finalists that we bring in. It's been suggested that we do that. We'll just talk dates. How about December 17?

Vice Mayor Soden: Before you get too far. There are a couple things I want to mention. Thank you for chairing the Committee

Mayor Amyx: Oh yeah. It is a pleasure.

Vice Mayor Soden: For the Search Committee and also one of the things that you kind of hinted to, is that when Greg, our recruiter came here and was interviewing our staff and all of that, one of the things he made sure to mention was that our City was very professionally run. This is someone who goes into many city halls, many search committees he's dealt with, and he made sure to say ours is a very professional city. I certainly appreciate staff for all of that.

Mayor Amyx: Anything else I forgot?

Commissioner Boley: I'd like to thank Diane and Toni and you, Mike. I really appreciate it. There's been a lot of great work that's been done and I know the Vice Mayor's been involved in a lot of that too. Thank you, Leslie.

Vice Mayor Soden: Thank you.

Commissioner Larsen: I've just been impressed with the smooth operation of this. I haven't been in it long, obviously, but what I've seen has just gone so smoothly compared with what I've seen in other organizations.

Mayor Amyx: Like I said, this could not have been done without you guys. I mean it really couldn't. Anyway, let's talk about a couple of dates, just so everybody gets the idea. It's been suggested that December 17, that would be the day that the candidates, all three finalists would come. That's when the meeting with department directors and the City Manager's staff would happen. They would also get the tour of the City and then that would be the evening on the 17th, would be the public reception at the Carnegie Library. It's been suggested that we need to consider two different times. This is an either/or. Either 5:30 to 7:30 or 6 to 8. My suggestion might be 6 to 8 so that more people have an opportunity to get off work and anyone who wants to come that would be the time. Okay?

Commissioner Larsen: A month is a long ways from now.

Mayor Amyx: You'd be surprised how fast it goes. That's one of the things that I've noticed about this process. Time just goes.

Vice Mayor Soden: Would this person have a start date, the first week of January?

Mayor Amyx: No, that's still to the point of negotiation. We're still a ways away. We still got to pick an individual first and we still got a lot of process to go through. Then on Friday, December 18 one of the things we need to recommend to staff is start filling your calendars now. We need to set a time for Executive Session. That we come to the Session on the 18th where we will discuss matters related to non-elected personnel and that's when we will finish our work at that point.

Commissioner Herbert
:
Mayor Amyx: What time do you want to do that one?
We'll work around everybody's schedules just so that I know that you have work that morning so is it better in the afternoons for everybody?

Commissioner Larsen: I'll be here regardless.

Mayor Amyx: Okay.

Commissioner Boley: Yeah.

Commissioner Herbert: We appreciate that.

Mayor Amyx: Matthew, on your schedule.

Commissioner Herbert: Yeah. Afternoon will be fine.

Mayor Amyx: Okay.

Vice Mayor Soden: I have a dentist appointment at noon, so hopefully ...

Mayor Amyx: You've got to come out of there.

Commissioner Herbert: Cancel that. Your teeth can wait. The City comes before dental hygiene.

Vice Mayor Soden: Can we do it at 3?

Mayor Amyx: Okay. We can do it at 3. That'll be fine. One of the things we need to be careful of these folks, we need to visit with them so that they understand they may be spending the night again. Just so they know. I don't know what their flight times are or anything like that or travel. Anyway.

Commissioner Herbert: They need to get used to it because they're going to be spending a lot of nights here.

Mayor Amyx: Do those dates work for you?

Vice Mayor Soden: December 18. My dentist appointment was the 17th. I apologize for looking at the wrong date. December 18 is when we're looking at an afternoon Executive Session in which case then I'm more available earlier.

Commissioner Boley: Can we get it done by 4 or do we have to go past 4?

Vice Mayor Soden: The sooner the better.

Commissioner Herbert: Let's move it up then.

Mayor Amyx: We will work out whatever times we can get worked out, okay?

Commissioner Boley: Yeah. Okay.

Mayor Amyx: Is that fair enough?

Vice Mayor Soden: How about I just block out 1 to 4, December 18?

Mayor Amyx: Okay. You do that. Anyway, those dates and those, times, the 6 to 8 for the public session all seem to work and everybody's happy.

Commissioner Boley: That's fine.

Mayor Amyx: Okay. Then we're down to the next part. If there are no other questions or comments on those I will... We had quite a bit of discussions and I think there were truly three names that rose to the top. After we worked with the City Attorney and also again Greg Nelson from Ralph Anderson and Associates. If there are no other questions or comments about this, we'll go ahead and release the names.

Vice Mayor Soden: Let's do it.

Mayor Amyx: Okay. Let's do it.

Commissioner Larsen: It's exciting.

Mayor Amyx: These are actually in alphabetical order so that everybody knows. The first is Roderick "Rod" Bremby and his current position is Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Social Services. He is a resident of Glastonbury, Connecticut. The second is Cheryl Harrison-Lee. She is currently the City Administrator for the City of Gardner, Kansas and a resident of Gardner, Kansas. The third finalist is Thomas "Tom" Markus. He is currently the City Manager of Iowa City, Iowa and a resident of Iowa City, Iowa. Those are the names that, as we've gone through the process, that those are the names that have risen to the top, and ones that my recommendation or whatever is the ones that we need to consider as the three finalists. Any other questions or comments on that?

Vice Mayor Soden: Do we have to do a motion for that or anything?

Mayor Amyx: Oh, yeah, I'm going lay that out for you here.

Vice Mayor Soden: Okay

Mayor Amyx: If there's nothing else to add, I guess I could ask for public comment... Any public comment? Thank you all for coming tonight.

Moved by Vice Mayor Soden, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to direct staff to work with Greg Nelson of Ralph Anderson and Associates to finalize the arrangements for the finalist candidates to meet with the City's Executive Team, tour City of Lawrence facilities and participate in a public reception at the Carnegie Library on December 17, 2015 and that would be from 6 to 8 in the evening, and then direct the Interim City Manager, Diane Stoddard to place on a future City Commission agenda an Executive Session of the City Commission on December 18, 2015 to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Amyx: Thank you all very much for all of your work and a special thank you to our staff for all your hard work on this.

Casey Toomay:
Assistant City Manager It's nice. I just get to sit here and accept all of these compliments for Diane and Toni.