



Public Safety Tax Oversight Committee Minutes

September 25, 2025 4:00 PM

17221 E. 23rd St., Conference Room 117, Independence, MO 64057

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by co-chair, Bruce Frakes.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Co-Chair Bruce Frakes, Patrick Casey, Tara Kruse, Erin Boatright, and Charline Gray.

Members Not Present: Chair, Brad Mudd.

Also Present: Fire Chief Jimmy Walker, Deputy Fire Chief Kirk Stobart, Acting Police Chief Jason Petersen, Deputy Chief Michelle Sumstad, Dennea Leap, and transcriber Jennifer Schatz.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 31, 2025, MEETING

A motion was made to approve minutes from the meeting on July 31st, 2025 by Charline Gray, which was seconded by member Tara Kruse. All members in favor, no opposition.

UPDATE FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT

The updates below were presented by Chief Jimmy Walker and Deputy Fire Chief Kirk Stobart.

Open/Unpaid Encumbrances:

- 2 Pumpers Ordered - Fall 2025 delivery.
- 1 Pumper Ordered – October 2026 delivery
- Station Design process:

Conceptual design done for station #5 and station #11

Funding mechanism decided upon for Bonding. Bond out \$50 million dollars with tax money.

Completed Major Projects: • Finalizing design for Station #8 and Training/storage building

Projects in Process: • 1 Pumper Ordered – Fall 2027 delivery • Station 1 west side parking lot

The Station 1 west side parking lot went through the council. The bids came back overpriced at around \$550,000.00 dollars for the lot with a fence. It was decided we would contract out ourselves with city workers.

Station 8 will break ground soon on Powell Rd. We are at 90% page turn today with Turner Construction and are on track for Station 5 (will replace existing station) and Station 11 (new by Centerpoint Medical Center).

Chief Walker: Next year we are not going to buy any new apparatuses. This will be the first year for new emissions, increasing the cost by \$90,000.00 dollars. The plan is to take three pumpers from 2018 and totally refurbish them, which we can do for the price of one new truck.

1. Acceptance of Quarterly Report from Fire Department

The members had no questions for the Fire Department. A motion was made by member Erin Boatright and seconded by Charline Gray. All in Favor. The IFD report was approved by all committee members.

UPDATE FROM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Acting Chief Petersen discussed the information below.

Quarterly Report:

Significant / New Purchases in June 2025

Cleaned the fire range and \$9,000.00 dollars was money given back to this fund from the recovered lead. It took three days to clean out.

25 desktop computers, 15 LCD monitors and 12 Panasonic iKey keyboards were purchased.

Officer uniforms and small equipment (flashlights, badges, helmets).

Force-on-Force training ammo

Officer body armor

Vehicle equipment and installations and vehicle equipment for (1) "slick" Explorer, which is used for a specialized position.

Use Tax (Prop P):

Background information: "Once the level of funding for the Shelter and the Police Department are met, the remainder of the local use tax proceeds will flow into the other City Sales tax funds in the same manner the City's total local sales tax is allocated.

Additional Details on Expenses — Personnel expenses (salaries & benefits), academy training for 17 recruits, interfund charges, and Professional Services — AJW Consulting & Copaken Brooks for GO Bond Development Support.

Marijuana Sales Tax:

Background information: The sales tax funds collected are to be used for the needs of the Police, Fire, Dispatch, and Emergency Preparedness Departments within the City.

Items Budgeted for FY 2205/2026:

Public Safety: \$430,100.00 dollars

- \$100,000.00 dollars reward money & funds for DNA testing on Cold Cases

- \$330,000.00 dollars debt service (1-year payment on a 20-year, \$50 million bonded loan as authorized by Ord # 19662).

Animal Services: \$44,598.00 dollars (Animal Control Dispatchers 2 part-time).

Emergency Management: \$25,000 (Outdoor Warning Sirens)

Totaling \$499,698.00 dollars. Of that, \$34,000.00 dollars will go towards a new incinerator at the K-9 unit building.

Pat Casey: Is the money out to tear houses down that are a hazard?

Acting Chief Petersen: This was discussed but not finalized. This tax is for public health issues.

Chief Walker: I believe it was withdrawn. The future idea is to put towards dispatch for upgrades since it is a joint operation.

Prop PD:

This is all about personnel expenses. The biggest portion is work comp. claims that are budgeted at \$918,000.00 dollars and has been paid up front for the full year.

Blanket Purchase Orders have been issued to Children's Mercy and AMR for blood draws and testing related to DWI's. Children's Mercy provides a quick turn around time and is forensically capable for testing.

Bruce Frakes: Is testing for someone who refuses a breathalyzer?

Acting Chief Petersen: The breathalyzer is good for alcohol testing, but blood testing is for other things.

Bruce Frakes: Is the new Chief starting soon?

Acting Chief Petersen: Yes, Chief Brinkley will be starting on Monday, next week.

Bruce Frakes: Is he coming from Texas?

Acting Chief Petersen: Yes.

1. Acceptance of Quarterly Report from Police Department

Members had no further questions for the Police Department. A motion was made by Pat Casey and seconded by Tara Kruse. All in Favor. The IPD report was approved by all committee members.

2. Acceptance of Quarterly Use Tax Report from Police Department

Members had no further questions for the Police Department. A motion was made by Pat Casey and seconded by Tara Kruse. All in Favor. The IPD report was approved by all committee members.

3. Acceptance of Quarterly Marijuana Tax Report from Police Department

Members had no further questions for the Police Department. A motion was made by Pat Casey and seconded by Tara Kruse. All in Favor. The IPD report was approved by all committee members.

4. Acceptance of Quarterly Prop PD Tax Report from Police Department

Members had no further questions for the Police Department. A motion was made by Pat Casey and seconded by Tara Kruse. All in Favor. The IPD report was approved by all committee members.

NEXT MEETING TBD

The next quarterly Public Safety Tax (PST) Oversight Committee Meeting will be held after the holidays, sometime in January 2026 at the Independence Utilities Center. A date has not yet been identified.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn made by Charline Gray, which was seconded by Tara Kruse. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 4:38 pm.