

## Business Session

1:00 PM – Thursday, February 5, 2026,

### 26th Floor Council Chambers

Those in attendance: Mayor Quinton Lucas, Mayor Pro-Tem Ryana Parks-Shaw, Councilmembers: — O’Neill, Willett, French, Patterson-Hazley, Robinson, Rea, Bunch, Curls, Bough, Duncan, & City Manager Mario Vasquez represented the City Manager’s office; Howard Rice represented the City Clerk’s Office.

- **Approval of Minutes for Business Session of January 15, 2026:** Minutes approved unanimously.

- **KCPD Expenditures over budget discussion**

Chief Stacy Graves, Kansas City Police Department, presented. Kansas City’s current police budget shortfall reflects a mix of structural constraints and escalating costs, with the Kansas City Police Department entering the latter part of the fiscal year facing a projected imbalance despite operating under one of the largest municipal police budgets in the region roughly \$340+ million most of which is locked into salaries, benefits, and overtime, leaving little flexibility when expenses rise unexpectedly; Police Chief Stacey Graves ordered immediate cost-cutting measures such as freezing nonessential hiring, limiting overtime, and pausing discretionary purchases after internal projections showed spending outpacing available funds, a problem compounded by chronic staffing shortages that drive overtime higher, inflation-driven increases in equipment and service costs, and multimillion-dollar legal settlements in recent years that exceeded what had been budgeted for claims, all while Kansas City, Missouri remains bound by Missouri’s constitutional requirement to dedicate at least 25% of its general revenue to policing effectively preventing the City from reallocating money to stabilize other departments or backfill gaps creating a cycle where rising personnel costs and liabilities collide with slow revenue growth, forcing mid-year austerity inside KCPD even as the department continues to request major budget increases that City leadership says are not feasible within the broader municipal financial picture.

- **Discussion of Ordinances, Resolutions, and Communications listed on the Council legislative docket or for Floor Introduction:** No discussion
- **Closed Session:** There will be a motion to go into closes session during legislative session to discuss pending items. Meeting was adjourned!