

Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission

Dr. Keshan Hargrove, Chair

TRUE COMMISSION Meeting Minutes

(Note: these minutes are not official until reviewed and approved by the commission at a future meeting)

October 9, 2025 4:00 p.m. Lynwood Roberts Room, 1st floor, City Hall

Attendance: Commissioners Hargrove (Chair), Bass, Oglesby, Tyson, Pryor, Barr, Zebouni, and Luhrs

(arrived 4:28 pm)

Excused: Commissioners McHugh, Hoffman, Day and Rounsville

Absent: Commissioner Letizia

Also: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research; Tommy Carter, Council Auditor's Office

The meeting was convened at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Hargrove and the attendees introduced themselves for the record.

Approval of Minutes

The 9/4/25 preliminary minutes were approved unanimously.

Solid Waste Division – Eric Fuller and Will Williams

Council Auditor's Report #891 (Residential Waste Haulers Contract Audit) discussion. Mr. Fuller, spoke about the \$600,000 payment to a hauler and a \$66,000 reduction in a payment to a hauler, noted in the audit for the period of January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2022. Mr. Fuller described the context for that payment, during the Covid pandemic when there were labor and supply shortages and impacts from tropical storms. Mr. Fuller explained that Waste Pro had to contract with a third-party vendor to address the backlog of yard debris, incurring costs not anticipated in their contract with the City. Mr. Fuller noted that Waste Pro overall incurred roughly \$2 million in additional expenses due to the circumstances. Mr. Fuller fielded questions from the commissioners related to the use of the \$600,000, which went primarily to pay for specialized equipment to extract yard debris. There was inquiry as to clawback provisions in the hauler's contract to recoup the funds. Mr. Fuller said that the third-party vendor was paid for services rendered, and the funds would not be returned. Mr. Fuller talked about varied process improvements to handle such emergency-type instances in the future.

Public Comment

John Nooney

Council Auditor's Report

Tommy Carter, Council Auditor's Office, reported on the KHA follow-up audit. He indicated that all issues previously identified were addressed.

Legislative Tracking Committee

None

Audit Committee

New commissioner, Blake Bass, asked for more information about the role of the audit committee. Mr. Carter explained that the premise for the committee was to allow for a deeper dive into the details of audits for which time may not permit in the regular meetings. Mr. Bass suggested looking into an audit of the 2023 Mowing and Landscape Division of Public Works in the future.

Chair's Comments

None

Old Business

Mr. Zebouni shared that this would be his final meeting, as he submitted a letter of resignation due to additional professional and personal obligations.

New Business

Commissioner Barr said that he wanted to hear more about the process for Kids Hope Alliance grant funding decisions, and how grants are monitored for performance post-award to ensure that the funds are used appropriately. Commissioner Luhrs noted that fraud and waste, if any, are under the purview of the DOGE special committee. Commissioner Zebouni noted that the Inspector General also monitors fraud and waste. Chair Hargrove reviewed the TRUE Commission's charge. The members requested that a representative from KHA attend the next meeting to speak about their grant process and contract monitoring.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Oglesby asked about JSO vehicles left running while not in use. There was discussion about the length of time needed to reboot equipment and also the need to keep such equipment temperature controlled.

Commissioner Bass said he would like to know more about the service agreements between the Parks Department and athletic associations at a future meeting.

Next Meeting

The next TRUE Commission meeting will be November 6, 2025 at 4:00 pm. At the next meeting, the commissioners will select the new chair, vice-chair and secretary.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Colleen Hampsey, Council Research CHampsey@coj.net 904-255-5151 Posted 10.17.23 5:00 pm