



# CITY OF TOPEKA

## EXCERPT

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Topeka, Kansas, Tuesday, October 12, 2021. The Governing Body members of the City of Topeka met in regular session at 6:00 P.M., with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Hiller, Valdivia-Alcala, Padilla, Dobler, Duncan and Lesser -6; and Councilmembers Emerson and Naeger participated remotely -2. Mayor De La Isla presided -1. Absent: Councilmember Ortiz -1.

Public comment for the meeting was available via Zoom or in-person. Individuals were required to contact the City Clerk's Office at 785-368-3940 or via email at [cclerk@topeka.org](mailto:cclerk@topeka.org) by no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 12, 2021, after which the City Clerk's Office provided the Zoom link information and protocols prior to the meeting start time. Written public comment was also considered to the extent it was personally submitted at the meeting or to the City Clerk's Office located at 215 SE 7th Street, Room 166, Topeka, Kansas, 66603 or via email at [cclerk@topeka.org](mailto:cclerk@topeka.org) on or before October 12, 2021, for attachment to the meeting minutes.

The following is an excerpt of the minutes from the meeting of the Governing Body of the City of Topeka, Kansas held October 12, 2021, at 6:00 P.M.:

RESOLUTION NO. 9270 introduced by the members of the Public Infrastructure Committee comprised of Council Members Neil Dobler, Tony Emerson, and Mike Lesser recommending resumption of metered parking on certain downtown streets, was presented.

Councilmember Dobler, Public Infrastructure Committee Chair, reported since 2017, free parking has been allowed downtown in the 100 blocks of Kansas Avenue between 6th and 10th Streets. He stated as parking revenues continue to decline, and a deficit of \$1.3 million is being forecasted for the 2022 Parking Operating Budget, the Public Infrastructure Committee voted to recommend the Governing Body consider a resolution that would resume charging for 2-hour meter parking spaces in the 100 blocks of Kansas Avenue between 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets by vote of 3-0-0 on September 14, 2021.

Councilmember Dobler moved to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hiller.

Councilmember Lesser clarified that the Committee voted unanimously to have the Governing Body consider the resolution, not approve the resolution.

Councilmember Duncan inquired about the yellow bagged parking meters. He asked how many meters are being reinstated and will the City still issue courtesy tickets. He asked if Staff tracks how many courtesy tickets are being issued in comparison to the amount of revenue being lost from courtesy parking tickets.

Brent Trout, City Manager, stated the yellow bags will be removed from the parking meters and those parking meters being utilized would require payment; Staff will ensure all parking meters are working correctly; and Staff will continue to sell green parking meter bags for those that are completing construction in the area and are in need of a parking space.

Hannah Uhlrig, Deputy Director of Public Works, stated courtesy parking tickets are still given; however, there is now a better system in place to understand if the individual is an out of town visitor who is not familiar with the City's parking rules or a repeat offender.

Councilmember Duncan suggested eliminating courtesy parking tickets and reducing parking rates from \$8 to \$6.

Brent Trout stated the rates will be discussed at the committee meeting on November 9, 2021 meeting.

Councilmember Padilla asked when yellow hoods will be removed from the parking meters and if Staff would consider implementing the policy at the end of the year.

Hannah Uhlrig stated the target start date is November 1, 2021. She reported Staff anticipates the need to replace some parking meter equipment due to some meters not being utilized for an extended period of time; however, this should not disrupt operations.

Councilmember Hiller commended Parking Staff for their work on the parking plan and updated equipment.

Councilmember Emerson asked if Staff should wait to implement the policy until the end of the year to avoid confusion during the holiday season.

Hannah Uhlrig stated Staff is confident in executing the process in the November time frame and downtown merchants' support the plan being presented, as well as the two-hour free parking will remain in place on side streets.

Mayor De La Isla asked all those in favor of approving the resolution to indicate so verbally by saying "yea" and those opposing the resolution to indicate so verbally by saying "no." After the voice vote occurred, Mayor De La Isla announced the resolution was approved on voice vote. Councilmembers Duncan and Lesser voted "no." (7-2-0)

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STATE OF KANSAS )  
SHAWNEE COUNTY )

I, Brenda Younger, City Clerk of the City of Topeka, Kansas, County of Shawnee, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of an excerpt of the minutes from the regular meeting of the Governing Body, held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 6:00 P.M., as the same appears on record in the office of the City Clerk.



*Brenda Younger*  
Brenda Younger, M.M.C.