



CITY OF TOPEKA

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

CITY COUNCIL
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Date: November 22, 2024 - SPECIAL MEETING
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Virtual Attendance Only via Zoom

Committee members present: Council members Sylvia Ortiz (Chair), David Banks. Absent Neil Dobler, Council member Michelle Hoferer appointed to serve as proxy.

Council members present: Council member Marcus Miller, Deputy Mayor Christina Valdivia-Alcalá, Michelle Hoferer.

City staff present: City Manager Robert M. Perez, Assistant City Manager Braxton Copley, Senior City Attorney Brandy Roy-Bachman.

Call to Order

Committee chair Ortiz called the meeting to order at 10:00am. Committee members and Council members introduced themselves.

Lauren's Bay Lot Development

Assistant City Manager Braxton Copley spoke to the lots in the Lauren's Bay proposal to extend the negotiation deadline to allow consideration of all options with Developer Jim Klausman.

Deputy Mayor Christina Valdivia-Alcalá inquired if there would be a Lauren's Bay representative present for the meeting. She referenced the recent negotiation information that was given to the Governing Body appeared to be unfair to taxpayers given there is unpaid taxes.

Assistant City Manager Braxton Copley stated the only reason there is a proposed Resolution is to extend the time to have negotiations with the developer. Mr. Klausman has requested the City of Topeka put in writing a counter offer.

Deputy Mayor Christina Valdivia-Alcalá asked if the counter offer will be made public. She supports complete transparency of the negotiation.

Committee chair Ortiz expressed the importance that all Governing Body members are kept informed and have a clear understanding of all transactions.

Council member Hoferer asked for clarification on the number of lots and if it is the same as Resolution No. 9586. Copley replied yes and confirmed that it is 19 lots. He did add the developer would like the entire 125 lots be included.

Committee member Banks stated he supports the extension of time to allow to give a better understanding of the agreement.

MOTION: Committee member Banks made a motion to extend the negotiation deadline and proceed with taking to the Governing Body meeting. Council Hoferer seconded. Motion approved 3-0-0.

Assistant City Manager Braxton Copley stated he will keep the Governing Body informed of any updates.

Deputy Mayor Christina Valdivia-Alcalá requested to receive the proposed Resolution more in advance. She added receiving the Resolution ten minutes before a meeting feels like a “sneak attack”. She also expressed that she hopes the media decides to get involved.

No further questions or comments.

Adjourn

Committee chair Ortiz adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

This meeting can be viewed online at: <https://youtu.be/nxGf5Y1PeAM>