



CITY OF TOPEKA

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

TRANSIENT GUEST TAX COMMITTEE

CITY COUNCIL
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Date: June 2, 2015

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Executive Conference Room, City Hall, 3rd floor

Committee Members Present: Councilmembers Elaine Schwartz (Chair), Jeff Coen, and Brendan Jensen.

City Staff Present: Jim Colson, City Manager; Mary Feighny, Deputy City Attorney; Bill Fiander, Planning Director; Nickie Lee, Budget Manager; Brandon Kauffman, Chief Fiscal Officer; Angela Horn, Assistant to Council.

- 1) Meeting called to order
- 2) Approved minutes from May 20, 2015 meeting
- 3) Discussion of Extension of 1% TGT Tax

Chairperson Schwartz made a motion to continue the 1% tax for an additional 12 years. Councilmember Coen seconded. Motion approved 3-0.

Nickie Lee, Budget Manager, reviewed the Transient Guest Tax Discussion of Allocations for the 1% Extension handout (see attached).

Public comments:

Kurt Young, President of the Topeka Lodging Association
Beth Fager, Chair of the Topeka Shawnee County Riverfront Authority

- 4) Discussion of Riverfront Park

Nickie Lee stated that \$1.2m was previously estimated to be collected for the Riverfront Park project. Approximately \$450,000 has been spent and by the end of 2015 the project should have about \$818,000 available.

Councilmember Schwartz asked if the cost of clearing trees along the Kansas River is being taken from the \$818,000? Jim Colson said he would get an answer to her.

Public comments:

Carrie Ogonowski, Executive Director of Sunflower Soccer Association, stated they could use the Sunflower excess funds for items that had to be cut from the initial project such as lighting, ADA walkways, storage, etc.

Brett Oetting, President and CEO of Visit Topeka, requested a shift of percentages and sources of their allocation, with no change to the total amount of funding.

Councilmember Jensen made a motion to direct a portion of the General Fund Zoo transfer to the Visit Topeka Bid fund. Chairperson Schwartz seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-1 with Councilmember Coen voting no.

Councilmember Jensen made a motion to adopt the budget, as amended, and recommend it to the full Council. Councilmember Coen seconded the motion. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

Public Comments:

Bette Allen, President and COO of the Great Overland Station and Chair of Topeka Tourism Alliance, requested additional funds for maintenance of the Great Overland Station.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

This meeting video can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GPA-d4jvCv0&feature=youtu.be>