



# CITY OF TOPEKA

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES

## PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

CITY COUNCIL  
City Hall, 215 SE 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 255  
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**Location:** Topeka Police Department, 320 S. Kansas Ave., LEC Classroom A

**Date:** July 20, 2017

**Time:** 1:00 p.m.

### Attendance

Committee members Brendan Jensen (Chair), Sandra Clear, and Sylvia Ortiz, City Attorney Lisa Robertson, Chief of Prosecution Karan Thadani, Animal Control Officer Lisa Pinkley, and Councilmember Karen Hiller.

### 1) Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Councilmember Brendan Jensen.

### 2) Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the June 12, 2017 meeting were approved.

### 3) Review and possible approval of recommended changes to TMC Title 6 "Animals"

6.20.010 At Large. The current definition of an animal being considered at large was discussed with proposed changes of adding more clarifying words to assist with clarifying the municipal code. Lisa Robertson will make revisions for approval.

Dangerous Dog. Committee members agreed that a more detailed description of "properly restrained" is needed.

The Committee agreed to leave the transport fee of any animal to \$30.

6.05.040 Cruelty to Animals.

(a)(3)(iii) Protection from Elements. Councilmember Karen Hiller inquired if there might be a need for something to be written into the section regarding ventilation. Lisa Robertson made note of the concern.

6.05.130 Deceased Animals. Lisa Pinkley provided data to the Committee in regard to the daily requests to pick up roadkill, and the cost it would amount to if the City Animal Control Officers assumed this duty. There are currently 4 to 5 calls daily in regard to non-domestic roadkill. Current procedure is that public calls dispatch with report of deceased animal. If animal is domestic, Animal Control is called out. If the animal is wildlife, a designee company picks up the animal. A contracted third party company to assist with deceased wildlife removal was discussed.

Lisa Robertson provided a chart from the Topeka Police Department listing the number of city residents who are registered with pet licenses.

Lisa Robertson also supplied information to the Committee in regard to the low number of City pets who have been registered. The Committee discussed how to best define this process within TMC. Lisa Robertson suggested looking into this topic at a future meeting. The Committee agreed to add this to the project list.

The topic of redefining the length of time in which an animal would be held was discussed. Committee members asked for clarification regarding the issue of caring for an animal once a mailed citation was sent to the owners. Committee Member Sandra Clear moved to approve the length of time in which a dog would be held from 30 days to 20 days. Committee Member Brendan Jensen agreed. Legal, Prosecution, and Animal Control did not see an issue with shortening the length of time.

6.05.080 Dangerous Dogs. (d)(1)(ii) Confinement. Animal Control would like to better define the language in regard to the transfer of the ownership of a dangerous dog.

Lisa Robertson brought an update with the miniature pig. Added that blood test and health certificate would be required. Language referring to pseudo rabies was removed. A noted change for consideration regards the weight of the pigs and reducing it from 150 pounds to 80 pounds.

Language in regard to service monkeys. The Committee asked for Lisa Pinkley's opinion for keeping or removing the item. Lisa Pinkley suggested removing it. The Committee agreed.

Grazing permits for temporary events. A conference with Shawnee County's Legal Department to clarify their policy in regard to the subject will be made.

Councilmember Karen Hiller inquired about the topic of the number of animals owners would be allowed to keep. Committee Chair Brendan Jensen responded that some of the language surrounding the upkeep of maintaining animals was changed rather than putting a number on how many animals an individual could house. This topic will be reviewed again at the next Committee meeting.

#### **4) Discussion on any other items before the Committee**

##### **Adjournment**

None

The meeting was adjourned.

Video recording of this meeting can be found at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lkquQwf57s>