RESOLUTION NO. 8388

A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilmember Bob Archer, authorizing the City Manager to enter into negotiations with Shawnee County officials concerning the prosecution of domestic battery cases.

WHEREAS, the City of Topeka and the Shawnee County District Attorney’s office had a successful arrangement over the past ten years for the prosecution of domestic battery crimes through the District Attorney’s office; and

WHEREAS, over that ten year period and prior, Shawnee County has developed the processes and support services necessary to prosecute domestic battery crimes; and

WHEREAS, the District’s Attorney’s office has failed to prosecute domestic battery cases charged under state law since September 8, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the City does not have the necessary support services to prosecute domestic battery crimes; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney has referenced budgetary concerns as the main reason for refusing to prosecute domestic battery cases; and

WHEREAS, the City is concerned for the safety and security of victims of domestic battery crimes and is determined to resolve this issue while keeping in mind the best interest of these most vulnerable citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS, that it hereby authorizes and directs the City Manager to enter into negotiations with Shawnee County officials in order to seek a resolution concerning the prosecution of domestic violence cases.
ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council on October 11, 2011.

CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

William W. Bunten, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda Younger, City Clerk