RESOLUTION NO. 8740

A RESOLUTION introduced by City Manager Jim Colson, relating to the City of Topeka’s legislative agenda for the 2016 legislative session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS, that the following is hereby adopted as the City of Topeka’s legislative agenda for the 2016 legislative session:

1. Support reintroduction of SB 84 from the 2015 legislative session, which would allow cities to petition the district court for temporary possession of housing and structures determined by the court: (a) to be abandoned by their owners, possessors or parties of interest for the preceding 180 days or more; and (b) to have a blighting influence on surrounding properties as defined in the legislation.

2. Support review and discussion of tax policy in Kansas, but oppose any change to said policy that would negatively impact or shift state responsibilities to the local units of government.

3. Support legislation that would allow for urban economic development opportunities for the City of Topeka, including, but not limited to, options such as: (a) PEAK-type benefits for jobs within an Urban Opportunity Zone; (b) Tax Increment Financing; (c) Development Incentive Tax (e.g., higher taxes if blighted; reduced if redeveloped); and (d) Urban Gap Fund to match private dollars; loan guarantee fund.
4. Support the League of Kansas Municipalities 2016 municipal policy to the extent said policy is consistent with the City’s priorities and agenda.

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Governing Body on December 8, 2015.

CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

Larry E. Wolgast, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda Younger, City Clerk