

Governing Body Minutes – September 1, 2020

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Topeka, Kansas, Tuesday, September 1, 2020. The Governing Body members of the City of Topeka met in regular session at 6:00 P.M., with the following Councilmembers present: Hiller, Valdivia-Alcala, Ortiz, Emerson, Padilla, Naeger, Dobler, Duncan and Lesser -9. Mayor De La Isla presided -1.

AFTER THE MEETING was called to order, Chris Stewart, Executive Director of The Bridge, provided the invocation.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present in the chamber.

ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT of Jeffrey Williams to the City of Topeka Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory Council for a term ending July 31, 2022, was presented. *(Council District No. 1)*

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the reappointment of Angel Zimmerman to the Downtown Business Improvement District Advisory Board to fill a term ending October 31, 2022, was presented. *(Council District No. 5)*

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the reappointment of Larry Robbins to the Topeka Public Building Commission for a term ending July 31, 2024, was presented.

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the reappointment of Clyde Schwanke to the Topeka Sustainability Advisory Board for a term ending July 31, 2022, was presented. *(Council District No. 8)*

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the reappointment of Casey Williams to the Topeka Sustainability Advisory Board for a term ending August 31, 2022, was presented. *(Council District No. 7)*

Councilmember Naeger moved to approve the appointments. The motion seconded by Councilmember Emerson carried unanimously. (9-0-0) The Mayor does not vote.

CONSENT AGENDA was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 9195 introduced by Councilmember Spencer Duncan, granting Christ the King Catholic Church an exception to the provisions of City of Topeka Code Section 9.45.150, et seq., concerning noise prohibitions, was presented. (*Council District No. 8*)

RESOLUTION NO. 9196 introduced by Councilmember Sylvia Ortiz, granting Agustin Munoz an exception to the provisions of City of Topeka Code Section 9.45.150, et seq., concerning noise prohibitions, was presented. (*Council District No. 3*)

ORDINANCE NO. 20258 introduced by City Manager Brent Trout, allowing and approving City expenditures for the period May 30, 2020, through June 26, 2020, and enumerating said expenditures therein, was presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the regular meeting of August 18, 2020, and special meeting of August 25, 2020, was presented.

Councilmember Ortiz moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion seconded by Councilmember Padilla carried unanimously. (10-0-0)

PUBLIC COMMENT was expressed by the following individuals:

Ronda Hubbard expressed concern with the lack of assistance from the Topeka Housing Authority (THA) and the City of Topeka regarding her eviction from the duplex she was renting. She stated she was on disability and was evicted because she would not show THA representatives her bank statements. She noted there was maintenance issues with her duplex and she believes THA was retaliatory in their actions. She continues to attempt resolving issues with THA because she needs a place to live.

Jeff Romine stated he was a professional engineer and serves as the Chair of the Uniform Plumbing Board of Appeals and referenced the amendment language included in Ordinance No. 20257 adopting the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC). He asked for clarification of what was acceptable to be installed by contractors.

Councilmember Emerson stated there has been some confusion surrounding the approved language. He reported any contractor licensed to install city utilities, such as sewer lines that are in compliance with City engineer specifications, can install a service line up to a certain area (the cap) outside of each building.

Mr. Romine asked if the specifications would comply with City building regulations in regards to materials and methods. He also asked for clarification on if utility contractors could use materials not outlined in the plumbing code.

Councilmember Emerson confirmed materials and methods would comply with City building regulations. He requested to meet with Mr. Romine after the Governing Body meeting concluded so they could have a more in-depth conversation about his questions.

Bruce Pfeiffer spoke to numerous discrepancies in plumbing regulations as it relates to the language adopted in City of Topeka Ordinance No. 20257 adopting the 2018 UPC. He referenced specifics related to permitting, inspections, materials and continued education for all applicable trades. He asked the Governing Body to rescind any language amendments made to the 2018 UPC that was not the initial presented by City staff.

Ron Gish referenced the Topeka Police Department Use of Force Policy listed on the City of Topeka website. He highlighted the procedures used to determine if “use of force” by a police officer was consistent with internal policies as well as the follow-up review process for the “use of force” incident. He spoke in opposition to creating a separate committee review board and

noted a civilian would not have the needed experience or education to make an informed determination of the decisions made by police officers.

Katherine Szot stated she was living in the homeless camp located on the north side of the Kansas River and expressed concern with the criminal activity taking place in the camp. She asked the Governing Body to protect Topeka Police Officers and cautioned them against implementing policies that limit police officers from doing their job.

Patrick Grogan expressed concern with the language amendments adopted in Ordinance No. 20257 adopting the 2018 UPC as it relates to excavating contracts. He stated he believes the language amendment has taken away the livelihood of local plumbers and it was an unethical action for self-gain by a council person. He asked that the language amendment be rescinded immediately to allow those effected most to provide input before any changes are approved by the Governing Body.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala expressed concern with approving the ordinance before it was completely vetted by those it affects. She requested to speak with Mr. Grogan in the future to discuss the more in-depth issues and noted it was not her intent to take away from the livelihood of local businesses.

The following individual submitted public comment via electronic mail: Bruce Pfeiffer
(Attachment A)

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CITY MANAGER, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE
COUNCIL;

Brenda Younger, City Clerk, provided an overview of the September 8, 2020, regular Governing Body meeting agenda.

Brent Trout, City Manager, announced September 4, 2020, would be Public Works

Director Jason Peek's last day. He thanked Dr. Peek for his service and the many positive programs he helped implement to improve the city.

Mayor De La Isla reported that she requested an executive session be conducted after the Governing Body meeting. She commented on the beauty of the Kay McFarland Japanese Garden located in the Topeka Zoo and the legacy of former Kansas Supreme Court Chief Justice Kay McFarland. She thanked Elaine and Howard Schwartz and Zoo Director Brendan Wiley for their hard work in collaborating with many other organizations in the creation of the garden. She requested a full account of the process that will be followed regarding the August 23, 2020, police incident, for the purpose of releasing the police body cam video as soon as possible. She referenced the August 25, 2020, special meeting of the Governing Body, and the amount of input received and the need for time to digest and understand all sides of the issue in the community. She requested the Deputy Mayor call for a committee that would include Councilmembers as well as community members that are interested in continuing conversations from the August 25, 2020, special meeting of the Governing Body. She stated she knows this may not be what people would expect at this point and time; however, the committee will work to help them as a Governing Body, better understand everything they heard from the community, followed by recommendations of the issues the committee wants to discuss or address with the Governing body as a whole.

Councilmember Hiller expressed the importance of working together to understand the champions for change while understanding what the Topeka Police Department was already doing - all important pieces to consider. She noted she believes the Governing Body was ready to review the commonalities and issues that have been discussed. She reported all involved in the process have been working together to have conversations and decide on what will be the

best for the city. She reminded everyone that she supports the Topeka Police Department and honors the diversity and integrity of everyone in the community.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala stated her comments come from a lens perspective of a woman of color. She stated she would be reaching out to the Legal Department to start drafting an ordinance to establish a citizen review board. She thanked Mainstream Inc., the Kansas National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and a multitude of others for creating an initial vision of said ordinance. She directed the following comments to the City Manager:

“She stated once again, I and perhaps other Council members were caught unaware of an important situation that took place in our city. As in previous instances, your directives change on a dime, which to me reflects overwhelm and secrecy. You stated yesterday, most likely there would be no executive sessions until after the first of the year. How can you in good conscience even try to keep that from happening. Stating it was because of Zoom, which has not been a reason to stop us from having executive sessions before, has not been an issue. After this late morning email, you finally sent an email to the Governing Body about alleged police misconduct. That alleged misconduct occurred on August 23rd over nine days ago towards a citizen of color by a TPD officer. At a time our city was preparing for a special session on police reform, when calls for justice would often be met with hate, who knew of this yet kept silent. Then after this email, once again, you reversed course and say we must have an executive session. A couple of hours later, I received a call confirming an executive session. Confusion, uncertainty and poor leadership, as our city struggles. In this same email this morning, you, and I’m paraphrasing, stated you found out about the alleged police excessive force incident yesterday on Facebook. City Manager, if this is the way you received serious information about serious allegations of police misconduct by an officer against a black woman then I ask what is going on here? Why does this all feel like it does not add up? It sounds like you, City Manager, the Chief, perhaps even the Mayor, are all pointing fingers subtly, or not so subtly, at each other. Who now will get thrown under the bus to avoid transparency, responsibility and accountability to the people. City Manager the lack of transparency to me, towards me, a duly elected public official, smacks of insubordination. This lack of communication with the Governing Body, I sense, may also be happening to other Council folks. With all this said City Manager, I will be lodging two complaints tomorrow with the Internal (*International*) Association of City Managers. I will pass this on to the City Clerk to put on file. No five votes are needed to do this. Deputy Mayor, I will be filing the same two complaints with you so that they can be on file when we discuss renegotiations of the City Manager contract next month.”

Councilmember Ortiz expressed concern with the details surrounding the August 23, 2020, police incident and stated she would be seeking clarification from staff. She cautioned the Governing Body against moving too fast and making decisions based on emotion. She stated this was a perfect opportunity for all involved to come to the table and discuss the issues. She expressed the importance of the Governing Body understanding and researching solid changes in the community. She stated until they change the hearts of the people, nothing will change. She hopes that the Governing Body can take the process slowly, get the Legal Department involved, and review what other cities are doing and use those ideas to improve here.

Councilmember Emerson stated it was nice to see kids returning to school as it creates a sense of normalcy in the community.

Councilmember Padilla commented on the beauty of the Kay McFarland Japanese Garden in the Topeka Zoo and encouraged citizens to visit. He commended Topeka Police Chief Cochran for his forward thinking in addressing the recent issues and the programs he has created. He reported he attended his first day of JUVI University Training a component of the SAFE Program, a program the City was still working on. He stated he was encouraged by what he heard and he looks forward to the opportunity for them to identify a program manager so they can move forward and begin implementation as he believes this would be perfect timing for the program and noted there was a lot of data to review. He stated that ethical policing was courageous and there are leaders in the community already working to make this happen through the implementation of the Ethical Policing Is Courageous (EPIC) Program. He suggested focusing on the Topeka issues, not national issues, and asked the Governing Body to continue to work hard and to stay cohesive and respectful of each other.

Councilmember Naeger expressed her disappointment with the negativity being expressed by the community and the need to seek the truth. She stated the Governing Body continues to work to build a good relationship between the community and the police.

Councilmember Duncan and Councilmember Lesser stated they concur with Councilmember Ortiz and thanked her for her comments.

Councilmember Emerson moved to recess into executive session for a period of time not to exceed 30 minutes for consultation with the City's legal counsel to discuss attorney-client privileged matters related to potential litigation, as justified by KSA 75-4319(b)(2). To aid the discussion, the following individuals were present: Members of the Governing Body; City Manager, Brent Trout; Police Chief, Bill Cochran and City Attorney, Lisa Robertson. No action will be taken when the open meeting resumes in the Governing Body Chambers. The motion seconded by Councilmember Dobler carried. (10-0-0)

Councilmember Emerson left the meeting.

Councilmember Hiller moved to recess into executive session for a period of time not to exceed 10 minutes for consultation with the City's legal counsel to discuss attorney-client privileged matters related to potential litigation, as justified by KSA 75-4319(b)(2). To aid the discussion, the following individuals were present: Members of the Governing Body; City Manager, Brent Trout; Police Chief Bill Cochran and City Attorney, Lisa Robertson. No action will be taken when the open meeting resumes in the Governing Body Chambers. The motion seconded by Councilmember Padilla carried. (9-0-0)

NO FURTHER BUSINESS appearing the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

(SEAL)

Brenda Younger
City Clerk

Attachment A

Brenda Younger

From: Bruce Pfeiffer <bsahootowl@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, August 30, 2020 3:19 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: City Council Meeting 9-1-2020
Attachments: City Council Meeting 9-1-2020.pdf; City Comparison Study.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to speak during the public comment section of the City Council meeting on September 1, 2020. I would also like the Councilpersons to have a copy of both of the attachments. Since they will all not be in attendance due to the Coronavirus issue, can I send those to them directly, or will you do that? Thank you for your assistance.

Respectfully,

Bruce Pfeiffer
3425 NW Fredith Rd.
Topeka, Kansas 66618
785-220-8993

September 1, 2020

Bruce A. Pfeiffer
3425 NW Fredith Rd.
Topeka, Kansas 66618

Dear Madam Mayor and City Councilpersons,

During the August 19, 2020 City Council meeting, the following amendments to the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code were submitted and approved by the Council. I believe that these amendments are in conflict with the following City Ordinances and that they should be rescinded.

(c) Any contractor licensed by the city, including a plumbing contractor, may install or repair any sewer line servicing an industrial or commercial development project that has been designed by a licensed engineer. The contractor shall ensure that all connection and service lines are tested up to the cap outside each building.

(c) Any contractor licensed by the city, including plumbing contractor, may install or repair a water main, city water service line, or customer water line serving an industrial or commercial development project that has been designed by a licensed engineer. The contractor shall ensure that all connection and service lines are tested up to the cap outside each building.

The wording “any contractor licensed by the city” would include contractors licensed in the fields of excavation, elevator repair or construction, concrete work, demolition, swimming pool construction, roofing, fire alarm installation, fire sprinkler installation, water softener/conditioner installation and repair, lawn irrigation installation, mechanical, electrical or plumbing as prescribed in City Ordinance 5.63.030¹. This ordinance also states that it is unlawful for a person to conduct, carry on or engage in the listed trades “without first obtaining the appropriate contractor’s license”. Plumbing as defined in the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) is “the business, trade, or work having to do with the installation, removal, alteration, or repair of plumbing systems or parts thereof”. The only contractor meeting those guidelines is a plumbing contractor.

Per Section 101.2² of the 2018 UPC, the provisions of the plumbing code adopted by the City of Topeka applies to the installation and repair of plumbing systems³. Plumbing systems include the installation of building water supplies⁴ and building sewers⁵ (both sanitary and storm) “within the property lines of the premises”. The Uniform Plumbing Code includes installation guidelines for all plumbing installations, including residential, commercial and industrial. Plumbing contractors are required to abide by these regulations, while excavation contractors are not bound by the same restrictions.

The language in the ordinance states that the project has to be “designed by a licensed engineer”. All major construction projects are required by the Uniform Plumbing Code and the City of Topeka to be designed by duly licensed engineers and architects as well as be approved by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (City of Topeka). The construction documents are required to be

drawn to Code and local amendments⁶, be approved by the City⁷, and meet or exceed the requirements found in the adopted Code and pertinent City Ordinances⁸.

The ordinances do not indicate what types of material may be used for the installation of commercial or industrial building water supplies or building sewers in the ordinance. Per 2018 UPC, Table 604.1 only materials adopted by the jurisdiction and meeting applicable standards may be used. Likewise only materials found in Table 701.2 are allowed for the installation of building sanitary and storm sewers. The lack of clarification concerning materials in the ordinance, permits the installer to use materials that may not be tested to applicable standards or listed by an approved testing agency.

The ordinances do not require permits⁹ or inspections¹⁰ by either the City Development Services Department or the City Engineering Department. It is the responsibility of the Authority Having Jurisdiction to insure the provisions of the Uniform Plumbing Code and Ordinances are adhered to thereby providing for the “protection of public health, safety and welfare” as prescribed in Section 101.3 of the 2018 UPC.

The proponent of these amendments indicated to me in an e-mail that multiple developers told him that “Topeka is a terrible place to build”. It is easy to make unsubstantiated claims by unknown sources. He implied that other jurisdictions do not require such unreasonable demands of developers and contractors. Attached to this document, you will find a chart showing various jurisdictions and their requirements for the installation of private sanitary and storm sewers and water services for commercial and industrial building sites. I contend that is the responsibility of the developer and the contractors to know what a jurisdiction’s codes and ordinances are and make every attempt to comply with those rules and regulations. Every developer and contractor has a right to an equal playing field, regardless of company size or financial wherewithal.

These ordinances create a double standard. They allow “any contractor” to install plumbing work regardless of material and installation requirements, while demanding plumbing contractors to adhere to a set of codes and ordinances. It allows unlicensed individuals to install plumbing while requiring plumbing contractors and their employees to be licensed and to obtain yearly CEUs to maintain those licenses. They allow “any contractor” to do plumbing work without permits or inspections, while requiring plumbing contractors to obtain permits, comply with applicable codes and submit to jurisdictional inspections. It gives blanket approval to “licensed engineers” for sizing, types of materials and installation requirements for commercial and industrial sewers and water services, regardless of compliance with the adopted City codes and ordinances and without City approval.

In conclusion, I am asking the City Council to consider rescinding these ordinances and reverting to the original adopted 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code and associated ordinances reviewed by the City of Topeka Plumbing Appeals Board and City Attorney’s office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce A. Pfeiffer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bruce A. Pfeiffer
785-220-8993

1. City Ordinance 5.63.030

It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct, carry on or engage in the business of commercial or residential construction or remodeling, excavation, elevator repair or construction, concrete work, demolition, swimming pool construction, roofing, fire alarm installation, fire sprinkler installation, water softener/conditioner, lawn irrigation system installation or mechanical, electrical or plumbing trades, without first obtaining the appropriate contractor's license. (Ord. 19330 § 22, 11-3-09. Code 1995 § 30-522.)

2. 2018 UPC, Section 101.2 Scope.

The provisions of this code shall apply to the erection, installation, alteration, repair, relocation, replacement, addition to, use, or maintenance of plumbing systems within this jurisdiction.

3. 2018 UPC, Section 218.0 Plumbing System. *Includes all potable water, alternate water sources, building supply, and distribution pipes; all plumbing fixtures and traps; all drainage and vent pipes; and all building drains and building sewers, including their respective joints and connections, devices, receptors, and appurtenances within the property lines of the premises and shall include potable water piping, potable water treating or using equipment, medical gas and vacuum systems, liquid and fuel gas piping, and water heaters and vents for same.*

4. 2018 UPC, Section 204.0 Building Supply. *The pipe is carrying potable water from the water meter or another source of water supply to a building or other point of use or distribution on the lot.*

5. 2018 UPC, Section 204.0 Building Sewer. *That part of the horizontal piping of a drainage system that extends from the end of the building drain and that receives the discharge of the building drain and conveys it to a public sewer, private sewer, private sewage disposal system, or another point of disposal.*

Building Sewer (Combined). *A building sewer that conveys both sewage and storm water or other drainage.*

Building Sewer (Sanitary). *A building sewer that conveys sewage only.*

Building Sewer (Storm). *A building sewer that conveys storm water or another drainage, but no sewage.*

6. 2018 UPC, Section 104.3.1 Construction Documents. *Construction documents, engineering calculations, diagrams, and other data shall be submitted in two or more sets with each application for a permit. The construction documents, computations, and specifications shall be prepared by, and the plumbing designed by, a registered design professional. Construction documents shall be drawn to scale with clarity to identify that the intended work to be performed is in accordance with the code.*

6. 2018 UPC, Section 104.4.2 Validity of Permit. *The issuance of a permit or approval of construction documents shall not be construed to be a permit for, or an approval of, a violation of the provisions of this code or other ordinance of the jurisdiction. No permit presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of this code shall be valid. The issuance of a permit based upon plans, specifications, or other data shall not prevent the Authority Having Jurisdiction from thereafter requiring the correction of errors in said plans, specifications, and other data or from preventing building operations being carried on thereunder where in violation of this code or of other ordinances of this jurisdiction.*

7. 2018 UPC, Section 104.4.1 Approved Plans or Construction Documents. *Where the Authority Having Jurisdiction issues the permit where plans are required, the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall endorse in writing or stamp the construction documents "APPROVED." Such approved construction documents shall not be changed, modified, or altered without authorization from the Authority Having Jurisdiction, and the work shall be done in accordance with approved plans.*

8. 2018 UPC, Section 301.3 Alternate Materials and Methods of Construction Equivalency. *Nothing in this code is intended to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability, and safety over those prescribed by this code. Technical documentation shall be submitted to the Authority Having Jurisdiction to demonstrate equivalency prior to installation. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall have the authority to approve or disapprove the system, method, or device for the intended purpose. However, the exercise of this discretionary approval by the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall have no effect beyond the jurisdictional boundaries of said Authority Having Jurisdiction. An alternate material or method of construction so approved shall not be considered as in accordance with the requirements, intent, or both of this code for a purpose other than that granted by the Authority Having Jurisdiction where the submitted data does not prove equivalency.*

2018 UPC, Section 301.5 Alternative Engineered Design. *An alternative engineered design shall comply with the intent of the provisions of this code and shall provide an equivalent level of quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, and safety. Material, equipment, or components shall be designed and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.*

9. 2018 UPC, 104.1 Permits Required. *It shall be unlawful for a person, firm, or corporation to make an installation, alteration, repair, replacement, or remodel a plumbing system regulated by this code except as permitted in Section 104.2 (exempt work for clearing drain stoppages and minor repairs), or to cause the same to be done without first obtaining a separate plumbing permit for each separate building or structure.*

10. 2018 UPC, Section 105.1 Inspections General. *Plumbing systems for which a permit is required by this code shall be inspected by the Authority Having Jurisdiction. No plumbing system or portion thereof shall be covered, concealed, or put into use until inspected and approved as prescribed in this code. Neither the Authority Having Jurisdiction nor the jurisdiction shall be liable for expense entailed in the removal or replacement of material required to permit inspection. Plumbing systems regulated by this code shall not be connected to the water, the energy fuel supply, or the sewer system until authorized by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.*

11. Section 103.1 (City Ordinance) Duties and Powers of the Authority Having Jurisdiction. *The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) shall be the Authority duly appointed to enforce this code. The AHJ shall have the power to render interpretations of this Code and to adopt and enforce rules and regulations supplemental to this Code as deemed necessary in order to clarify the application of the provisions of this Code. Such interpretations, rules and regulations shall comply with the intent of this Code. In accordance with the prescribed and with the approval of the appointing authority, the AHJ shall be permitted to appoint such number of technical officers, inspectors and other employees as shall be authorized from time to time. The AHJ shall be permitted to deputize such inspectors or employees as necessary to carry out the functions of the code enforcement agency.*

Question: Does your city require a plumbing contractor's license, a permit and an inspection for commercial and industrial sanitary and storm sewers and domestic water services located on private property?

City	Population	Plumbing Permit Required	Plumbing License Required	Inspection Required	Notes
Lawrence, Kansas	90,496	?	?	?	Did not respond to inquiry
Kansas City, Kansas	153,600	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Overland Park, Kansas	196,636	?	No	?	Overland Park does not license Journeymen in trades.
Olathe, Kansas	142,841	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excavation contractors may be permitted to install some storm water building sewers
Wichita, Kansas	388,771	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensed plumbers or pipe layers may install sanitary and storm sewers. Water services must be installed by a licensed plumbing contractor
Lincoln, Nebraska	287,400	Yes	Yes	Yes	Work is done or supervised by a licensed plumber
Springfield, Missouri	159,498	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Kansas City, Missouri	491,918	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cedar Rapids, Iowa	135,502	Yes	Yes	Yes	Licensed plumbers or pipe layers must install pipe
Des Moines, Iowa	217,891	Yes	Yes	Yes	

Brenda Younger

From: Tony Emerson
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2020 5:23 PM
To: Brenda Younger; Governing Body; bsahootowl@sbcglobal.net
Cc: Department Directors
Subject: RE: City Council Meeting 9-1-2020

Mr. Pfeiffer,

With everything else going on, I just read your attached letter. I am sorry for the confusion, but the amendments you are referencing are NOT what we passed. Like you, I thought the language should be more specific, so what we passed was "Any contractor licensed to install city utilities, including a plumbing contractor, may install or repair any sewer line servicing an industrial or commercial development project that has been designed by a licensed engineer. The contractor shall ensure that all connection and service lines are tested up to the cap outside each building."

The waterline was the same, except for saying water instead of sewer.

Also, to clear up any misconceptions, I asked for the "designed by a licensed engineer" to be included in the language because I only wanted this to apply in situations where an engineer has designed the piping system. This will forestall any worries about types of materials and etc. as the engineers know what types of materials are acceptable within the City of Topeka.

Hope this helps.

Thanks,

Tony Emerson

District 4 Councilman
Topeka City Council

T:(785)422-7888
temerson@topeka.org

From: Brenda Younger <BYounger@Topeka.org>
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Governing Body <governingbody@topeka.org>
Cc: Department Directors <DepartmentDirectors@Topeka.org>
Subject: FW: City Council Meeting 9-1-2020

Governing Body Members,

As requested, I am forwarding attached documents.

Thanks.

From: Bruce Pfeiffer [
Sent: Sunday, August 30, 2020 3:19 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: City Council Meeting 9-1-2020

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Respectfully,

Bruce Pfeiffer
3425 NW Fredith Rd.
Topeka, Kansas 66618
785-220-8993