



City of Topeka
Governing Body Action Form
City Council Chambers
214 SE 8th Street
Topeka, Kansas 66603
www.topeka.org
August 11, 2026

DATE:	August 11, 2026	
CONTACT PERSON:	Nick Jefferson, City Attorney	DOCUMENT #:
SECOND PARTY/SUBJECT:	Governing Body Rules and Procedures Amendment - Committee of the Whole	PROJECT #:
CIP PROJECT:	No	
ACTION OF COUNCIL:		JOURNAL #:
		PAGE #:

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

DISCUSSION with POSSIBLE ACTION of an amendment to the Governing Body Rules and Procedures to establish a Committee of the Whole.

Voting Requirement: Action requires at least six (6) votes of the Governing Body.

(Approval of the amendment would establish a Committee of the Whole comprised of all the governing body members. The deputy mayor shall be the chair of the Committee and the mayor shall serve as a non-voting, advisory member.)

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Discussion with possible action which requires at least six (6) votes of the Governing Body.

POLICY ISSUE:

Whether to establish a Committee of the Whole which would allow the Governing Body to sit as a single committee to allow for informal discussion, preliminary review and make recommendations before final formal vote of the Governing Body. Governing Body Rules established for committee duties and procedures will apply.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Discussion only. Staff is making no recommendation.

BACKGROUND:

The amendment is being proposed at the request of Councilmember Ortiz. The Committee of the Whole would operate like any ordinary committee in that recommendations are forwarded to the Governing Body for ratification but its purpose is to allow all members of the Governing Body an opportunity to engage in information discussion on ideas and proposals which may eventually result in a final recommendation to the

Governing Body for consideration.

Proposed Amendment to Governing Body Rules & Procedures 8.2 is as follows:

(d) The Governing Body shall have a standing Committee of the Whole (COW) comprised of all the governing body members. The deputy mayor shall be the chair of the COW and the mayor shall serve as a non-voting, advisory member.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

There is no budgetary impact to the City to amend the Governing Body Rules and Procedures.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Not Applicable.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Governing Body Rules and Procedures - 2026 Committee of the Whole Amendment \(Redline Version\)](#)