CITY OF LAWRENCE

**Common Council**

# April 2, 2018

**Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Lisa Chavis, Elizabeth Wheeler, Joe Williams, Sherron Freeman, Tom Shevlot, Rick Wells, William Tyrrell Giles and Becky Parker and were present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Collier, Controller/Deputy Mayor Fenwick, Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee, Deputy Chief Woodruff, Captain Steele, Captain Cantrell, Officer Christie and Officer Gray were present.

Council President Lisa Chavis called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Wells offered condolences to the family of Don Poteat, former member of the Common Council, on the death of his wife. He then renewed his request for a list of ongoing and completed capital improvement projects. Councilor Wells concluded with a reminder about the ongoing spring pot hole problem. Councilor Freeman thanked Deputy Chief Bigsbee for his role in facilitating a panel of law enforcement and legal leaders from federal, state, county and city agencies back on March 13, 2018. She also echoed other concerns about trains parked on the track for an excess of ten minutes. She concluded with a request for an update on the bike/pedestrian trail as part of the larger community master plan.

Councilor Giles requested thoughts and prayers from the community for those in his neighborhood affected by a recent violent incident. Councilor Williams presented the need for pedestrian walkways in the vicinity of 56th Street and German Church Road. These would include foot paths and sidewalks across bridges and along roadways. He also sought clarity on when German Church Road is scheduled to be re paved.

Officer Jeffrey Gray was recognized and came forward to present the Patriot Awards to: Sergeant Timothy Christie, Lieutenant John Nelson, Captain Tracy Cantrell and Police Chief David Hofmann in recognition for their assistance in supporting his recently completed deployment to Afghanistan. The Patriot Award is provided by the Indiana Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Wells moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on March 5, 2018 and March 21, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Parker and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Wheeler moved to approve Payroll Claims for $832,806.59 [March 15, 2018 payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for $408,221.82]. The motion was seconded by Councilor Freeman. By a show of hands, the motion to approve the vouchers carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: Councilor Wheeler informed the Council that a Zoning Committee meeting was held tonight at 6:00 p.m. to consider Petition No. 2018-ZON-035, 10930 East 59th Street. Councilor Wheeler moved on behalf of the Zoning Committee, that the Council hear Petition No. 2018-ZON-035 at a Special Council meeting on April 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

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Councilor Parker seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the vote carried by the unanimous vote of the Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Mayor Collier addressed the Council and discussed:

* He presented an update on ongoing capital improvement projects for 2018 that total $6.3 million
* Paving on 56th Street will begin this spring
* $8.5 million for Richardt Water Plant
* $2.6 million in capital improvements for the sewer and water system
* $585,000 for right of way acquisition on Franklin Road (RDC)
* Total value for capital improvements since 2016 is $20+ million and that doesn’t include $7.1 million for storm water improvements to begin this summer
* Pot holes should be reported on the city’s website
* 4 paving projects will begin this spring
* Meeting later this month for the bike/pedestrian plan
* Responded to questions about extended train presence on the tracks. This is a problem the City of Lawrence shares with other communities throughout the state of Indiana. CSX is operating longer trains on its lines.

Discussion of the train situation continued as Mayor Collier responded to questions from the Council.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: The following citizen addressed the Council:

Carlton Curry, 11230 Winding Wood Court

ADJOURNMENT: Prior to adjournment, Councilor Shevlot noted the passing of Major General Ronald E. Brooks, the last commanding general at Fort Benjamin Harrison and the person for whom the Lawrence Government Center is named. He requested the meeting be adjourned in remembrance and appreciation for Major General Ronald E. Brooks.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

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Lisa Chavis, President Kathleen A. Walton, Clerk

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussions held, with the exception of the motions. An audiotape is made which provides a detailed record.