CITY OF LAWRENCE

 **Common Council**

# May 7, 2018

**Regular Meeting**

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

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton and Attorney Kristina Wheeler (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP)

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Collier, Corporation Counsel Johnson, Police Chief Hofmann, Fire Chief Batalis and Blue Star Banner Program Coordinator Rothenbush were present.

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

There was a Blue Star Banner presentation.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Freeman praised the operation of the ongoing Lawrence Police Department Citizens Academy program. She noted particularly the contributions by Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee and the instructors for their work by presenting scenarios of police tactics, techniques and procedures. Councilor Freeman went on to thank DPW for their progress in filling pot holes. Councilors Wells and Giles echoed her comments. Councilor Giles reminded everyone that, with the warm weather, children were in the streets playing to include basketball goals. He called for increased attention and enforcement of ordinances related to those activities. Councilor Jones acknowledged the death of Firefighter Jeff Holt and expressed condolences to his family. He also praised the leadership of the Fire Department and all the firefighters and EMT’s for their strength in responding to the loss of a fellow first responder. He went on to thank the Police Department for their assistance in the weeks activities. Councilor Parker re-enforced the excellent job carried out by both Fire and Police Departments and reported a retired firefighter expressed to her admiration for the team work of the 2 departments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Freeman moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on April 2, 2018 and April 18, 2018 and special meeting on April 25, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wells and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Shevlot moved to approve Payroll Claims for $898,646.89 [April 15, 2018 payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for $1,128,530.86]. 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: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Proposal No. 2, 2018, amending the Municipal Code of the City of Lawrence, Indiana to establish an all-way stop intersection at River Birch Lane and Elm Ridge Drive, was introduced and read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis assigned Proposal No. 2, 2018 to the Code Committee.

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ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Mayor Collier addressed the Council and discussed:

* He expressed appreciation to Councilor Jones and others who noted the passing of Firefighter Jeff Holt. He added his voice of praise to both the Fire and Police Departments. He thanked the 32 fire departments and 9 police departments for their assistance in carrying out the monumental task associated with honoring Firefighter Jeff Holt. He thought it was important that citizens of the City of Lawrence took the time to stand along the route in recognizing the service of Firefighter Holt.
* In addressing the pot hole problem, the Mayor said that it would be helpful if reports of pot holes included specific addresses.
* As for the basketball goal issue, the Mayor reported that Captain Cantrell is working to assure safe recreation and code enforcement. He reminded everyone that placing basketball goals on or next to the street is prohibited both by City and County ordinance.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: The following citizen addressed the Council:

 Linda Moore, 4909 Leone Drive

ADJOURNMENT: Prior to adjournment, Councilor Shevlot noted the passing of Firefighter Jeff Holt. Jeff Holt joined the Lawrence Fire Department in 1996 as a firefighter/paramedic, and during his long career, he served as an Engineer, Lieutenant, Division Chief of Training, Division Chief of EMS, and Deputy Chief of Operations. He was currently assigned to the engine company at Station 36. Councilor Shevlot requested the meeting be adjourned in remembrance and appreciation for Firefighter Jeff Holt for his more than 2 decades of service to the community.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 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.