CITY OF LAWRENCE

 **Common Council**

# July 2, 2018

**Regular Meeting**

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

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

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Collier, Controller/Deputy Mayor Fenwick, Corporation Counsel Johnson, Police Chief Hofmann, Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee, Fire Chief Batalis, Economic Development Director Starnes, Park Superintendent Martin, Director of Public Works and Code Enforcement Anthony, Public Information Officer Griffin and Director of Crime Prevention Sokol 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 presentation by Judy Byron, Executive Director of Arts for Lawrence, on a Cultural Campus at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

There was a presentation by Kroger Gardis & Regas, LLP, Brian Bosma, on Meyer Plastics, LLC.

Mayor Collier gave an update on the Council’s concerns regarding the new structure and supervisory relationships within DPW. Some of these include:

* DPW and Utilities will be organized under a single supervisor.
* No change in job titles.
* A designated individual for pot holes.
* Special attention to prevent comingling of funds.

The Mayor responded to questions from the Council.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Giles thanked Police Chief Hofmann and the entire police department for the comprehensive plan they put together in coordination with IMPD. He further reported positive results are already observable. Councilor Freeman recognized the police department for their extra efforts in the Kensington Farms, Kensington Commons and Watson Farms areas. These included increased patrolling that has had positive results. She noted specifically the leadership of Lieutenant Nelson and Police Chief Hofmann. Based on a request from a constituent, she asked that thought be given to the installation of a stop sign at Otis Avenue and Lawrence Village Parkway because of unclear sight lines and recent near misses. She further noted the effectiveness of the City’s new street sweeper. She praised DPW for its rapid repair of pot holes at McCord Lane and Old Orchard Drive. Calls made in the morning were responded to and completed that afternoon. She concluded by asking that someone look into the situation at the address of the fire at 11071 Indian Lake Boulevard where a garage fire took place in March 2018. The damaged structure remains boarded up and over run with weeds.

Councilor Williams revisited his concerns about pot holes in District 4, paving dates for German Church Road, the need for pedestrian walkways near 56th Street and German Church Road, the bridges at 56th Street and German Church Road, update on the Community Crossing Grant, drainage issue at 65th Street and Carroll Road, damage to the sidewalks at 6262 White Rabbit

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Lane and 12437 Rose Haven Drive on top of a water line and tall grass issues at Bearsdale Drive and Pendleton Pike. Councilor Williams sought to verify that there are 3 code enforcement officers for the City. He also asked the current number of serving police officers. Councilor Jones requested an update on the progress of the work on the Oaklandon water tower. The Mayor reminded the Council that a survey indicated the public desires the retention of the balloon color scheme. On one side will be the word Oaklandon and on the other side Lawrence. He also requested a point of contact for reporting high grass issues. He also reported that he is unable to open emails from the Controller’s Office. Specifically, he is unable to open voucher PDFs. He said that he requires vouchers to be sent to him at least 5 days before every meeting. His concerns about format and timing were echoed by Councilors Chavis and Wells. Controller Fenwick responded and noted summer workloads and employee vacations occasionally delayed the sharing of that information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Parker moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on June 4, 2018 and June 20, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wells and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Freeman moved to approve Payroll Claims for $951,230.23 [June 15, 2018 payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for $674,113.66]. The motion was seconded by Councilor Shevlot. Following discussion, by a show of hands, the motion to approve the vouchers carried by the following vote of the Council: Five (5) aye votes (Councilors Giles, Chavis, Parker, Shevlot and Freeman) and three (3) abstentions (Councilors Williams, Wells and Jones).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: Councilor Williams said the Code Committee met and discussed Proposal No. 2, 2018, Proposal No. 3, 2018 and Proposal No. 4, 2018. Proposal No 2 and No. 3, 2018 were recommended a do pass. Proposal No. 4, 2018 needs to remain in Committee for further review.

UNFINISHED 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 read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Jones moved to adopt Proposal No. 2, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Giles and carried by a unanimous vote of the council.

Proposal No. 3, 2018, amending the Municipal Code of the City of Lawrence, Indiana to establish a preferential stop intersection at Indian Lake Boulevard South drive and Hidden Oak Lane, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Parker moved to adopt Proposal No. 3, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Williams and carried by a unanimous vote of the council.

Proposal No. 4, 2018, amending the Municipal Code of the City of Lawrence, Indiana to adopt a new chapter of Title 3, Article 3 to establish standards for the elimination of graffiti, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Proposal No. 4, 2018 remains in the Code Committee.

NEW BUSINESS: Proposal No. 5, 2018, authorizing the issuance of not to exceed $2,246,000 aggregate principal amount of taxable economic development tax increment revenue bonds, series 2018 (Meyer Plastics Project); authorizing proceeds to finance the development, acquisition and

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equipping of an economic development facility; providing for the pledge and assignment of revenues for the payment of said bonds; authorizing a loan agreement with respect to the project; and authorizing other actions in connection therewith, was introduced and read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis moved to suspend the rules and adopt on first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilor Shevlot and carried by a unanimous vote of the council. Following discussion, Councilor Parker moved to adopt Proposal No. 5, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Freeman and carried by a unanimous vote of the council.

Resolution No. 5, 2018, approving a declaratory resolution of the Redevelopment Commission removing parcels from the Pendleton Pike Redevelopment area, declaring the parcels as a new economic development area, approving a plan for the area, declaring part of the area an allocation area and approving other actions related thereto, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Following discussion, Councilor Williams moved to adopt Resolution No. 5, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wheeler and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council

Proposal No. 6, 2018, amending the Municipal Code of the City of Lawrence, Indiana regarding litter on private property, was introduced and ready only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis assigned Proposal No. 6, 2018 to the Code Committee.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Mayor Collier addressed the Council and discussed:

* He thanked the Council for suspending the rules and adopting Ordinance No. 5, 2018.
* July 4, 2018 parade will include 72 participants from a variety of community organizations.
* Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 10am is the groundbreaking for the Lawrence Police Headquarters.
* Recognized Controller Fenwick for winning the GFOA award for 2018. This is the second year in a row Mr. Fenwick has earned this achievement.
* In his concluding comments, the Mayor expressed optimism that Paul Wanner would take steps to improve the efficiency and employee morale within DPW and the Utility.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: The following citizen addressed the Council:

* Linda Moore, 4909 Leone Drive
* Sue Reed, 4769 Vernon Avenue
* Carlton Curry, 11230 Winding Wood Court

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 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.