

**Common Council
City of Lawrence
July 15, 2020
Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Member Rick Wells

BY ZOOM: Councilors Lisa Chavis, William Tyrrell Giles, Sherron Freeman, Shawn Denney, Maria Rusomaroff, Deborah Whitfield and Attorney Kristina Wheeler (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP)

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton

STAFF PRESENT: None

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

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Whitfield presented an update that recognized the activities of the Lawrence Park Foundation. She announced that the Foundation is hosting the distribution of 1,000 packs of food as part of a food drive to assist those in need. The event will take place on Thursday, July 30, 2020 from 4-6pm at Lawrence Community Park on Franklin Road. Councilor Chavis then encouraged fellow councilors to volunteer and assist at the distribution. She also asked them to go to the City's Facebook page and take part in the parks' survey hosted there. She reminded everyone that the deadline for survey completion is Sunday, July 26, 2020. Councilor Rusomaroff thanked Mayor Collier, Jim Heneghan, and DPW for installing a pedestrian crossing sign at 56th Street and Bogey Drive. Councilor Denney reported that the Marion County-wide rental assistance program for people affected by the Covid-19 Pandemic is still up and running. City of Lawrence residents affected by the Pandemic can apply for assistance by going to the website IndyRent.org, or by contacting one of the local organizations partnering with the program. For residents of the City of Lawrence, they should contact CAFÉ, the John Boner Center, or the Lawrence Township Trustee's Office. Because of the large number of residents who are applying, applications could take up to two weeks for the county to process. Additionally, residents affected by the Pandemic and who require utility assistance may apply to CAFÉ or to the Lawrence Township Trustee's office. Councilor Chavis informed the group that she will reach out to the councilors and the Administration to identify ways to obtain masks for the Lawrence Community.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Freeman moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$909,491.31 [June 30, 2020} payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$1,011,245.37]. Councilor Rusomaroff seconded the motion. Councilor Chavis to follow up with Controller Fenwick on details of a \$17,000 voucher. By a roll call vote, the motion to approve the vouchers carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Chavis said nominations for a new member of the Redevelopment Commission were open for consideration. Councilor Freeman nominated Melissa Swindell. Councilor Chavis announced that, there being no further nominations, nominations were closed. By a roll call vote, Seven votes were cast, seven (7) votes for Melissa Swindell. Clerk Walton announced that Melissa Swindell was elected to the Redevelopment Commission.

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ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned, at 6:42 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

Lisa Chavis, President

Kathleen A. Walton, Clerk