Common Council

**City of Lawrence**

**July 18, 2018**

**Regular Meeting**

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

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

STAFF PRESENT: Controller/Deputy Mayor Fenwick, Corporation Counsel Johnson, Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee and Streets Director Heneghan 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 Shevlot lead off by complimenting Jim Heneghan and the street department for the work they did near the intersection of 79th Street and Indian Lake Road by cleaning out vegetation that had caused a traffic hazard. Councilor Jones followed by repeating his concern about not being able to open the vouchers sent to him for review by the Controller’s office. He believes he has fixed the problem by coming to the City building and having the Windmail app installed to allow him to open pdf documents. He echoed comments by Councilor Shevlot about the recent performance of Jim Heneghan in the street department. He suggested a standard that no more than 35 days should elapse between the receipt of a complaint about high grass and the solution of the problem. Councilor Jones then asked for the names of the 3 code enforcement officers employed by the City. He concluded by reporting that shortly after midnight on Monday, July 16, 2018, he was outside walking his dog. While doing so he noticed a suspicious car operating in the neighborhood. He called the Lawrence Police Department and told them that the car drove away when they noticed him. Ten minutes later, the car returned and drove around with its lights off. He again called 911. The Lawrence Police Department stopped the car, but he did not know the outcome of the police action. He asked the police to call and report what had occurred. He waited 20 minutes and then went back inside. He expressed disappointment that the police did not provide feedback to his calls. Councilor Wells expressed concern that a crime watch meeting, held to restart the Brookhaven crime watch organization, attempted to exclude those not living in the Brookhaven neighborhood. He said that a constituent told him that the incoming crime watch director told those attending that the meeting was only for Brookhaven residents and that there was no reason for anyone else to be there. He noted that District 2 does not have any crime watch organizations and that they should be allowed to visit other meetings. Councilor Parker, who also attended the Brookhaven meeting, said that she did not hear anything about people not being welcome at the meeting. She said the information presented was valuable. Councilor Jones said he heard the negative comments at the meeting. Councilor Chavis intervened and asked for an update on crime watch meeting policies at the next Common Council meeting. Councilor Williams again sought feedback and an update on stormwater overflows from Hancock County. Councilor Chavis also sought clarity seeking to know whether it is not a priority or if the issue is being worked on. Councilor Williams went on to repeat his concerns about a time frame for paving German Church Road and for installing walking paths and bridges. He also sought an update on the condition of the sidewalk at 6262 White Rabbit Lane and 12437 Rose Haven. Councilor Wells reported that, like Councilor Jones, he has been unable to open attachments from the Controller’s office on his iPhone. He also had the Windmail app installed on his phone. He wondered why it was that only

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2 councilors had problems and recommended that vouchers and other documents sent out by the controller be in a pdf format. In response, Controller Fenwick reminded the council that all documents are sent out in pdf format and that pdf is the only format ever used. Councilor Giles noted that he has never had a problem opening any documents on his android phone. Councilor Freemen echoed earlier comments about the performance of DPW, especially in clearing out weeds in front of the subdivision.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Freeman moved to approve Payroll Claims for $860,488.32 [June 30, 2018 payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for $1,262,972.49]. The motion was seconded by Councilor Parker. Following discussion, by a show of hands, the motion to approve the vouchers carried by the following vote of the Council: Six (6) aye votes and two (2) nay votes (Councilors Wells and Jones).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: 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.

Proposal No. 6, 2018, amending the Municipal Code of the City of Lawrence, Indiana regarding litter on private property, was ready only by title by Clerk Walton. Proposal No. 6, 2018 remains in the Code Committee.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned, at 6:48 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

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Lisa Chavis. President Kathleen A. Walton, Clerk