

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
August 3, 2020
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Member Lisa Chavis

BY ZOOM: Councilors Tom Shevlot, Sherron Freeman, William Tyrrell Giles, Shawn Denney, Maria Rusomaroff, Lauren Russel, Deborah Whitfield, Rick Wells and Attorney Kristina Wheeler (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP)

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton

STAFF PRESENT: CFO/Deputy Mayor Fenwick and Fire Chief Batalis

ALSO PRESENT BY ZOOM: Mayor Collier

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 Freeman recognized the LPD Explorers for serving at the Marion County Fair and thanked them for their actions during the violent confrontation. One of her constituents expressed concern about drivers rolling through stop signs and speeding in Watson Farms. Perhaps additional warning signs could be installed. She also expressed concern about problems at the 4-way stop signs at the intersection of Post Road and Otis Avenue. Councilor Whitfield acknowledged the hard work of Councilor Shawn Denney and his team from the Lawrence Park Foundation in sponsoring a food give away for some 1,000 families on July 30, 2020. It was a successful and productive effort. Councilor Denney, on behalf of Derrick Morris, the Vice President of the Lawrence Park Foundation, thanked Councilors, volunteers and the Administration for all the efforts for the “Bellies Full For Back To School” event. He repeated that 1,000 boxes of food, each with 4 meals, were distributed. He went on to thank the Lawrence CERT Team for directing traffic at the event. Councilor Wells noted a storm sewer issue at the corner of Mitchner Avenue and 48th Street. He suggested that perhaps the drain filters are blocked.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Freeman moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on July 6, 2020 and July 15, 2020. Councilor Denney seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 8-3-20: Councilor Freeman moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$914,563.86 [July 15, 2020} payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$1,415,379.37]. Councilor Russel seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion to approve the vouchers carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: None

CFO Fenwick presented an update on the 2020 budget and the 2021-budget timeline.
CFO Fenwick and Fire Chief Batalis gave an energy savings update.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Chavis said nominations for a new member of the Board of Zoning Appeals were open for consideration. Councilor Freeman nominated Paula Strauss. Councilor Denney nominated Eugene West. Councilor Chavis announced that, there being no further nominations, nominations were closed. By a roll call vote, eight votes were cast, seven (7) votes for Eugene West and one (1) vote for Paula Strauss (Councilor Freeman). Clerk Walton announced that Eugene West was elected to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Mayor Collier presented an update that included the following points:

- On July 27, 2020, Human Resource Director Janette Jackson and Mr. Carl Drummer spoke about diversity in business to City department heads.
- A new Street Sweeper is now out and about improving the condition of our City streets.
- He and Fishers Mayor, Scott Fadness, are working together to develop ideas to ensure diversity in their communities.
- There will be a kick off meeting for the Freije project on Thursday, August 6, 2020.
- Work began last week on decorative crosswalks.
- The relocation of the Historic Communications Building will begin soon.
- COVID-19 Update: because the situation continues to evolve, the Labor Day Celebration in honor of First Responders is postponed.

Councilor Chavis reported the she, Mayor Collier, and CFO Fenwick, and others recently attended the entrance conference for the SBOA audit. This is for the year 2019 and should be completed by September 30, 2020.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

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.