

**CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
March 2, 2026
Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilors Carlos Jennings, Kristie Krone, Tyrrell Giles, Rick Wells, Zach Cramer, Liz Masur, Sherron Freeman, and Betty Robinson

MEMBERS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tracy Boyd

ALSO, BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Mayor Whitfield, Brad Boswell and Kaylin Cook

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Adkisson, Tom Burns, Dion Adkisson, Brad Addington, David Gilman and Zach Myers, of McCarter & English, LLP

STAFF PRESENT: Greg Goodnight, Terri Faulker, Jami Weinrich, Chief Bigsbee, Lisa Harvery, Terri Faulker Renea Rafala, Janette Jackson, and Jared Hooten

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Shawn Fugate

Council President Zach Cramer called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was administered, followed by a moment of silence.

Roll call was taken. Eight (8) council members were present. President Cramer recognized there was a quorum. A quorum was confirmed.

Present:

- Councilor Masur
- Councilor Wells
- Councilor Robinson
- Councilor Jennings
- Councilor Freeman
- Councilor Krone
- Councilor Cramer
- Councilor Giles

It was also recognized there were extra copies of the agenda located at the back of the room along with a sign-up sheet for comments from the citizens.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS OR RESOLUTIONS:

Councilor Wells reported receiving **complaints from constituents and restaurant owners** regarding food truck vendors operating within the city, particularly in **District 2 and the Old Lawrence area**.

Key points raised included:

- Six food truck vendors were identified operating within the district.
- The only requirement identified for operation was a **Marion County Board of Health license**.
- Initial information suggested permits were issued by Indianapolis, but this was later determined to be incorrect.
- Health regulations require **mobile food units to maintain a commissary kitchen** used daily for cleaning, water supply, and wastewater disposal.
- Observations indicated some trucks appear to operate **permanently in one location**, raising concerns about compliance.
- Complaints were submitted to the **Marion County Board of Health**.

Following an inspection:

- **Three vendors were cited for multiple violations.**
- **One vendor's license was revoked.**

Concerns were expressed regarding:

- Lack of **city oversight or permitting.**
- Potential **public health risks.**
- Fairness to **brick-and-mortar restaurants paying property taxes.**
- Concentration of vendors in a single district.

Councilor Wells suggested exploring **city oversight measures and broader distribution of vendors across the city.**

Public Safety Recognition

Councilor Giles recognized the **Lawrence Fire Department** for their professionalism in responding to a recent **residential fire in the Oakland/Royal Hills area.**

The council member noted:

- Professional response by Lawrence Fire personnel.
- Effective coordination with **Indianapolis Police Department and Indianapolis Fire Department.**
- Appreciation for the departments' teamwork and professionalism.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF 02-18-26

A motion was made by **Councilor Jennings** and seconded by **Councilor Robinson** to approve the minutes of February 18, 2026, regular meeting.

- Councilor Masur – Yay
 - Councilor Wells – Yay
 - Councilor Robinson – Yay
 - Councilor Jennings – Yay
 - Councilor Freeman – Yay
 - Councilor Krone – Yay
 - Councilor Cramer – Yay
 - Councilor Giles – Yay
- **Result:** Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 03-02-2026:

Payroll Claims for [January 30, 2026] \$1,325,124.47 and payroll claims for [February 13, 2026] \$1,254,342.16. Invoices [for vendors] as presented today for \$5,811,893.59. The council considered approval of vouchers, claims, and payment authorizations for March 2, 2026.

Discussion

Councilor Wells raised questions regarding **Proposal No. 2 (2025)** related to **approval of professional service expenditures over \$5,000.** Concerns included:

- Interpretation of the ordinance requiring **Common Council approval before payment of professional service contracts exceeding \$5,000.**
- Whether certain claims approved by the **Board of Works** should have been submitted to the Council first.
- Clarification from the **city attorney** had been requested but not yet received.
- Councilor Wells stated he would vote **against approval** until clarification is provided.

A motion was made by **Councilor Jennings** and seconded by **Councilor Freeman** to approve March 2, 2026, pay claim vouchers.

Vote

- **Vote:** Approved following a **roll call vote**, with **one dissenting vote.**
- Councilor Masur – Yay
- Councilor Wells – Nay
- Councilor Robinson – Yay
- Councilor Jennings – Yay
- Councilor Freeman – Yay
- Councilor Krone – Yay
- Councilor Cramer – Yay
- Councilor Giles – Yay

Result: Motion carried 7 – 1

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1) **Proposal No. 3, 2025**

An ordinance amending **Title 1, Article 2, Chapter 5 of the City of Lawrence Code of Ordinances** remains under consideration by the **Public Safety Committee** and will return to the council when ready.

2) **Proposal No. 1, 2026**

An ordinance amending **Title 2, Article 1, Chapter 2, Section 12** concerning **Common Council approval of professional service expenditures** remains before the **Committee of the Whole.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Transfer of Parcel #4001619 from the City of Lawrence to the FHRA
- 2) Appointment to the USB Board
- 3) 26-ZON-01 – 8121 45th Street, Indianapolis, 46226
- 4) 26-LZO-02 – 5649 Lee Road – 9535 Memorial Park Drive

Tabling of Agenda Items by President Cramer

It was stated by Councilor Cramer; certain new business items were **not properly noticed** or lacked required supporting materials.

- **Motion:** Made by Councilor Jennings to table **Items 1, 3, and 4** until the next meeting.
 - **Second:** Received by Councilor Giles
 - **Vote:** Passed 7–1
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- Councilor Masur – Yay
 - Councilor Wells – Nay
 - Councilor Robinson – Yay
 - Councilor Jennings – Yay
 - Councilor Freeman – Yay
 - Councilor Krone – Yay
 - Councilor Cramer – Yay
 - Councilor Giles – Yay

Result: Motion carried

Appointment to Utility Service Board

The council considered an appointment to the **Utility Service Board**.

- **Nomination:** Made by Councilor Liz Masur, for George Bright
 - **Second:** Received, by Councilor Carlos Jennings
 - **Additional nominations:** None
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- Councilor Masur – Yay
 - Councilor Wells – Yay
 - Councilor Robinson – Yay
 - Councilor Jennings – Yay
 - Councilor Freeman – Yay
 - Councilor Krone – Yay
 - Councilor Cramer – Yay
 - Councilor Giles – Yay

Vote: Approved 8–0.

COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:

Proclamation – Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

The Human Resources Director, Janette Jacksn, accompanied by the President of the **Lawrence Advisory Council on Disabilities**, presented a proclamation.

Mayor Deborah Whitfield officially proclaimed **March 2026 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month** in the City of Lawrence, recognizing:

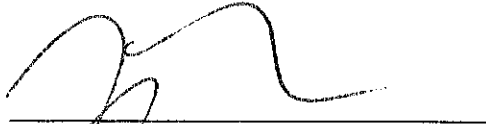
- The contributions of individuals with developmental disabilities
- The importance of inclusive employment
- Community participation and accessibility
- The work of the **Lawrence Advisory Council on Disabilities**

An administrative update was provided by Chief of Staff, Greg Goodnight, regarding **ongoing building remediation and repair work**:


- Work is progressing through multiple floors of the facility.
- Repairs include drywall replacement and restoration following earlier issues.
- Testing has been conducted on the third floor.
- Completion of major repairs is anticipated **by spring**.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: President Cramer called for adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m., by President Cramer.



Zach Cramer, President



Leatrice Adkisson, Clerk

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussions held, except for the motions.

