

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
June 24, 2026
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS' PRESENT: Councilors Tracy Boyd, Zach Cramer, Rick Wells, Sherron Freeman and Betty Robinson

MEMBERS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilors Tyrrell Giles, Liz Masur, Carlos Jennings and Kristie Krone

ALSO, BY MICROSOFT TEAMS:

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Adkisson and Kaylin Cook of McCarter & English, LLP

STAFF PRESENT: Jami Weirich and Greg Goodnight

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Shawn Fugate

Council President Zach Cramer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Council members and attendees stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken. Nine (5) council members were present. President Cramer recognized there was a quorum. A quorum was confirmed.

Present:

- Councilor Wells
- Councilor Freeman
- Councilor Robinson
- Councilor Cramer
- Councilor Boyd

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 & SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS OR RESOLUTIONS:

Councilor Freeman reminded residents to exercise caution while driving through residential neighborhoods during the summer months, noting that children are out of school and frequently playing outdoors. She referenced concerns from constituents regarding speeding on Welker Drive, Bartley, Kensworth, and 52nd Street and encouraged drivers to reduce speed and remain alert.

Councilor Wells raised concerns regarding:

1. Harrison Park Incident

- A constituent reported finding a three-year-old autistic child on her doorstep at approximately 1:00 a.m.
- Police responded and reunited the child with family members.
- Councilor Wells questioned how recurring late-night gatherings at the residence continue without intervention and sought clarification regarding procedures used to verify the child's guardians before release.
- He requested follow-up communication from the Police Department regarding the incident.

He stated that the specific ordinance language ultimately presented to the Council had not been previously agreed upon by the Administration. Rather, the Administration, the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), and the Firefighters Union had agreed during collective bargaining negotiations that any amendments to the accrued leave ordinances would be submitted to the Common Council for consideration and decision.

He cited language from the collective bargaining agreement stating that the City agreed to pursue amendments to Municipal Ordinances 1-2-5-2, 1-2-5-3, and 1-2-5-4. He explained that the Administration fulfilled that obligation by presenting the proposed ordinance amendments to the Council and allowing the Council to exercise its legislative authority. He further noted that the Council had approved the collective bargaining agreement language on October 30, 2024.

Response to Financial Comments Made at Prior Meetings

The Chief of Staff also addressed comments made regarding statements from the Mayor and the City Controller concerning the City's financial condition.

He stated that during the Mayor's State of the City address, the Mayor had correctly indicated that despite the impacts of Indiana Senate Enrolled Act 1, the City's finances remained strong through careful and prudent fiscal management.

He further explained that the City Controller, in a separate discussion with the Council, had expressed concern that the City could face significant financial challenges if poor financial decisions were made in the future.

The Chief of Staff emphasized that both statements could be true simultaneously: the City's current financial position may be stable while still requiring responsible fiscal management to avoid future difficulties.

Fourth of July Parade Reminder

The Chief of Staff concluded his remarks by encouraging council members and residents to attend and participate in the City's upcoming Fourth of July Parade and related festivities.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Daniel Rapp, 5718 Waldingwood Drive

Mr. Rapp spoke regarding Proposal No. 1, 2026 and identified four areas he believed should be addressed:

1. Responsibility for implementation and oversight.
2. Authority to enforce compliance.
3. Consequences or remedies for violations.
4. Review and adjudication procedures.

He also questioned the proposal's effective date and requested access to the document for review.

Charles Turner, 5822 Wheeler Road


Mr. Turner expressed concerns regarding excessive speeding on Wheeler Road and nearby streets.

Key points included:

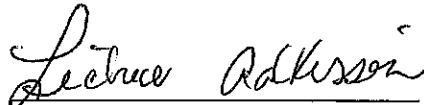
- The residential speed limit of 25 mph is frequently exceeded by commuters, school buses, general traffic, and Purple Line buses.
- Complaints to IndyGo and the Mayor's Office have not resulted in satisfactory responses.
- He had not observed significant traffic enforcement in the area.
- Suggested solutions included:
 - Installation of solar-powered speed display signs.
 - Increased traffic enforcement and issuance of citations.
 - Additional measures to improve compliance with traffic laws.

Mr. Turner emphasized the potential danger to children, pedestrians, cyclists, and residents and urged action to prevent future tragedies.

ADJOURNMENT: President Cramer called for adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m., by President Cramer.



Zach Cramer, President
Vice -



Leatrice Adkisson, Clerk

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

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