

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
February 3, 2020
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Lisa Chavis, Tom Shevlot, William Tyrrell Giles, Sherron Freeman, Rick Wells, Shawn Denney, Maria Rusomaroff, Lauren Russel and Deborah Whitfield were present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton and Attorney Jeffery Earl (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP)

STAFF PRESENT: Controller/Deputy Mayor Fenwick, Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee and Director of Crime Watch/Deputy Chief of Staff James 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 Freeman reminded the council that the annual City of Lawrence Black History Month Celebration will be celebrated at 6pm on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at the Sterrett Center. She also noted that it is not possible to turn left onto Pendleton Pike from McCoy Street. She went on to thank DPW for filling in potholes in various places in Kensington Farms. She reported seeing an article in *Geist Magazine* (Nicer Neighborhoods) discussing nicer neighborhoods. The idea is to address the beautification of neighborhoods to build pride in the city. The article focused on Fishers and on a grant received for the project. Councilor Chavis interjected that she would look into the process. Councilor Wells reported that he had spoken to DPW concerning a sewer running across a street in his neighborhood. He suggested that this situation is one of a number of problems that have arisen from the detour of traffic off of Franklin Road and into the side streets. The detour has caused excessive damage to streets that were already in deteriorating condition. He said that he understands that the detour is to continue for a few more weeks. Councilor Giles reported that a light pole is down at the corner of Shadeland Avenue and Clemdale Avenue. He asked that this situation be placed on the list for repair. Councilor Russel mentioned that the Lawrence Church of God, at 4320 N. Post Road, has been helping Lawrence families through its Caring Center Program. Councilor Shevlot reminded the council that the 2020 city budget authorized the position of Director of Engineering. Srikanth Venugopalan has been hired for that position. A process is now in place to put up street signs in neighborhoods,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Whitfield moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on January 6, 2020 and January 15, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilor Russel and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Freeman moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$933,419.04 [January 15, 2020} payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$2,974,433.38]. The motion was seconded by Councilor Denney. By a show of hands, the motion to approve the vouchers carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

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NEW BUSINESS: None

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: None

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 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.