

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
March 2, 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 Kristina Wheeler (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP)

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Collier and Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee 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 Chavis recognized the efforts of the Committee that organized last week's very successful Black History Celebration. Councilor Rusomaroff thanked DPW for repairing the potholes on 52nd Street East of German Church Road. She also noted that DPW had installed traffic signs in the round-about at German Church Road and 46th Street. Councilor Wells asked that the Administration provide members of the Council with notices of public events such as the Black History Celebration before they happen. Councilor Chavis responded by reminding everyone that the Black History Celebration was announced twice during Common Council meetings in February; was posted on the City's website; was advertised on colorful posters throughout the City building; and appeared on Facebook and other social media platforms. Councilor Chavis recognized Brad Klopfenstein, the new president of the Greater Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. He then introduced himself and noted that he lives on Lawton Loop and should be seen as a resource for the community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Freeman moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on February 3, 2020 and February 18, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilor Russel and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Giles moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$956,202.25 [January 15, 2020} payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$800,457.50]. The motion was seconded by Councilor Whitfield. 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

NEW BUSINESS: Council President Chavis announced that Councilors Whitfield and Russel are working with Fire Chief Batalis, Police Chief Hofmann, and the Administration to determine where the Common Council can assist for keeping the City safe. She requested a report from the Public Safety Committee at the May 4th Council meeting.

Councilor President Chavis announced that Councilors Giles and Shevlot are working with the Administration and Utility Superintendent Salsbery to determine any areas that need to be

addressed within the Municipal Code. Council President Chavis requested a report from the Code Committee at the May 4th Council meeting regarding

Resolution No. 3, 2020, recognizing Black History Month, was read in its entirety by Clerk Walton. Councilor Russel moved to adopt Resolution No. 3, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilor Giles and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Mayor Collier congratulated Councilor Chavis and Freeman and the entire committee for the great job they did in organizing and conducting the community's Black History Celebration. Because of the success of the event, he suggested that next year it be held in a larger venue. He then congratulated the Lawrence North High School Girls Basketball Team for winning the 4A State Championship. He also announced that the Boys Basketball Teams from Lawrence North High School and Lawrence Central High School will meet this Wednesday in the second game of the City-County Championship. The Mayor concluded his comments by reminding everyone that his State of the City address will be presented at The Garrison on Thursday, March 5, 2020 beginning at 7:30am.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 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.