

**CITY OF LAWRENCE**  
**Common Council**  
**February 1, 2021**  
**Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: None

MEMBERS BY ZOOM: Lisa Chavis, Tom Shevlot, Sherron Freeman, William Tyrrell Giles, Lauren Russel, Maria Rusomaroff, Deborah Whitfield, Rick Wells and Shawn Denney

ALSO BY ZOOM: Clerk Kathleen Walton and Attorney Kristina Wheeler (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP)

ALSO PRESENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Collier and CFO/Deputy Mayor Fenwick

STAFF BY ZOOM: Police Chief Hofmann, Deputy Chief of Staff Murphy, Director of Economic Development Zuerner and Graphic Designer Hooton

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 Denney thanked the Lawrence Fire Department for responding and assisting to a destructive apartment fire last Friday, January 29, 2021, just outside the City limits. 22 residents were displaced in the incident. He also recognized Lawrence Township Trustee, Steve Talley, for his work with the apartment management for managing the fire and its aftermath. He concluded by acknowledging Lawrence Township Board member Fred Freeman on the occasion of his birthday. Councilor Whitfield reminded everyone that February 1, 2021 marks the first day of Black History Month. Councilor Russel thanked the Street Department for its efforts in clearing the streets during and after the recent snow storm. Councilor Giles noted that he has been impressed with the efforts made to clear the streets. Councilor Chavis reminded everyone to mark their calendars for a virtual Black History Celebration to be held on February 25, 2021. She invited all councilors to participate and reminded them that this would all be done virtually.

Director of Economic Development Zuerner introduced the discussion of 2 topics:

1. The Lawrence Trades District (Mr. Zuerner's comments)
2. The EDC website (Presented by Deputy Chief of Staff Murphy and Graphic Designer Hooton)

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Hooton talked about the partnership between the City of Lawrence and the graphic design team. They informed the councilors that they should go to the city of Lawrence website and click on the "EDC" link to go to the EDC website ("ChooseLawrence" website).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Russel moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on January 4, 2021 and January 20, 2021. Councilor Wells seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 2-1-21: Councilor Whitfield moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$1,025,903.82 [January 15, 2021 payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for

\$1,503,529.82]. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion to approve the vouchers carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: Councilor Denney said the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee met and Resolution No. 10, 2020 was withdrawn. They also discussed Resolution No. 1, 2021 and recommended a do pass.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Resolution No. 10, 2020, to adopt fiscal policy for discretionary funds of the Common Council, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Resolution No. 10, 2020 was withdrawn by Councilor Shevlot.

Proposal No. 1, 2021, adopting and enacting a fourteenth supplement to the code of ordinances of the City of Lawrence, Indiana, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Attorney Kristina Wheeler said the replacement pages for the S-14 supplement were received today from American Legal. Councilor Shevlot moved to adopt Proposal No. 1, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilor Russel. By a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Chavis said nominations for a member of the Economic Development Commission were open for consideration. Councilor Denney nominated Betty Robinson. Councilor Chavis announced that, there being no further nominations, nominations were closed. By a roll call vote, Nine votes were cast, 9 votes for Betty Robinson. Clerk Walton announced that Betty Robinson was elected as the Economic Development Commission.

Resolution No. 1, 2021, concerning retention of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP as legal counsel, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Denney moved to adopt Resolution No. 1, 2021. Councilor Rusomaroff seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried by the following vote of the Council: Eight (8) aye votes and one (1) nay vote (Councilor Wells).

Resolution No. 2, 2021, approving a form of lease and taking other actions regarding the proposed lease, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis assigned Resolution No. 2, 2021 to the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee. They will meet on February 17, 2021 at 5:30pm.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Mayor Collier made the following 2 points:

- Encouraged everyone to tune in to Facebook Live on February 25, 2021 for the Black History Month Celebration.
- Expressed optimism that the new initiative begun by Pat McAfee at the corner of 75<sup>th</sup> Street and Oaklandon Road will become a great addition to the community.

CFO/Deputy Mayor Fenwick presented an update on the state of City finances:

- Uncertainty remains about income tax revenue for 2021
- The 2020 General Fund ended the year in better condition than expected.
- The 5% salary increase contemplated in the 2021 budget was not funded pending the outcome of 2020 finances. Based on that outcome, it may be possible to fund those raises through an additional appropriation request in April.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

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ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

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Lisa Chavis, President

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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.