

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
April 4, 2022
Regular Meeting

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

MEMBERS BY ZOOM: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO BY ZOOM: None

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton, Attorney Kristina Wheeler (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP), Bob Swintz (London Witte & CO LLP), Brian Bosma (Kroger, Gardis & Regas, LLP), Doug Kowalski (Kroger, Gardis & Regas, LLP), and Bruce Donaldson (Barnes & Thornburg LLP)

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Collier, Deputy Controller Nagila, Chief of Staff Hofmann, Deputy Chief of Staff Murphy, Deputy Chief of Staff Korn, Jason Fenwick, Director of Engineering Venugopalan, Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee, Captain Cantrell, Fire Chief Batalis, Firefighter Rehmel, and Park Superintendent Martin

STAFF BY ZOOM: Police Chief Woodruff, and Director of Economic Development Zuerner

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 reported the results of the Watson Farms crime watch meeting that was held at the Sterrett Center on March 24, 2022. Several of the residents were concerned about cars idling on Alexia Drive, Redmond Court, Twyckenham Court, and Sharsted Court. The reason that the drivers are doing this is because parents don't wish to wait in long lines to pick up their children from Fall Creek Valley Middle School. She suggested that the only thing that she was looking into is to draft an ordinance for no parking in these areas and to present that draft ordinance to the Code Committee. This behavior is affecting about 67 homes on those streets plus an additional 12 homes on Rivington Drive. The other issue at the meeting concerned minors who are maliciously doing property damage. They should be held accountable for their behavior along with their parents. The HOA reported that this is an active investigation. Additionally, she reported that Jockamo Pizza has asked about detour signs on Otis Avenue. They are asking that signs be placed that inform residents that their business and others in the area are still open. Councilor Rusomaroff reminded everyone that Shred Day will take place on Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 10am to 1pm at Belzer Middle School. Councilor Denney noted that there is a lot going on in the City of Lawrence. These include the "Spring Fling", and butterfly habitats. These activities are listed on the website. Councilor Wells again raised the need for a new grocery store on Franklin Road. He reminded everyone that the new owner of the old Marsh building has promised to include a grocery store. He understands that progress is being made and that he would continue to keep everyone updated.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Rusomaroff moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on March 7, 2022, and March 16, 2022. Councilor Wells seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 4-4-22: Councilor Denney moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$986,826.34 [March 15, 2022, payroll], and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$1,704,654.35]. Councilor Whitfield seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: Councilor Denney said the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee met tonight, at 5:30pm. The committee recommended a do-pass for Proposal 10, 2022. Councilor Denney did a power point presentation for the items on the agenda that were in the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee.

PUBLIC HEARING: Pursuant to advertising, Councilor Chavis opened the floor for the public hearing concerning Proposal No. 4, 2022. Councilor Chavis called for comment and testimony. There were no public comments. Thereupon, the public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING: Pursuant to advertising, Councilor Chavis opened the floor for the public hearing concerning Proposal No. 5, 2022. Councilor Chavis called for comment and testimony. There were no public comments. Thereupon, the public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING: Pursuant to advertising, Councilor Chavis opened the floor for the public hearing concerning Proposal No. 6, 2022. Councilor Chavis called for comment and testimony. There were no public comments. Thereupon, the public hearing was closed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Proposal No. 4, 2022, to appropriate from the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund for purposes that fulfill the intent of the American Rescue Plan Act, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Denney moved to accept Proposal No. 4, 2022 in place of the original proposal. The motion to amend Proposal No. 4, 2022 was seconded by Councilor Whitfield. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously. Councilor Shevlot moved to adopt Amended Proposal No. 4, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Denney. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 5, 2022, appropriating additional funds and amending the 2022 budget with respect to the General Fund, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Denney moved to adopt Proposal No. 5, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Russel. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 6, 2022, amending Proposal No. 16, 2021 regarding the Rainy Day Fund transfer, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Denney moved to adopt Proposal No. 6, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Giles. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 7, 2022, approving the issuance of bonds of the City of Lawrence Redevelopment Commission, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Whitfield moved to adopt

Resolution No. 7, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rusomaroff. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 10, 2022, appropriating additional funds and amending the 2022 budget as approved by the Common Council with respect to the Stormwater Fund, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. A public hearing will be scheduled for Proposal No. 10, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS: Proposal No. 11, 2022, appropriating additional funds and amending the 2022 budget with respect to the General Fund, was introduced and read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis assigned Proposal No. 11, 2022 to the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee.

Resolution No. 8, 2022, honoring Linda Kay (Wells) Treat for her service to the City of Lawrence, Indiana upon her passing, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis asked Clerk Walton to read Resolution No. 8, 2022 in its entirety. Clerk Walton read Resolution No. 8, 2022 in its entirety. Councilor Wells moved to adopt Resolution No. 8, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rusomaroff. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 9, 2022, approving the issuance of Storm Water Revenue Bonds of the City of Lawrence Storm Water Management District and matters related thereto, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis assigned Proposal No. 11, 2022 to the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Chief of Staff, Dave Hofmann, identified many of the upcoming activities within the City of Lawrence. These include:

- April 16: the free Spring Fling Easter Egg Hunt at Lawrence Community Park. This year is in partnership with the Fort Ben YMCA and will take place from 10am to noon.
- April 21: The Great Lawrence Clean-Up will involve City of Lawrence employees working at locations throughout the city.
- Also, April 21: The City of Lawrence Employment and Resource Fair will take place from 3:30pm to 5:30pm at Lawrence Community Park. The focus of this event is for both summer and long-term job opportunities.
- April 22-24: The FC Pride Soccer Tournament will attract thousands of youth soccer players and their families to Lawrence Park.
- April 23: As noted earlier, the annual Spring Shred-It Day will take place at Belzer Middle School from 10am to 1pm.
- April 30: Fiesta Lawrence will take place at the Cultural Campus from 1-5pm. It marks the celebration of Cinco de Mayo.

Those are just some of the activities in April. Further details are on the City's website.

In recognition of the City's outreach to our Latino population, Damaris Iraheta, our Latino Affairs Communication Manager, has been nominated for the 2022 Center For Leadership Development's Minority Achiever's Award for her outstanding work on behalf of the city and the Latino community.

Other City initiatives:

- Nobody likes construction, but everybody loves the improvements that follow. Projects to improve drainage are going on all over the city as is water main replacement work and water system improvements at two Lawrence water treatment plants and water storage facilities.
- As of April 4, 2022, the city has filled 2,792 potholes. Citizens can report potholes on the city website for prompt attention.
- Some major projects on the horizon include the IndyGo Purple Line project that recently started construction near Ivy Tech on 59th Street. Other projects in the planning phases include an INDOT safety project along Pendleton Pike that will also add sidewalks.
- The City's Park Department continues to provide the very best city parks, which are the true hidden gems of our community. They are working on improvements in all 11 city parks to include new Pickleball Courts at Lee Road Park that will soon open.
- Well-known businesses and organizations continue to flock to Lawrence which raises the image of the community. Various announcements are coming soon. An example is the construction that is beginning for the second-largest branch of the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library.

He concluded by expressing gratitude for the opportunity to provide information to city residents and our neighbors. In addition to the city's website, we use other social media platforms and newsletters such as Lawrence Lift and Latest in Lawrence to keep everyone informed. City officials' welcome questions to elaborate on what is going on.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: The following citizens addressed the Council:

- Robert Schlafer, 10423 Rainbow Lane
- David Strauss, 5971 Twyckenham Drive
- Chris Lucas, 9939 Alexia Drive

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 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, except for the motions. An audiotape is made which provides a detailed record.