

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
May 19, 2021
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: None

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

ALSO BY ZOOM: Clerk Kathleen Walton, Attorney Kristina Wheeler (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP), Bob Swintz, Paul Okeson (Garmong), Bruce Donaldson (Barnes & Thornburg LLP) and Jake Wagle

ALSO PRESENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: CFO/Deputy Mayor Fenwick, Deputy Controller Douthit, Police Chief Hofmann and Fire Chief Batalis

STAFF BY ZOOM: None

Council President Lisa Chavis called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Whitfield acknowledged May 16-May 22, 2021 as the 46th National EMS week. The week features the theme: “Caring for Communities”. She went on to thank City of Lawrence EMS personnel for their quick response times. Councilor Shevlot reported that he had attended last week the unveiling of the permanent memorial for Police Officer Craig Herbert. He commented that it was a “beautiful ceremony” and was well attended. Councilor Chavis thanked Councilor Shevlot for attending the ceremony on behalf of the council. She noted that it is often difficult for council members to attend such events. She went on to remind everyone about the Freije groundbreaking scheduled for Friday morning, May 21, 2021, is at 7:30am. She also reminded everyone of the VIP event for the Arts for Lawrence Cultural Campus also scheduled for Friday at 5:45pm. She concluded by emphasizing that all members of the Common Council have a responsibility to maintain a level of respectful decorum at meetings. She will not tolerate any level of disrespect for any reason. Councilor Freeman thanked DPW for patching pot holes in District 3. Also, for addressing high weeds and grass in ways that keep Lawrence clean and picked up. A couple of residents in her neighborhood were not in compliance for weeds and tall grass. Councilor Wells asked if there had been any indications from the Governor about when it is going to be possible to return to regular, in-person council meetings. Council Chavis responded by saying that there will be a resolution introduced at the next council meeting addressing Councilor Wells question.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 5-19-21: Councilor Whitfield moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$952,074.25 [April 30, 2021 payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$1,035,472.11]. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion to approve the vouchers carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Resolution No. 7, 2021, making a preliminary determination to enter into lease to finance fire station project, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Denney said the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee met tonight and recommended a

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do-pass for Resolution No. 7, 2021. There will be a public hearing on Resolution No. 7, 2021 on June 7, 2021 at 6:30pm.

Proposal No. 3, 2021, appropriating additional funds and amending the 2021 budget as approved by the Common Council with respect to the General Fund, MVH Fund, EMS Fund, Administrative Services Fund, and Garage Fund, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Denney said the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee met tonight and recommended a do-pass for Proposal No. 3, 2021. There will be a public hearing on Proposal No. 3, 2021 on June 7, 2021 at 6:30pm

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 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.