CITY OF LAWRENCE

 **Common Council**

# July 5, 2017

**Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Lisa Chavis, Sherron Freeman, Elizabeth Wheeler, Bob Jones, William Tyrrell Giles and Rick Wells and were present.

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

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Collier, Controller/Deputy Mayor Fenwick, Deputy Controller Streeter, Police Chief Hofmann, Fire Chief Batalis and Human Resources Director Steans were present.

Council Vice 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 thanked Mayor Collier for assisting her with removing the graffiti on the Marsh building on Franklin Road. She asked for follow up on the damaged fence to be replaced with guardrails on Shadeland Way & Elmhurst. She sent a proposal to Mayor Collier, Economic Development Director Starnes and DPW regarding the tall weeds ordinance. The lot in question is 5928 Sunnyside Road. It’s infested with mosquitoes and wild animals. She inquired when Marion County will come out and spray for mosquitoes in Lawrence. Councilor Wells said the 4th of July car show was successful. The proceeds will go into the 4th of July Donation Fund. Councilor Wells inquired about the $30,000 in legal fees for Bose, McKinney & Evans. Controller Fenwick said it pertains to the recently closed state revolving fund loan for the water utility. Councilor Jones asked DPW about the process to get the old street signs that were removed last fall. Councilor Jones expressed kudos for the fireworks and Police Chief Hofmann, Fire Chief Batalis and Park Superintendent Martin for their efforts during the 4th of July celebration. He also congratulated Councilor Wells for the car show on July 4th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Wheeler moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on June 5, 2017 and June 21, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilor Freeman and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Wheeler moved to approve Payroll Claims for $871,017.55[June 15, 2017 payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for $1,858,873.80]. The motion was seconded by Councilor Giles. Following discussion, 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: None

Common Council

July 5, 2017

Page 2

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Mayor Collier addressed the Council. He discussed:

* He thanked Councilor Jones for compliments on the July 4th celebration.
* “Wingin It” with first responders is postponed to Community Safety Day on August 12, 2017 due to the June 30th storms.
* The City is reviewing the ordinance regarding tall weeds.
* The City has a street sign making machine. Missing signs are being replaced.
* Marion County is making efforts regarding mosquitoes.

After Mayor Collier responded to Council questions about a $30,000 legal fee to Bose, McKinney & Evans, there was a lengthy discussion among Councilors Jones, Chavis, Wells, Giles and Attorney Kris Wheeler.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: The following citizens addressed the Council:

* Carlton Curry, 11230 Winding Wood Court
* Scott Williams, representing Indianapolis Professional Firefighters, 748 Massachusetts Avenue
* Angelo Palms, advocate for Lydia Rucker, 9201 E. 46h Street

At the conclusion of citizens’ comments, Councilor Giles made a general statement that members of Council committees received relevant documents in advance of their meetings. Furthermore, he assured the citizens of Lawrence that he and others read those documents to prepare themselves for those meetings. His comments were in response to criticism that councilors were not always prepared for committee meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

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Lisa Chavis, Vice 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.