

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
July 10, 2023
Public Assembly Room
Regular Meeting

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

MEMBERS PRESENT BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO, BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

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

STAFF PRESENT: Chief of Staff Korn, Police Chief Bigsbee, and Deputy Chief of Police Woodruff

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

Council President William Giles called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Russel praised the work that led to the “awesome” 4th of July festival. She described it as an incredible community event that included an impressive fireworks display. She concluded by calling for a moment of silence in memory of Marion County Deputy Sheriff, John Durm, who lost his life earlier in the day. Councilor Freeman reported that a District 5 constituent contacted her about a sink hole in Sunnybrooke. She is working on a follow up with DPW. She continued with an expression of concern about criminal activity within the City of Lawrence. She specifically expressed appreciation for members of the Lawrence Police Department for their response to a drive-by shooting at the Kroger/Kohl’s parking lot. She asked what can be done to make Lawrence a safer place. Councilor Wells asked about the timeline for the annual budget process. Will it begin in August? Attorney Wheeler reported that an update on the analysis of the 2022 budget will arrive soon. There was an extensive discussion about the way ahead for the development and eventual approval of the 2024 budget. Of special interest was to identify the timing for the input from the department heads. Councilors Giles and Denney were active in that discussion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Chavis moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on May 1, 2023, May 17, 2023, and June 21, 2023, and special meeting on June 14, 2023. Councilor Denney seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 7-10-23: Councilor Denney moved to approve Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$323,608.05]. Councilor Russel seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: Councilor Denney said the Finance Committee met and discussed Resolution No. 9, 20223 and Proposal No. 7, 2023 regarding the ARP Fund. There needs to be a follow up meeting to discuss the spending leftover in 2022. These items have been reassigned to the Committee of the Whole.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Resolution No. 9, 2023, to amend the City of Lawrence's second amended ARP Fund Plan, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Resolution No. 9, 2023 to the Committee of the Whole.

Proposal No. 7, 2023, to appropriate from the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund in 2023 for purposes that fulfill the intent of the American Rescue Plan Act, was introduced, and read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Proposal No. 7, 2023 to the Committee of the Whole.

NEW BUSINESS: 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.

William T. Giles, 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.