CITY OF LAWRENCE

**Common Council**

# August 7, 2017

**Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Joe Williams, Lisa Chavis, Sherron Freeman, Elizabeth Wheeler, Tom Shevlot, Bob Jones, William Tyrrell Giles, Greg Allen 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, Corporation Counsel Johnson, Police Chief Hofmann, Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee, Fire Chief Batalis and Human Resources Director Steans were present.

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

Council President Joe Williams called for a moment of silence to remember the two first responders who were lost in recent days. He included a member of the United States Navy who also was lost in recent days.

There was a presentation by Austin Gibble representing IndyGo regarding the proposed Purple Line between the City of Lawrence and downtown Indianapolis. A handout was provided to Common Council members.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Freeman requested a crosswalk on 56th Street between the Major General Emmett J. Bean Federal Center and the La Hacienda restaurant to improve safety conditions. Both Councilor Freeman and Councilor Jones discussed problems with heavy trash pickup in Kensington Farms and throughout the City. Both Councilor Freeman and Councilor Jones expressed concerns about over grown vegetation on the NW corner of 59th Street and Sunnyside Road. Councilor Wheeler thanked DPW for cutting back the brush along the road between 79th Street and Amy Beverland Elementary School along Fox Road. Councilor Shevlot reminded everyone that this Saturday, August 12, 2017, is Public Safety Day to be held at Station #40 at 59th Street and Lee Road. On a related matter, he added that Council members and others had received an invitation from Firefighter Union Local 416 to participate in Fire Ops 101 on September 26, 2017. He further reported that Congresswoman Susan Brooks had held a town hall meeting earlier today. Councilor Jones asked if it was possible to remove the fee for trash from the water bill. He also requested a police presence at public hearings at the Lawrence Government Center. He also praised the experience of National Night Out on August 1, 2017. Councilor Williams asked that attention be paid to the street conditions on Sandwood Drive and Eldridge. He mentioned a sense of urgency was necessary because a young child fell off his bicycle after striking a pot hole on the street.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Wheeler moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings on July 5, 2017 and July 19, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilor Freeman and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Freeman moved to approve Payroll Claims for $825,067.36 [July 15, 2017 payroll], payroll Claims for $822,218.17 [July 31, 2017 payroll] and

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Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for $1,649,547.96]. The motion was seconded by Councilor Allen. 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

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

* He thanked Councilors Freeman, Jones and Williams for participating in National Night Out and Crime Watch Director Sokol and Deputy Chief Bigsbee for an outstanding job coordinating the evening.
* He gave kudos to Deputy Chief Woodruff for representing the City on WISH TV 8 on 4 separate days last week as part of the commemoration for the loss of the 2 police officers.
* He discussed Community Safety Day on August 12, 2017. “Wingin It” with first responders is 11:30 a.m. during this event.
* The Mayor was joined by Controller Fenwick, Deputy Controller Streeter and Jimmy Griffin as he recognized the City earning the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 2016-2017 fiscal year budget.

Police Chief Hofmann then addressed the Council, highlighting the contributions of Lawrence Police Department (LPD) merit officers, LPD Police Officer Support Team, LPD Honor Guard, LPD Reserve Officers, LPD Chaplain’s Unit, LPD Explorers, LPD Public Information Officer and FOP Lodge 159 President who were involved in a wide variety of activities in support of the commemoration of the lives of IMPD Deputy Chief Waters and Southport Police Department Lieutenant Aaron Allen, both of who passed away on July 27, 2017 and were laid to rest last week.

Police Chief Hofmann expressed his appreciation that Deputy Chief Woodruff attended a national award ceremony in Washington D.C. last month where the City of Lawrence was recognized as the winner of the City on a Cloud Innovation Challenge Award in the Best Practices category. The City of Lawrence received a trophy and a $25,000 credit that the City splits with Utility Body Worn which results in an actual savings of $12,500. Police Chief Hofmann provided photos of the award ceremony to the Common Council.

Police Chief Hofmann also discussed Community Safety Day on August 12, 2017 and the events associated with it.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: The following citizens addressed the Council:

* Brian Edwards, 5237 Sandwood Drive
* Carlton Curry, 11230 Winding Wood Court
* Matthew Hills, 11126 Indian Lake Blvd.
* Kieaunta Roberson, 5242 Sandwood Drive

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Council President Williams asked Attorney Kristina Wheeler to summarize and clarify the $30,000 invoice for legal fees from Bose McKinney & Evans for the water utility bond. She addressed the issue in relation to Amended Ordinance No. 8, 2017. Following her comments, there was a discussion and questions among councilors about the $30,000 invoice submitted to the state for the water utility bond.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

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Joe Williams, 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.