

**Common Council
City of Lawrence
September 16, 2020
Regular Meeting**

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

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

STAFF PRESENT: CFO/Deputy Mayor Fenwick and Utility Superintendent Salsbery were present

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 welcomed Sweet Gourmet Treats to the City of Lawrence as a new business. It is located at 10930 Pendleton Pike, Suite 103. She went on to ask if the City was going to have a shred day this Fall. She concluded by asking whether heavy trash pickup still takes place on the 3rd week of the month. Utility Superintendent Salsbery indicated that yes that week of the month is still set aside for heavy pick up. Councilor Chavis recognized the City Clerk, Kathy Walton, on the occasion of the 24th anniversary of her service to the citizens of Lawrence. Councilor Wells reported that during the previous evenings BZA meeting the Board approved the variance for two new mobile home parks. Approval was contingent on the commitment to build sidewalks along Mithoeffer and 52nd Street. He went on to say that, he would work with Cohron's to extend similar sidewalk infrastructure all the way to Pendleton Pike in the other Cohron mobile home parks. He said that such sidewalks would make it easier for residents to get to retail shops. Councilor Shevlot reported that he and Councilor Giles had met with Director of Engineering Venugopalan, and Mayor Collier regarding the permitting process that now is inhibiting new businesses. All involved are excited about the changes that are proposed because they are good for business. Councilor Chavis then asked Controller Fenwick to present an update on comments made during the Committee of the Whole earlier in the evening. Controller Fenwick confirmed that the position of Director of Communications is currently filled.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Giles moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$960,602.25 [August 31, 2020} payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$763,017.58]. Councilor Russel seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion to approve the vouchers carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Resolution No. 8, 2020, approving the sale of properties owned by the Lawrence Redevelopment Commission, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis assigned Resolution No. 8, 2020 to the Economic Development Committee.

Proposal No. 8, 2020, appropriations and tax rates for the 2021 budget year, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis re-assigned Proposal No. 8, 2020 to the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee. The Administration, Budget and Finance Committee will meet on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 6 p.m.

Proposal No. 9, 2020, fixing salaries of appointed officers and employees of the City of Lawrence, Indiana for the year 2021, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis re-assigned Proposal No. 9, 2019 to the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee.

Proposal No. 10, 2020, fixing salaries of appointed officers and employees of the Police Department and the Fire Department for the year 2021, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis re-assigned Proposal No. 10, 2020 to the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee.

Proposal No. 11, 2019, establishing compensation for elected officials for the City of Lawrence, Indiana for the year 2021, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis re-assigned Proposal No. 11, 2020 to the Administration, Budget and Finance Committee.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Giles moved to ratify the Council President's actions during the Public Health Emergency Pursuant to Resolution No. 5, 2020 and Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-04. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion carried by a unanimous vote of the Council

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned, at 6:40 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

Lisa Chavis, President

Kathleen A. Walton, Clerk