Common Council

**City of Lawrence**

**October 18, 2018**

**Special Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Lisa Chavis, Sherron Freeman, Tom Shevlot, William Tyrrell Giles, Becky Parker, Bob Jones, Rick Wells and Matt Hall were present

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

STAFF PRESENT: Controller/Deputy Mayor Fenwick, Police Chief Hofmann, Deputy Police Chief Bigsbee, Deputy Fire Chief Wallace, Utility Superintendent Salsbery, Assistant Utility Superintendent Wanner, Park Superintendent Martin, Director of Public Works and Code Enforcement Anthony and Streets Director Heneghan were present.

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

Councilor Chavis welcomed Councilor Matt Hall. The new District 6 councilor.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Jones reported that he attended the October 16, 2018 BZA meeting. He and 2 other councilors spoke out against the proposed use at 4333 N. Franklin Road as a tavern/bar. The BZA denied the petition. After the meeting, he spoke with Larry Calloway from DMD concerning the rezoning petition 2018-ZON-076. The Common Council had previously deadlocked 4 to 4 on the petition. That petition, after continuances, is scheduled to be heard December 5, 2018. Councilor Jones was concerned that a meeting was held on October 10, 2018 to discuss the petition, that only a limited number of councilors were invited. He said there was a meeting held at 2pm to advocate for approval of the petition. Some councilors were invited. Councilors Freeman, Wells, Jones and Williams were not invited. He believes all councilors should be included in such discussions. Councilor Freeman reported that she had been asked by a military veteran about who oversees the Spring Valley Cemetery on Post Road. Councilor Wells echoed the comments of Councilor Jones and said he was perplexed about why 4 councilors were excluded from receiving the email about the meeting. Individual councilors have no control over who is invited. The Council leadership should have been aware that the 4 councilors who voted against the petition were excluded from the meeting. He went on to say that he did not know that Councilor Wheeler had resigned as of October 1, 2018. He went on to ask that, because she resigned on October 1, 2018, why an election to replace her was not held immediately and instead postponed. Councilor Chavis responded by saying an election will be held on November 5, 2018 at the monthly meeting. Councilor Giles reported that he had received an invitation to the meeting but had not attended. He says that it is important that everyone understand the zoning rules. The Lawrence Common Council, acting as the hearing examiner, makes a recommendation to DMD. It is DMD who decides who will be invited. It is important that everyone understand that process. If so, they might not criticize in the absence of information. Councilor Wells responded that he understood the process but cannot participate if he is not aware of the meeting. He believes that councilors who voted against the petition can’t be excluded. He was not aware of what was going to happen with the project moving forward. Councilor Chavis pointed out that each councilor had the opportunity to take a stand and vote on the petition. Having done so the petition is no longer in front of the council, and the council has no further business with this issue. Councilor Giles, as the District 1 representative, noted that he is invited to meetings about issues in other districts. Because his district has a lot of problems,

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he gets involved with many of these issues. Councilor Wells raised the issue of City-owned property on 4223 N. Shadeland Avenue. Previously, the council voted to transfer the property to the RDC to sell the property. It is his understanding that the property was sold but has now been returned to the City. He asked that the administration clarify the ownership of the property.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: Councilor Freeman moved to approve Payroll Claims for $890,489.75 [September 30, 2018 payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for $773,083.70]. The motion was seconded by Councilor Parker. By a show of hands, the motion to approve the vouchers carried by a unanimous vote of the Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Proposal No. 7, 2018, amending the Municipal Code of the City of Lawrence, Indiana, to adopt a new Chapter of Title 3, Article 3 to establish standards for private event security and fines for public nuisances, remains in the Code Committee.

Proposal No. 18, 2018, appropriations and tax rates for the 2019 budget year, was read by title only by Clerk Walton. Councilor Shevlot moved to accept Proposal No. 18, 2018 in place of the original proposal (changes: date adopted and added Councilor Hall to signatures). The motion to amend Proposal No. 18, 2018 was seconded by Councilor Freeman and carried by a unanimous vote of the Council. Councilor Shevlot moved to adopt amended Proposal No. 18, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilor Giles and carried, by a roll call vote, by Six (6) aye votes and two (2) nay votes (Councilors Wells and Jones).

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.

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Lisa Chavis. President Kathleen A. Walton, Clerk