

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
October 19, 2022
Regular Meeting

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

MEMBERS BY ZOOM: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shawn Denney

ALSO BY ZOOM: None

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

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Hofmann, City Attorney Voller, Controller Douthit, Deputy Controller Nagila, Fire Chief Batalis, Firefighter Rehmel, Director of Engineering Venugopalan, and Officer Sharp

STAFF BY ZOOM: None

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 thanked the other members of the council for their support of the Keystone Project. Councilor Rusomaroff suggested that there might be a need to upgrade ADA compliance in the city parks. She requested the Parks Director submit a report on the number and type of ADA compliant facilities that presently exist within our city parks. Councilor Wells reported that he has spoken with the building inspector and Deputy Mayor Hofmann about dilapidated homes and related zoning issues. They are working to determine who is responsible for these issues: Indianapolis or the City of Lawrence. He was encouraged that progress is being made. During the summer he had asked the Administration for some sort of timeline for informing the citizens about resolutions to complaints about dilapidated homes. Additionally, there exists a general concern about people operating businesses in residential areas.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 10-19-22: Councilor Shevlot moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$986,739.18 [September 30, 2022, payroll], and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$616,937.12]. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. By show of hands, the motion carried by the following vote of the Council: Seven (7) aye votes and one (1) abstain vote (Councilor Wells).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Proposal No. 23, 2022, fixing salaries of appointed officers and employees of the City of Lawrence, Indiana for the year 2023, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Following discussion, Councilor Shevlot moved to accept Proposal No. 23, 2022 with 2 clerical errors in place of the original proposal. The motion to amend Proposal No. 23, 2022 was seconded by Councilor Rusomaroff. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously. Councilor Russel moved to adopt Amended Proposal No. 23, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wells. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 24, 2022, establishing compensation for elected officials for the year 2023, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Controller Douthit, Deputy Mayor Hofmann and councilors discussed Proposal No. 24, 2022. There was a 5 minute recess. Following the recess, Proposal No. 24, 2022 was tabled. Councilor Chavis assigned Proposal No. 24, 2022 to the Committee of the Whole.

Proposal No. 25, 2022, fixing salaries of appointed officers and employees of the Police Department and the Fire Department for the year 2023, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Russel moved to adopt Proposal No. 25, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Freeman. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 26, 2022, for appropriations and tax rates for the 2023 budget, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Freeman moved to adopt Proposal No. 26, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rusomaroff. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 27, 2022, amending the Lawrence Municipal Code to establish an all-way stop intersection at Glass Chimney Lane and High Timber Lane, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Freeman said the Code Committee met and recommended a do-pass for Proposal No. 27, 2022. Councilor Rusomaroff moved to adopt Proposal No. 27, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Freeman. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 28, 2022, authorizing the issuance of general obligation notes for the purpose of providing funds to pay for certain capital projects and incidental expenses in connection therewith and on account of the issuance of the notes; and appropriating the proceeds thereof, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis assigned Proposal No. 28, 2022 to the Committee of the Whole.

Proposal No. 29, 2022, amending Title 3, Article 2, Chapter 4, of the Lawrence Municipal Code related to vehicle stopping, standing, and parking within 2,000 feet of a school, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Freeman said the Code Committee met and recommended a do-pass for Proposal No. 29, 2022. Councilor Freeman moved to adopt Proposal No. 29, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rusomaroff. By a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 14, 2022, authorizing storm water improvement plan grant application submission and local match commitment to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs and addressing related matters, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Chavis assigned Resolution No. 14, 2022 to the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

Lisa Chavis, President

Kathleen A. Walton, Clerk

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussions held, except for the motions.