

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Common Council
November 15, 2023
Public Assembly Room
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rick Wells, Lisa Chavis, Shawn Denney, Deborah Whitfield, and Sherron Freeman

MEMBERS PRESENT BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Lauren Russel, and William Tyrrell Giles

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maria Rusomaroff, and Tom Shevlot

ALSO BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

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

STAFF PRESENT: Chief of Staff Korn, and Deputy Chief of Police Cline

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Police Chief Bigsbee

Council President William Giles called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Wells reminded everyone that a new sanitation company will begin picking up trash and recycling at the end of the month. He asked about residents receiving their new totes and for more information about procedures that must be followed. He concluded by congratulating Councilor Whitfield and the other councilors on their victories in last week's election. Councilor Giles raised the same concern about new trash procedures and noted he had been receiving questions from constituents by email. Along the same lines, Councilor Chavis asked for guidance on how to respond to inquiries about leaf and heavy trash pick up given the change in contractors. Councilor Denney recognized the "Marching Pride" band of MSD of Lawrence Township for their participation in last week's "Bands of America" competition at Lucas Oil Stadium. Even better, their performance placed them 20th in the nation. Councilor Freeman reported that she has discussed with Dan Zuerner, Director of Economic Development, to contact various food stores and to encourage them to locate within the City of Lawrence. On July 31, 2023, letters were sent to Whole Foods, Fresh Thyme, and Trader Joe's encouraging them to locate here. These letters were sent to decision makers in each of those companies. The letters pointed out that the City of Lawrence is home to several upscale communities particularly around the former Fort Benjamin Harrison and Geist reservoir. Citizens living in those areas and others within the city have expressed an interest in having available the types of products and services these stores are known for. Councilor Giles reported that residents in his district are concerned about the closure of the Walgreens at the corner of 46th Street and Shadeland Avenue.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 11-15-23: Councilor Freeman moved to approve Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$426,228.02]. Councilor Chavis seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Proposal No. 12, 2023, establishing compensation for elected officials for the City of Lawrence, Indiana for the year 2024, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles said Proposal No. 12, 2023 is in the Administration, Budget, and Finance Committee.

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Resolution No. 10, 2023, to adopt application form and evaluation rubric for community services grants from the Common Council of the City of Lawrence, Indiana, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Resolution No. 10, 2023 to the Grants Committee.

Proposal No. 14, 2023, authorizing the issuance of the City of Lawrence, Indiana Economic Development Revenue Bonds (Harris & Ford Properties LLC Project – federally taxable), and the lending of the proceeds thereof to Harris & Ford Properties LLC and authorizing and approving other actions in respect thereto, was read only by title by Clerk Walton. Councilor Giles assigned Proposal No. 14, 2023 to the Economic Development Committee.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 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.