

**CITY OF LAWRENCE**  
**Common Council**  
**December 20, 2023**  
**Public Assembly Room**  
**Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: William Tyrrell Giles, Rick Wells, Shawn Denney, Deborah Whitfield, Lauren Russel, and Sherron Freeman

MEMBERS PRESENT BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Lisa Chavis

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maria Rusomaroff, and Tom Shevlot

ALSO BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton, Jeff Vest (President FHRA), Heather Millikan (Executive Director FHRA), and Attorney Jacob Antrim (Bose McKinney & Evans LLP)

STAFF PRESENT: Chief of Staff Korn, and Firefighter Rehmel

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

Council President William Giles called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Giles thanked Clerk Walton for her many years of service to the citizens of the City of Lawrence. He noted particularly how Clerk Walton assisted new councilors as they transitioned to their new responsibilities. He also extended his appreciation to Councilors Shevlot, Russel, Rusomaroff, Whitfield, and Denney for their service over the past 4 years. Councilor Russel expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve for the past 4 years; to her family for the support, they provided for that time; and to her constituents whom she served proudly. She concluded by congratulating Fire Chief Batalis on the occasion of his retirement after 35 years. Councilor Denney spoke about the various accomplishments while working with various city departments and the administration. He encouraged everyone to do their best heading into the future. Councilor Wells echoed the recognition of Fire Chief Batalis for his service. He reported that he attended and participated in the firefighters family assistance program last Saturday and that he was privileged to be there. He concluded by thanking Mayor Steve Collier and his staff for their 8 years of service to the citizens of the City of Lawrence. He wished everyone well in their retirement or as they continue their careers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilor Russel moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on December 4, 2023, Councilor Wells seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 12-20-23: Councilor Russel moved to approve Payroll Claims for \$959,005.57 [November 30, 2023, payroll], and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$1,543,343.82]. Councilor Freeman 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 Russel moved to adopt Proposal No. 12, 2023. Councilor Wells seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

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. The Grants Committee did not meet to review Resolution No. 10, 2023. It was not adopted in 2023. It will be revisited in 2024.

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 said the Economic Development Committee met and recommended a do-pass for Proposal No. 14, 2023. Councilor Denney moved to adopt Proposal No. 14, 2023. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Freeman moved to approve the 2024 meeting schedule. Councilor Giles seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Chief of Staff Korn presented a brief summary of the accomplishments of the Collier Administration over the past 8 years. A specific list is attached to these minutes. She then thanked the many partners who worked with the Administration in bringing these accomplishments into being. She then presented a two minute video summarizing those accomplishments.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: The following citizen addressed the Council:

- Daniel Rapp, 5718 Wallingwood Drive

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Council.

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William T. Giles, President

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Kathleen A. Walton, Clerk

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