

**CITY OF LAWRENCE**  
**Common Council**  
**October 16, 2024**  
**Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kristie Krone, Sherron Freeman, Zach Cramer, Lisa Chavis, Carlos Jennings, Liz Masur, and Betty Robinson

MEMBERS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilor Giles and Councilor Wells

ALSO, BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Adkisson, Michael Allen of (Frost Brown Todd)

STAFF PRESENT: Jami Weirich, Humphrey Nagila, Eric Martin, LeAndre Level, Shawn Fugate, Amber Riley and Police Captain Tracey Cantrell. th

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Chief Wallace and Renea Rafala

President Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was administered, followed by a prayer given by Council President, Betty Robinson.

President Robinson recognized there was a quorum. It was also recognized there were extra copies of the agenda located at the back of the room along with a sign-up sheet for comments from the citizens.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Councilor Freeman stated one of her constituents from Boston Commons has concerns with the Traveling Football League having issue with fans getting onto 56<sup>th</sup> Street due to the amount of traffic. She would like to know if there can be a police officer to help solve this issue after the games. She also mentioned there is also an issue with parking. Fans are parking on the streets of Boston Commons. She also stated about a left turn signal needed at Harrison Blvd. by BP on the Fort. This was something she'd asked for in the past. She also believes the streets in this area are owned by the City of Indianapolis and feel they need to be contacted. She mentioned she was just informed of the "No Parking" signs on Harrison Blvd. at Homecraft and Arbor Homes having issues.

Councilor Krone stated one of Lawrence's residents contact her about the ongoing budget issues. The resident requested Councilor Krone to read his letter to the full council. The letter was written by Tom Burns, and Councilor Krone read it to everyone.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS OR RESOLUTIONS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES REGULAR MEETING 10-7-2024

Councilor Chavis made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Jennings 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Roll call was taken, and motion carried unanimously, 7 (ayes), Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Masur and Krone.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS 10-7-2024: Councilor Chavis made the motion to approve Payroll Claims for \$1,109,085.93 [September 30, 2024, payroll] and Invoices [for vendors] as presented today [for \$763,873.30]. Councilor Jennings 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The roll call vote was taken, and motion carried 7 (ayes), Councilors Robinson, Chavis, Jennings, Freeman, Krone, Cramer and Masur.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: President Robinson stated, as chair for the Committee of The Whole, has a report from this committee. On October 8, 2024, the committee met and tabled consideration for Resolutions No. 8, 9, and 10, also Proposals No. 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16. On October 10, 2024, the committee met and gave a favorable recommendation for Resolutions No. 8, 9, and 10, also Proposals No. 12, 14, 15 and 16. On October 10, 2024, the committee met and gave an unfavorable recommendation for Proposal No. 13, 2024.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Resolution No. 8, 2024 - A Resolution Of The Common Council Of The City Of Lawrence, Indiana Concerning Approval Of Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The City Of Lawrence And The Fraternal Order Of Police, Lodge 159 Effective January 1, 2025. This resolution was read on the record by Madame Clerk. Councilor Cramer moved a motion to approve this resolution. Councilor Chavis 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Roll call was given, 7 (ayes). Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 9, 2024 - A Resolution Of The Common Council Of The City Of Lawrence, Indiana Concerning Approval Of Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The City Of Lawrence And The Lawrence Professional Firefighters Association, Local 416 Effective January 1, 2025. This resolution was read on the record by Madame Clerk. Councilor Chavis moved a motion to approve this resolution. Councilor Cramer 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Roll call was given, 7 (ayes) Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Krone and Masur. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 10, 2024 - A Resolution Of The Common Council Of The City Of Lawrence, Indiana Concerning Approval Of Transfer Of Funds. This resolution was read on the record by Madame Clerk. Councilor Chavis moved a motion to approve this resolution. Councilor Jennings 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The roll call was given, 7 (ayes) Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Krone and Masur. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 12, 2024 - An Ordinance Fixing Salaries Of Appointed Officers And Employees Of The Police Department And The Fire Department For The Year 2025. This proposal was read on the record by Madame Clerk. Councilor Jennings moved a motion to approve this proposal. Councilor Krone 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The roll call was given, 7 (ayes) Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Krone and Masur. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposal No. 13, 2024 - An Ordinance Establishing Compensation For Elected Officials For The City Of Lawrence, Indiana For The Year 2025, And Providing A Time When The Same Shall Take Effect. This proposal was read on the record by Madame Clerk. Councilor Jennings moved a motion not to approve this proposal. Councilor Chavis 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The roll call was given, 7 (nays) Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Krone and Masur. Motion carried unanimously. Proposal No. 13, 2024, was not approved.



Proposal No. 14, 2024 - An Ordinance Fixing Salaries Of Appointed Officers And Employees Of The City Of Lawrence, Indiana For The Year 2025. This proposal was read on the record by Madame Clerk. Councilor Chavis made a motion to amend this proposal. The amendment is to remove the Deputy Chief of Staff from this ordinance. Councilor Cramer 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The roll call was given, 7 (ayes) Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Krone and Masur. Motion carried unanimously. Councilor Chavis moved a motion to approve the amended Proposal No. 14, 2024. Councilor Jennings 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The roll call was given, 7 (ayes) Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Krone and Masur. Motion carried unanimously. This Proposal is being sent back to the Committee of the Whole to determine salaries.

Proposal No. 15, 2024 - Additional Appropriation Ordinance For The Year 2024. President stated this proposal is being tabled.

Proposal No. 16, 2024 – Ordinance For Appropriations and Tax Rates For The Year 2025. This proposal was read on the record by Madame Clerk. President Robinson stated before we proceed, she noted for the record. That the Common Council of the City Of Lawrence is in receipt of a petition of tax payer objecting to the budget tax rate levied. **Attached is the response from the Whitfield Administration to the petition.**

President Robinson announced, if the council adopts the 2025 budget, as propose, giving the time restraints. It wants to note for the record, that the council has intentions to amend the budget later due to some remaining questions relating to the department budget.

Councilor Chavis moved a motion to approve Proposal No.16, 2024. Councilor Jennings 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The roll call was given, 7 (ayes) Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Krone and Masur. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Resolution No. 11, 2024 - A Resolution Of The Common Council Of The City Of Lawrence, Indiana Concerning Retention Of Stone Municipal Group As Municipal Advisor. This resolution was read on the record by Madame Clerk. Councilor Chavis moved a motion to approve this resolution. Councilor Jennings 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. The roll call was given, 7 (ayes) Councilors Chavis, Cramer, Robinson, Jennings, Freeman, Krone and Masur. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION: Deputy Chief of Staff, LeAndre Level, thank the Councilors for their work on the CBA. Mr. Level gave a few updates. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30 the ribbon cutting for the Lee Road Trail will take place in the City of Lawrence. Also, on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>, from 6pm to 8pm is Halloween Fest in partnership with Fort Harrison YMCA. This is a free event, with food and prizes. Mr. Level stated thanks to Councilor Freeman suggestion and the City's Park Board we're now bringing back Golden Hour Game Day. This will take place every Thursday starting this Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, at Lawrence Community Park, from 11am to noon. He mentioned that Fort Ben Winter Maurket is coming back. It will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays of the

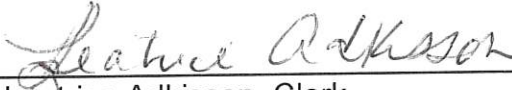
month, starting November through February, from 4pm – 7pm. Mr. Level asked to save the date for Lawrence Christmas, starting November 30<sup>th</sup> at Civic Plaza.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITIZENS: Daniel Rapp, 5718 Wallingwood Drive. Lawrence, IN. Mr. Rapp's concern is the censoring of information by this council. He is also concerned with a statement that was made regarding the removal of the City Controller, Humphrey Nagila. Mr. Rapp asked which budget did the council approve tonight, 35 million or 28 million.

Colin Morton, 9937 Hardkey Circle, Lawrence, IN. Mr. Morton is the pastor of Cornerstone Church. Pastor Morton was looking for clarification on the Special Events ordinance that was passed earlier this year. President Robinson informed him; the council has listened to his comment and someone from the Whitfield can address his question after the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilors Chavis moved motion for adjournment. Councilor Jennings 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m., by President Robinson.

  
Betty Robinson, President

  
Leatrice Adkisson, Clerk

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