



# City of Lawrence

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## CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR  
MIKE AMYX

COMMISSIONERS  
ARON E. CROMWELL  
LANCE M. JOHNSON  
MICHAEL DEVER  
ROBERT CHESTNUT

March 8, 2011

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Lawrence met in regular session at 4:00 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers in City Hall with Mayor Amyx presiding and members Cromwell, Dever, and Johnson present. Chestnut was absent for the study session but joined the Commission for the regular session.

### A. JOINT COUNTY COMMISSION – CITY COMMISSION STUDY SESSION:

1. Discuss proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment, CPA-2008-7, amending Horizon 2020 to include Chapter 16 – Environment. (PC Item 4; approved 8-1-1 on 8/23/10)
2. Discuss proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment, CPA-6-5-09, to Horizon 2020 – Chapter 14 to include the Northeast Sector Plan. (PC Item 4; approved 5-4 on 9/20/10)

The City Commission recessed at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Chestnut joined the meeting and the Commission resumed its regular session at 6:35 p.m.

### B. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. Proclaimed the week of March 13 – 19 as Stay Safe During Spring Break Week.

### C. CONSENT AGENDA

**It was moved by Cromwell, seconded by Dever, to approve the consent agenda.**

Motion carried unanimously.

1. Approved claims to 157 vendors in the amount of \$2,351,577.80.
2. Approved licenses as recommended by the City Clerk's Office.

Drinking Establishment Licenses for Yokohama Sushi, 1730 West 3<sup>rd</sup>; Teller's, 746 Massachusetts; and, the Sidewalk Dining and Hospitality Licenses for 3 Spoons Yogurt, 732 Massachusetts; Noodles & Co., 8 West 8<sup>th</sup>; Jackpot Music Hall, 123 West 9<sup>th</sup> Ste: 208; Buffalo Wild Wing, 1012 Massachusetts; Esquina, 801 Massachusetts; Aladdin



Café, 1025 Massachusetts; Mad Greek, 907 Massachusetts; Wa Japanese Restaurant, 740 Massachusetts; and, the Sandbar, 17 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

3. Approved appointments as recommended by the Mayor.

**Lawrence Citizen Advisory Board:**

Reappointed Dave Reavis and Thomas Weso (841.5757) to additional terms that will expire 03/01/14

4. Bid and purchase items:
  - a) Awarded bid for Parks and Recreation, Fire/Medical, Utilities, Police, and Community Development Departments for contract mowing to Shawn's Lawn and Landscape in the amount of \$114,763.16 and to Brayden's Lawn and Landscape in the amount of \$14,756, for a total of \$129,519.16.
  - b) Authorized change of cooperative purchasing contract from HGAC to NJPA for purchase of skid steer loader previously approved at the February 15, 2011 City Commission meeting.
5. Adopted Resolution No. 6920, authorizing the Mayor to sign the application for the 2011 Emergency Shelter Grant from the City to the State of Kansas.
6. Approved Special Event, SE-1-1-11, for an antique auto show parking to be located on the west portion of the Farmland property adjacent to the Douglas County Fairgrounds on May 6 through May 8, 2011. Submitted by Ralph Reschke, for the Antique Automobile Club of America.
7. Approved Special Event, SE-2-4-11, for a fundraiser BBQ cook-off located at 1803 W 6th Street on May 20 through May 21, 2011. Submitted by Fraternal Order of Eagles # 309, property owner of record.
8. Approved as signs of community interest, a request from the Lawrence Home Builders Association to place signs in various intersections and in front of businesses of Home Show exhibitors. The signs will be approximately 18" x 24" and would be placed March 14 and removed March 21.

**D. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

David Corliss, City Manager, presented the City Manager's Report.

**E. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. **Consider declaring an emergency, and adopt on first and second reading, Ordinance No. 8612, authorizing the issuance of up to \$10.5 million in Industrial Revenue Bonds for Lawrence Memorial Hospital for the purpose of financing various improvements at the hospital and repealing Ordinance No. 8600.**

David Corliss introduced the item and reminded the Commissioners that this is conduit financing without city obligation.

Simon Schutlz, CFO of Lawrence Memorial Hospital, said LMH had several renovation projects and this strategic financing would help with those projects.

Mayor Amyx said as a customer of LMH he was happy with the hospital, services and care, he and others received.

Mayor Amyx called for public comment.

Tom Kern, President and CEO of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce, spoke in favor of the bond issuance and spoke regarding the economic impact of the hospital on the economy.

**Moved by Chestnut, seconded by Cromwell,** to declare an emergency, and adopt on first and second reading, Ordinance No. 8612, authorizing the issuance of up to \$10.5 million in Industrial Revenue Bonds for Lawrence Memorial Hospital for the purpose of financing various improvements at the hospital and repealing Ordinance No. 8600. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Consider authorizing the City of Lawrence to accept a grant from the Federal Railroad Administration/Kansas Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$87,563, to fund Professional Architectural Services to develop final plans for the Santa Fe Station (BNSF Depot). The City committed a \$25,000 match for this project.**

Diane Stoddard, Assistant City Manager, presented the staff report.

Mayor Amyx asked if the final decision rested with Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and the Federal Railroad Association (FRA) whether Hernly and Associates would be the architect.

Stoddard said the City had to follow the federal government's requirements. The question was whether KDOT and the FRA required the City to go through the qualification based selection process once again. Staff recommended continuing with Hernly, who was selected through a qualification based process already.

Mayor Amyx asked whether the City or the federal government would do the hiring.

Stoddard said that the local entity usually did the hiring on federal projects. If required to go through another process, the City would prepare a Request for Proposals.

Mayor Amyx called for public comment.

Carey Maynard Moody, Depot Redux, spoke in favor of the project. She said station grants were typically targeted to larger communities. She said of the first round Lawrence was one of six of the 20 that went to communities under 100,000 population, and that the Lawrence project was also unique because it had no short distance connections. It made important connections of corridors. Lawrence enhanced the national passenger rail network.

Marty Kennedy, Depot Redux, said he had the pleasure of taking care of this wonderful old building for a long time. East Lawrence was proud of the facility. He hoped Stan Hernly could be kept on board.

Dennis Brown, Lawrence Preservation Alliance, said the City had proceeded at a deliberate pace which was a responsible action. This grant would help the City obtain construction grants in the future. He thanked Diane Stoddard for her work and said he supported the project.

Bill Steele spoke in favor of the project and said this was a great opportunity to improve the Lawrence community. He said Europe and Japan had very impressive rail facilities and this would be a step in that direction. He said automobiles could not be relied on forever and the City had to invest in rail transportation and the City should take advantage of this moment.

Commissioner Chestnut said Brown had a good point in going about this issue in a deliberate manner. He said pursuing acquisition was not a good idea at this point, but that spending \$25,000 for this project was a good investment. At the federal level it seemed like investments were being made in Amtrak, and he hoped to move forward without putting the City at risk of inappropriate investments.

Commission Dever said he wanted to move forward and if the City hung around long enough with this facility, he hoped the City could receive more help from the federal government. This investment helped the City stay in the game.

Vice Mayor Cromwell said that spending this money now would be a step toward getting this project where it needed to be and this was a good first step.

Commissioner Johnson said he agreed with the other Commissioners' comments.

Mayor Amyx thanked Depot Redux and the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association for maintaining this facility over the years. He also said he appreciated Diane Stoddard and other City staff for their work.

**Moved by Dever, seconded by Chestnut,** to authorize the City of Lawrence to accept a grant from the Federal Railroad Administration/Kansas Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$87,563, to fund Professional Architectural Services to develop final plans for the Santa Fe Station. Motion carried unanimously.

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

David Corliss, City Manager, outlined potential future agenda items.

**H. COMMISSION ITEMS:**

None.

**I. CALENDAR:**

David Corliss, City Manager, reviewed upcoming calendar items.

**J. CURRENT VACANCIES – BOARDS/COMMISSIONS:**

**Moved by Chestnut, seconded by Dever,** to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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Mike Amyx, Mayor

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Jonathan M. Douglass, City Clerk