



City of Lawrence

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
ARON E. CROMWELL

COMMISSIONERS
ROBERT J. SCHUMM
MICHAEL DEVER
HUGH CARTER
MIKE AMYX

• DAVID L. CORLISS
CITY MANAGER

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April 3, 2012

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Lawrence met in regular session at 6:35 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers in City Hall with Mayor Cromwell presiding and members Amyx, Carter, Dever and Schumm present.

A. STATE OF CITY ADDRESS:

1. Mayor Cromwell delivered the State of the City Address.

It has been a privilege to serve as Mayor of Lawrence for the past year. I have met such great people and learned so much over the year. When I think back over my term, I am proud of what the City Commission has accomplished and I look forward to continuing the work in upcoming years.

Growing our local tax base and job opportunities through our economic development efforts has been a main focus of the Commission and I see progress in this area. For example, the transformation of the blighted Farmland Industries site into a job-creating business/industrial park has begun. Over 1600 tons of scrap metal has been recycled from the site and master planning on the 467-acre tract is in progress.

We are now working together better than we ever have with our local business partners including KU, the Lawrence chamber of commerce and Douglas County. This collaboration of entities all focusing on business opportunity and prosperity magnifies our common efforts and has enabled the success of projects such as the Bio-Science incubator which is now 2 years ahead of schedule and ready for Phase 2.

As an organization, the city has and will continue to take specific steps to make it easier to do business in Lawrence. Lawrence, Kansas has been fiscally responsible and is a strong community excellently-positioned to take advantage of the coming economic growth. The prospect of creating more opportunities for businesses to thrive and to locate in Lawrence is crucial to our continued growth and prosperity which among many other benefits allows us to put resources into our important social and arts programs we value so much in Lawrence.

Another area of emphasis, which holds special importance to me, is the city's environmental efforts. Over the past year we have made progress in this area: we reduced city's energy use, added an Environmental chapter to Horizon 2020, began an urban agriculture program, rolled out new hybrid busses, passed a foot and bike friendly "Complete Streets" policy and have increased our recycling.



Over the past year, I chaired the Solid Waste Task Force and became very familiar with solid waste and recycling programs. Most importantly, I heard from hundreds of citizens about the importance of our city Solid Waste Division and the absolute necessity to maintain high levels of customer service while maintaining affordable rates. I am confident the city can create a solid-waste program that is economical, customer-friendly and increases workers' safety

I am also a firm believer that our employees are our greatest asset – and their safety should be of paramount interest. By introducing standard carts for trash collection, we can dramatically reduce employee injuries and provide a system that is well-recognized as a best practice and is already in use in thousands of municipalities in the U.S.

After noticing a lack of adequate glass recycling opportunities in Lawrence I worked with city staff and successfully launched a glass recycling program through Ripple Glass. The program has been very well received by our community and in the first month we are already recycling over a ton of glass every day.

Next steps for recycling include more glass recycling locations including behind restaurants and bars, examining city-wide curb-side recycling and adding recycling bins downtown.

Driving on Lawrence's streets this past year was a challenge with all the road work we did and next year will be challenging as well- but our community requested better roads so the Commission made this a priority. The good news is that data shows that our roads are improving.

Lastly, I have continued my focus on the Lawrence Public Library this past year; with the support of the community and the help from my fellow commissioners the renovation project continues to move along. The design program is complete and the final plans are being crafted. A local construction manager was selected and we will break ground this year. I look forward to the finished renovation and the increased parking downtown.

I cannot express the absolute appreciation I have for my family, friends and employees who have been a wonderful support system for me as I worked to fulfill my duties as Mayor. Being Mayor is not a Tuesday-night only job – it is 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. I often had to juggle my work schedule to meet city needs and my work staff fielded many calls and scheduled many meetings- thanks to my great staff at Cromwell Environmental.

My family, particularly my wife Hannah and son Alder, have been incredibly supportive and patient as I worked to passionately pursue my goals as Mayor and give back to this community which has given me such tremendous blessings. Thanks Hannah and Alder for sharing my time with the city.

To my fellow Commissioners, to have been selected by you, whom I respect so much, to be Mayor this past year was an incredible honor. I am sincerely appreciative of the experience, skills and areas of expertise each of you bring to our discussions. Without a great group of commissioners who get along nothing could ever be accomplished. We have a set of commissioners who may not agree 100% of the time but who always respect each other. There are no games - just honest leaders doing their best for our community. I am very genuinely thankful to have been given the opportunity to know and work with all of you.

Likewise, throughout the past years and this year as Mayor in particular I have grown to know and respect our city staff. We have passionate, committed individuals working for our community; these individuals believe strongly in public service and are dedicated to providing

excellent city services that enhance the quality of life in Lawrence. The city is well served by this group of professionals.

In closing, I look forward to continuing my service on the Lawrence City Commission and look forward to the future. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity. The city is in great shape and I am eager to further the implementation of programs and services that enhance the quality of life in the Lawrence community. Thank you all.

B. RECOGNITION/PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATION

1. Proclaimed the month of April, 2012 as Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month.
2. Proclaimed the month of April, 2012 as Fair Housing Month.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Schumm, seconded by Amyx, to approve the consent agenda as below. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Received minutes from various boards and commissions:

Mental Health Board meeting of 02/28/12
Planning Commission meeting of 02/27-29/12
Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission meeting of 01/14/12
Sales Tax Audit Committee meeting of 09/27/11

2. Approved all claims to 191 vendors in the amount of \$1,299,591.06.
3. Approved licenses as recommended by the City Clerk's Office.

Drinking Establishment licenses for The Barrel House, 729 New Hampshire St., Shots, 1008 Massachusetts St., Pachamama's, 800 New Hampshire St.; Street Vendor Licenses for Michael "Jack" Franks, NE corner of 9th & Massachusetts and Hot Rod Hot Dogs, West side of 800 block of Mass, near center block crosswalk area.

4. Approved appointments as recommended by the Mayor.

Appointed Jonathan Becker to the Aviation Advisory Board to a term that expires 05/31/15 and Bruce Boyer to a term that expires 05/31/14; Sgt. Trent McKinley to the Homeless Issues Advisory Committee to a position that expires 12/31/13; Joshua Brown to the Social Service Funding Advisory Board to a term that expires 08/31/12 and Jeremy Fite to a term that expires 08/31/13; Scott White to the Sustainability Advisory Board to a term that expires 12/31/14 and Dennis "Boog" Highberger to a term that expires 12/31/13; Chris Storm and Tracy Russell to the Traffic Safety Commission to first terms from 05/01/12 – 04/30/15; reappointed Laura Blanchard to the Mechanical Code Board of Appeals to a term that expires 03/31/15 and Frances Devlin and Joan Golden to the Public Library Board to terms that expire 04/30/16.

5. Bid and purchase items:
 - a) Set bid date of April, 17, 2012 for the Overlay Program Phase I, Project No. PW1209.
 - b) Awarded bid for pumps and motors for the Utilities Department to Douglas Pump for \$53,520, JCI for \$57,144, Layne Christensen Company \$42,222, and Letts Van Kirk for \$109,839. Total for all pumps and motors is \$345,938.
 - c) Awarded bid for one (1) ½ ton pickup for the Parks and Recreation Department to Shawnee Mission Ford for \$16,205.
6. Adopted on second and final reading, the following ordinances:
 - a) Ordinance No. 8714, for annexation (A-12-6-11) of approximately .34 acres located east of the intersection of N. Michigan Street and Riverridge Road (PC Item 8A; approved 8-0 on 2/29/12)
 - b) Ordinance No. 8715, to rezone (Z-12-31-11) approximately .34 acres located east of the intersection of N. Michigan Street and Riverridge Road from County A (Agricultural) to OS-FP (Open Space with Floodplain Management Regulations Overlay) District. (PC Item 8B; approved 8-0 on 2/29/12)
 - c) Ordinance No. 8716, for Special Use Permit (SUP-12-6-11) for Pump Station No. 35, located east of the intersection of N. Michigan Street and Riverridge Road. (PC Item 8D; approved 8-0 on 2/29/12)
 - d) Ordinance No. 8717, for Special Use Permit (SUP-12-8-11) for Pump Station 37, located at 2100 E. 15th Street. (PC Item 9B; approved 8-0 on 2-29/12)
7. Approved Special Event Permit, SE-2-3-12, 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 4 through May 6, 2012. Submitted by Ralph Reschke, for the Antique Automobile Club of America.
8. Approved Temporary Use of Public Right-of-Way Permits for the Downtown Lawrence Farmers Market for the use of city Parking Lot #8 (800 block of New Hampshire) on Saturdays from 04/14/12-11/17/12 from 5:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., and use of city Parking Lot #10 (1000 block of Vermont) on Tuesdays from 05/01/12-10/30/12 from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
9. Authorized staff to negotiate an agreement with Landplan Engineering for engineering services for the 6th and Iowa Geometric Improvement Plan.
10. Authorized the Mayor to sign two Releases of Mortgage for Richard Heckler and Beth Anne Mansur, 1217 Prospect and a Release of Mortgage for Venal and Caroline Rose Lamarre, 1619 Kenwood Drive
11. Approved the request by Jean Kao, Cornerstone Architect, LLC, on behalf of the Lawrence Evangelical Chinese Church, 2211 Silicon Avenue, for a variance from 19-214C of the City

Code which states that a private sanitary sewer service line shall only serve one residential dwelling unit or a single commercial or industrial establishment.

D. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: None

Mayor Cromwell said he would like to offer fine compliments to City staff and the different law enforcement agencies regarding March Madness.

E. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Receive comments from Mayor Aron Cromwell.

Mayor Cromwell said it had been a pleasure to serve on the City Commission. He said the Commissioners worked well together and made fine progress for the City of Lawrence.

2. Conduct election of Mayor.

Mayor Cromwell called for nominations for the office of the Mayor.

Moved by Cromwell, seconded by Dever, to nominate Robert Schumm as Mayor.

Moved by Cromwell, seconded by Dever, to close the nominations for Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Commission voted unanimously to elect Robert Schumm as Mayor.

3. Conduct election of Vice-Mayor.

Mayor Schumm called for nominations for the office of Vice Mayor.

Moved by Amyx, seconded by Carter, to nominate Mike Dever as Vice Mayor.

Moved by Amyx, seconded by Carter, to close the nominations for Vice Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Commission voted unanimously to elect Mike Dever as Vice Mayor.

4. Comments of Mayor and City Commissioners.

Mayor Schumm said this was a great City Commission that had been honest and straight forward with a high level of integrity.

He said the City Commission dealt with a lot of land use and law issues and thanked staff for the superb information that was presented to the City Commission. He thanked the entire City staff for providing excellent City Services.

He said former Mayor Cromwell was ambitious and involved in several issues, one being the Solid Waste Task Force. He said the City was far behind with comparative cities and did not have a strong recycling program, but the Solid Waste Program had already changed for the betterment.

Another area of involvement was “Sustainability” in which the City had made a lot of headway with the glass bottle program, community gardens, and watts savers in improving the conservation of electricity.

The Burrough’s Creek Trail was a beautiful park which was completed and had complete accessibility for every type of vehicle except motorized vehicles. It was a wonderful addition to the parks and transportation system and had potential to connect all bike and running paths together.

He said he would remember former Mayor Cromwell for his role in the community library project because he was the genesis for that project.

He said he appreciated the support of the City Commission as Mayor and pledged fairness in everything that he would do for this community. He said there would be complete transparency of this Commission and appreciated the vote of confidence as Mayor.

Commissioner Cromwell thanked everyone for their kind words from gentlemen that he respected. He said Mayor Schumm would do a great job and the Commission was available to help out in any way possible.

Vice Mayor Dever said he had been out of the main focus, but enjoyed it because it allowed him to analyze the Commission and the community. He thanked Commissioner Cromwell for his job as Mayor. He said Cromwell had done an excellent job at taking both public and other private complaints very well and continued on the path that was set forth which was what leadership was all about.

He thanked his family for letting him do this job, the public for electing him, and his fellow Commissioners for electing him Vice Mayor.

He said having been on the Commission for 5 years, he was impressed with how much effort Commissioner Carter had put into this job. He said Carter spend a lot of time chasing ideas and getting involved, and the public needed to know how much time and effort was put into this job.

He said it was a privilege to continue to serve with Commissioner Amyx. He said Amyx understood what Lawrence wanted and continue to bring level headedness to some of the Commission’s crazy ideas. He said Amyx was in a position, physically on Massachusetts Street, to field questions and comments from the community which was an unbelievable form of democracy and appreciated the insight Amyx provided to the Commission.

He said this was a strange form of government and it was both a “joy” and a “pain” in some ways because the Commission was not in charge for very long. He said as Mayor Schumm took over, he knew that Schumm had leadership skills and experience.

He said the former Mayor and Commissioners had consistently stood by reinvesting in infrastructure and the community. He said Mayor Schumm was in a good position to reap some of those benefits and hopefully put new ideas in place. He said he stood ready to serve the Mayor.

Commissioner Amyx said as he read through the article in the Lawrence Journal World, he realized the Mayor had already set the plate fairly full. He said he had enjoyed the time he

and the Mayor had served together on the Commission. He said anything he could do to personally help, he and the other Commissioner stood ready to help.

Commissioner Carter echoed all the comments made about Commissioner Cromwell. He said he appreciated all the things that were done to make him feel very much part of the team under former Mayor Cromwell's leadership. He said the Commission had been inspiring because the group was just trying to do the right thing. He said he was excited about the next year.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chantal Lassiter, Topeka, asked about the Street Vendor License for their Hot Dog Cart.

David Corliss, City Manager, said the license was approved earlier tonight by the City Commission.

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

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

H: COMMISSION ITEMS: None

I: CALENDAR: None

J: CURRENT VACANCIES – BOARDS/COMMISSIONS:

Existing and upcoming vacancies on City of Lawrence Boards and Commissions were listed on the agenda.

Moved by Amyx, seconded by Dever, to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED:

Robert J. Schumm, Mayor

ATTEST:

Diane Trybom, Deputy City Clerk