



City of Lawrence

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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CITY MANAGER

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CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
LESLIE SODEN

COMMISSIONERS
STUART BOLEY
MATTHEW J. HERBERT
LISA LARSEN
MIKE AMYX

January 8, 2018

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Lawrence met in regular session at 5:45 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers in City Hall with Mayor Soden presiding and Vice Mayor Boley. Commissioner Amyx, Commissioner Herbert and Commissioner Larsen present.

A. STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS:

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

B. RECOGNITION/PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATION:

1. Proclaim the week of January 8 – 15, 2018 as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Week.

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Amyx, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to approve the consent agenda as below. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Approve City Commission meeting minutes from 12/27/17.
2. Receive minutes from various boards and commissions:
Mental Health Board meeting of 10/31/17.
3. Approve claims and payroll in the amount of \$5,746,614.51 to 209 vendors.
4. Approve licenses as recommended by the City Clerk's Office.

Drinking Establishment	Expires
Macelis Macelis Inc. 1031 New Hampshire St.	12/31/17
Rudys Pizzeria Rudys Pizzeria of Lawrence Inc 704 Massachusetts St	01/03/18
Oread Inn Oread Inn LC 1200 Oread Ave	01/05/18
8 th Street Tap Room	01/09/18



Louises Inc 801 New Hampshire St	
Henrys On Henry Street Henrys On Henry Street LLC 11 E 8 th St	01/11/18
Pueblo Mexican Restaurant Cavadas Corporation 804 Iowa St	01/12/18

5. Approve appointments as recommended by the Mayor.

Affordable Housing Advisory Board: Reappoint Dana Ortiz, Shannon Oury, and Erika Zimmerman to additional terms that expire 12/31/20.

Contractor Licensing Board: Reappoint Verlon Myers, Daniel Poull, and Greg Rau to additional terms that expires 12/31/21.

Homeless Issues Advisory Committee: Reappoint Dana Ortiz and Nickie Daneke to additional terms that expire 12/31/20.

6. Bid and purchase items:

a) Authorize the City Manager to execute purchase orders in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for any individual pre-qualified plumbing contractor, and \$1,000,000 total for all plumbing contractors for 2018 private property inflow and infiltration repairs associated with Project No. UT1305 - Rapid Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Program (CIP #UT9909).

7. Adopt on second and final reading, the following ordinance(s):

a) Ordinance No. 9430, exempting a portion of ad valorem property taxation for a new addition for Plastikon Healthcare, LLC, for economic development purposes.

8. Approve the use of approximately 2,874 SF of synthetic turf for golf practice purposes adjacent to the Alvamar Practice building and adjacent to the University Golf Practice Facility, associated with Final Development Plan, FDP-17-00267, for Alvamar Phase 4, located at 1810 Birdie Way and 1800 Birdie Way. Submitted by Paul Werner Architects, for Eagle 1968 LC, property owner of record.

9. Authorize the Mayor to sign Releases of Mortgage for:

- a) Mary L. Hodson, 1802 W. 22nd Street;
- b) Robert W. Harwood, 1730 W. 22nd Street; and
- c) Georgia R. Shelby, 432 Elm Street.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Commission heard public comment on items and issues not scheduled on the agenda.

E. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Receive comments from Mayor Soden and City Commission.**
2. **The City Clerk will conduct swearing in of newly elected City Commissioners. The new City Commission will be seated.**

Sherry Riedemann, City Clerk, conducted swearing in of newly elected City Commissioners Jennifer Ananda, Matthew Herbert and Lisa Larsen.

3. **Conduct election of Mayor.**

Mayor Soden called for nominations for the office of Mayor.

Moved by Commissioner Larsen, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to nominate Stuart Boley as Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Larsen, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to close the nominations for Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Mayor Soden, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to elect Stuart Boley as Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Conduct election of Vice-Mayor.**

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

Moved by Commissioner Herbert, seconded by Commissioner Ananda, to nominate Lisa Larsen as Vice Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to close the nominations for Vice Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Mayor Boley, seconded by Commissioner Soden, to elect Lisa Larsen as Vice Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Comments from Mayor and City Commission.**

F. RECESS:

Moved by Mayor Boley seconded by Commissioner Soden, to recess for 20 minutes at 6:37 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:00 p.m.

G. COMMISSION ITEMS:

Commissioner Soden asked the Commission to add the use of security cameras in the downtown area to a future agenda for discussion.

Moved by Commissioner Soden, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to direct staff to research the use of security cameras, including a legal review, and place on a future agenda as a work session item.

H. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

None.

I. CALENDAR:

The Commission reviewed calendar items.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert, seconded by Vice Mayor Larsen to move the start time of the January 16th meeting to 4:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Soden, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to adjourn at 7:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION ON JANUARY 16, 2018.



Sherril Riedemann, City Clerk

State of the City Address

January 8, 2018

Mayor Leslie Soden

Good evening, and happy new year!

It was one year ago today that I was honored to be elected Mayor of Lawrence. It's humbling to think that a year has passed, and tonight, I conclude my term as Mayor. We've accomplished so much, and it has been a pleasure to serve the City I love.

I've enjoyed serving with my fellow commissioners; all of whom demonstrate an earnest commitment in serving our unique community. I want to especially recognize Commissioner **Amyx**, who finished his sixth term as Mayor last year, and his 21st year serving on the City Commission this year. Thank you for your dedicated service to Lawrence Mike. And, we want to welcome **Jennifer Ananda** as the newest member of the City Commission. I'm confident that you will be a valuable contributor to this commission.

We had **two significant staff retirements** in last year. Interim Parks and Recreation Director, Ernie Shaw, retired after 42 years with the city, and Police Chief, Tarik Khatib, retired after 25 years of service. We would like to thank them both for their years of dedication to our community.

Last January, City Manager Tom Markus kicked off our **strategic planning process**. Commissioners, staff and the public all contributed to a three-month long process, that resulted in a plan that includes a vision for the city, a mission statement, seven critical success factors, and eight priority initiatives. The city's **Strategic Plan web page** provides detailed information and updates, and action plans are in place for all eight of the Priority Initiatives, to help assure we can fulfill the goal to complete them within two years.

Last year we touched nearly every department of the city in terms of crafting new plans, policies and guidelines. All will provide more open decision making, better transparency, improved guidance as to goals and accountability, and more clearly defined expectations.

Here's a few **examples**:

- The Transient Guest Tax Fund now has a new decision-making matrix for its advisory board to use,
- Parks & Recreation has a new Master Plan and formal sponsorship policy,
- Transit department has a new Parking Systems Operations and Development Plan, which will help us and lay the groundwork for future parking improvements.
- Lawrence Police Department now have a new mental health team and a newly created Community Police Review Board.

In February, we kicked off the **Facilities Conservation Improvement Program**, a sustainability program that will provide \$11.3 million in energy saving upgrades to City facilities. Annual energy and maintenance savings from these projects will completely pay off the debt, making this a smart investment for the City. This was achieved through the leadership of Eileen Horn, the city and county sustainability coordinator. Eileen is moving on to new opportunities, but she leaves this and other sustainability programs as part of her good legacy.

The city's new Economic Development incentive program, the **Catalyst Program**, has already had its first applicant win approval this fall, and they are expected to break ground this coming spring.

On Election Day November 7th, **voters approved three special use sales taxes** totaling .55 percent for infrastructure, public transit, fire equipment and affordable housing. Voter turnout for the election was 23.5 percent, and all three questions passed with a clear majority.

I'm invigorated by the work that the **Affordable Housing Advisory Board** has done to establish priorities, and approve projects that will help us enhance and provide affordable housing for more residents. I can't wait to see those new projects break ground next year. And with a permanent stream of revenue from the new sales tax, I am very optimistic about their future achievements.

Last year we made significant progress on 3 complicated road projects: Queens Road, Kasold Road, and East 9th Street. **Downzoning the East Lawrence** neighborhood from multi-family zoning to single family zoning, will give greater confidence to residents that the neighborhood that they loved and built, will continue to focus upon owner-occupied properties, and also help to protect an important pocket of affordable housing for our city. And in that same neighborhood, work continues to progress on the restoration of the historic **Santa Fe depot**. We appreciate Diane Stoddard's work on this important initiative and the collaborative efforts from KDOT and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, to revive and conserve this one-of-a-kind landmark.

My **motivation** to run for City Commission was to help find solutions to areas I saw as challenges for our community. Primarily, those areas included public safety, budget priorities, economic development, affordable housing, and cultural amenities. I'm pleased with our progress, and I know we will continue to work together to contribute to Lawrence's future.

I want to say thanks to our City Manager Tom Markus and all of **city staff**, people who consistently work to exceed our expectations, and are very much the public face of city services. Our community relies on you twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week ,and I know that many of you go beyond your job responsibilities to serve our community. I appreciate your work, and understand the demands that fall on your shoulders. Thank you all for your dedication.

And, finally, I want to thank the **people** of Lawrence for giving me the opportunity to serve on this Commission. It's a special privilege that I take very seriously. This summer I had two young girls ask for my autograph after the Pollinator's mural re-dedication ceremony. I was so touched by that. Inspiring women of all ages is something that moves me very deeply, and something we must always work harder for.

Thanks again, and best wishes to all in the new year. I can't wait to see what 2018 will bring for us.