



City of Lawrence

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
LISA LARSEN

COMMISSIONERS
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MATTHEW J. HERBERT
LESLIE SODEN
STUART BOLEY

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April 22, 2019

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Lawrence met for a special session at 2:00 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers in City Hall with Mayor Larsen presiding and Vice Mayor Ananda, Commissioner Boley, and Commissioner Herbert present.

A. APPROVE AGENDA:

1. The City Commission reserves the right to amend, supplement, or re-order the agenda during the meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

B. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Mayor Lisa Larsen and the Commissioners will announce the name of the new City Manager.**

Mayor Larsen: "On November 9th, 2018, the City Commission authorized the execution of a Professional Services Agreement for Executive Search Services with Ralph Anderson and Associates. This resulted in receiving several applications and conducting follow up interviews with a select number of chosen applicants. And on April 9th, 2019 the City Commission directed Lawrence City Attorney Toni Wheeler and Greg Nelson with Ralph Anderson and Associates to negotiate a contract with the Commission's top candidate. Those negotiations have been successfully completed and we are pleased to announce that today we will consider approving an employment contract with Craig S. Owens to serve as the next City Manager of Lawrence, Kansas. The commission is impressed with Craig's 25 years of progressive experience in city management from being the assistant city manager at Hazelwood, Mo to the City Manager of O'Fallon, Illinois, Rowlett, Tx, and most recently for the last 10 years as the City Manager in Clayton, Mo, which is considered to be the second downtown to St. Louis and is the county seat of St. Louis County. Clayton, Missouri is also home to two universities. We are further impressed by Craig's experience in the development and implementation of community plans and his commitment and success in engaging the entire community in this process. Craig hails from Overland Park, Kansas. He received his undergraduate degree from Knox College, Tennessee and his Master of Public Administration from Kansas University which is nationally recognized as the top City Manager program in the nation. Craig also is a Credentialed City Manager through the International City County Management Association. Craig has worked at all levels of city management, development, energy conservation projects, community engagement, along with being on the board of a nonprofit for affordable housing and models for community development innovation. Craig will be a great asset to our community, and I look forward to working with him as we continue to work towards creating a better city for all our



community members. Craig will begin his employment on July 1, 2019 and must establish residency within 6 months of his employment.”

Craig Owens was in attendance electronically and thanked the City Commission.

2. Consider authorizing the Mayor to execute an employment agreement with the incoming City Manager.

Toni Wheeler, City Attorney, presented the employment agreement.

Moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Vice Mayor Ananda, to authorize the Mayor to execute an employment agreement with the incoming City Manager, Craig Owens. Motion carried unanimously.

C. ADJOURN:

Moved by Mayor Larsen, seconded by Commissioner Herbert, to adjourn at 2:11 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION ON MAY 7, 2019.



Steven Lemons, Jr., Deputy City Clerk