



Common Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 6:35 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Mayor Hammer called the meeting to order at 7:04pm. The following members were present: Mayor Joe Hammer, Council President Molly Finkler, Alderperson Rhonda Fuller, Alderperson Michael Lawson, Alderperson Trina Reid and Alderperson Ryan Rostad. Alderperson Amy Roelke was excused.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Notice of Open Meeting

Noted as posted.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to approve the agenda. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment *(Public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Speakers must begin by stating their name and address for the record. To ensure that all individuals have an opportunity to be heard, the presiding officer may enforce the time limit and may call speakers to conclude their remarks when their time has expired.)*

None.

Department Reports for File: included CAEMS (05/2026), Finance (05/2026), Fire (05/2026), Library (05/2026), Police (05/2026).

Consent Agenda Motion by Council President Finkler, seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the Committee of the Whole and Common Council Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2026. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

New Business

3. Consider and take action on Investment Advisory Services with Ehlers. (CoW 06/16/26):

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Fuller to approve the Investment Advisory Service with Ehlers. Motion carried on a 5-0 Roll Call vote.

4. Consider and take action on change in State law authorizing \$10 increase in court costs (\$38 to \$48) for each citation issued. (CoW 06/16/26):

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to approve the \$10 increase in Court Costs as presented. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

5. Consider and take action on Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan - Public Input Strategy. (CoW 06/16/26):

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan - Public Input Strategy. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

6. Consider and take action regarding Proposals for Audit Services. (CoW 04/21/26):

Finance Director Kendra Riddle shared that after reviewing the proposals received for Audit Services, meeting with her team, and calling references, her team decided that CLA would be the best move for the city. They are the most cost-effective and offer more services than the other companies reviewed.

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the audit services proposal from CLA. Discussion from Council included asking for more transparency in the reporting of the review of companies who submit proposals for services so that those reading the packet information are better informed on the decisions being made by staff. Going forward, an Executive Summary or Scoring Policy used in procurement would be helpful with future RFP's.

Motion carried on a 5-0 Roll Call vote.

7. Consider and take action on "Class A" Alcohol License Applications for Licensing period of July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 which include: Jose Roberto Alvarado, Owner dba Blanca's Mexican Store; Chestor Bandits Store Inc dba Chestor Bandits Store; Columbus Market LLC; Dolgencorp, LLC dba Dollar General Store #10422; Kwik Trip, Inc. dba Kwik Trip #808; Liberty Square Gas Station, Inc. dba Refuel Pantry – Columbus West; Ultra Mart Foods, LLC dba Pick 'n Save #392; and Walgreen Co dba Walgreens #10396. (CoW 06/16/26):

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Council President Finkler to approve the "Class A" Alcohol License Applications as presented which excluded Jose Roberto Alvarado, Owner dba Blanca's Mexican Store. Alderperson Lawson asked about contingency of passage of Fire Inspections for Refuel Pantry - Columbus West and Pick 'n Save. Alderperson Rostad amended his motion to reflect the change, Seconded by Council President Finkler. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

8. Consider and take action on "Class B" Alcohol License Applications for Licensing period of July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 which include: Jamesco, Inc dba Cardinal Cage, Columbus Country Club, Inc. dba Columbus Country Club, Columbus Family Restaurant, LLC dba Columbus Family Restaurant, Hui Yang, Agent dba Hachi Hachi Sushi & Hibachi, Kestrel Golf Properties, LLC dba Kestrel Ridge Golf Course, Magnolia I. Fuentes, Owner dba Magnolia's Grill and Bar, MP's Town Tap. LLC dba MP's Town Tap, Tequilas Bar & Grill, LLC dba Tequilas Bar & Grill, and Wisco Cheese & Cheers Bistro dba Cheese & Cheers Bistro. (CoW 06/16/26):

Motion made by Alderperson Lawson, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the "Class B" Alcohol License Applications as presented. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

9. Consider and take action on Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage License Application for Licensing period of July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 for Columbus Transport Co., Inc. dba Kurth Brewery. (CoW 06/16/26):

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Council President Finkler to approve the Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage License Application for Licensing period of July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 for Columbus Transport Co., Inc. dba Kurth Brewery. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

10. Consider and take action on Cigarette, Tobacco and Electronic Vaping Device Retail License Applications for the July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027 licensing period which include: Chestor Bandits Store, Inc., Columbus Market, LLC, Dolgencorp, LLC - Dollar General Store #10422, Jamesco, Inc. - The Cardinal Cage, Kestrel Ridge Golf Course, Kwik Trip #808, Liberty Square Gas Station - Refuel Pantry Columbus West, and Walgreens #10396. (CoW 06/16/26):

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Council President Finkler to approve the Cigarette, Tobacco and Electronic Vaping Device Retail License Applications for the July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027 licensing period as presented with the contingency on Refuel Pantry's passage of their Fire Inspection. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

11. Consider and take action on claims in the amount of \$765,525.86:

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Council President Finkler to approve payment of the claims in the amount of \$765,525.86. Motion carried on a 5-0 Roll Call vote.

Report of City Officers – City Administrator, Mayor

Administrator Amundson shared he attended the Local Government Institute of Wisconsin in Stevens Point which focused on the collaboration being utilized with the Innovation Grant funds available to municipalities. He will be meeting with other Administrators in Columbia County to discuss how we can work together to possibly leverage those funds.

Mayor Hammer thanked the Police and Fire Department, along with the Dodge County Sheriff's Department and other police agencies in keeping our community safe during the incident that took place at the Dog Park last Saturday (June 13, 2026). He also thanked the DPW and Recreation staff for getting the pool ready for the summer. The Summer Concert series begins tomorrow evening at the Pavilion. He wished all Fathers, Grandfathers, Godfathers, Step-Fathers, and Father figures a Happy Father's Day.

Adjourn

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Fuller at 7:27pm. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

*A quorum of city committees and/or commissions may be present at this meeting. No action will be taken or considered by those committees and/or commissions.