



# Common Council Public Hearing and Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 6:35 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

## Roll Call

Mayor Hammer called the Public Hearing on the Final Special Assessments for 2025 Street and Utility Improvements (Brookside Lane) and Common Council Meeting to order at 6:36pm. Members present included Mayor Joe Hammer, Council President Molly Finkler, Alderperson Michael Lawson, Alderperson Marcus Meier, 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 Council President Finkler to approve the agenda. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

## Public Hearing on the Final Special Assessments for 2025 Street and Utility Improvements (Brookside Lane)

### Open Public Hearing

Mayor Hammer opened the Public Hearing at 6:37pm. asking for anyone who wished to speak about the Final Special Assessments report for the 2025 Street and Utility Improvements at Brookside Lane.

No comments were made by those in attendance.

### Close Public Hearing

Mayor Hammer closed the Public Hearing at 6:39pm.

## Swearing in of Sergeant Knoll

Police Chief Dennis Weiner spoke briefly about newly promoted Sergeant Julia Knoll and her almost four year history with the City of Columbus, highlighting her career accomplishments thus far. In addition to several staff members, the entire City of Columbus Police force was present for the ceremony and Weiner individually introduced them to those in attendance. Clerk Caine then gave Sergeant Knoll her Oath of Office. Keipher Ballweg, Julia's boyfriend, then presented and pinned Sergeant Knoll with her new badge.

## Public Comment

None.

**Department Reports for File** included Library (10/2025), Lifestar (10/2025), and Police (10/2025).

## **Consent Agenda**

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to approve the Consent Agenda which included the 2026 Budget Public Hearing and Common Council Meeting Minutes from 11/04/2025 and the Street Closing Application for Columbus Christmas House at 137 N. Birdsey Street, December 6, 2025.

## **New Business**

### **6. Consider and take action on Final Special Assessments Report for 2025 Street and Utility Improvements - Brookside Lane (PH 11/18/25):**

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Lawson to approve the Final Special Assessments Report for the 2025 Street and Utility Improvements - Brookside Lane. City Engineer Jason Leitha with Ruekert-Mielke shared the Final Special Assessment Report for the 2025 Street and Utility Improvements - Brookside Lane with council. Leitha stated that this was a very successful project which actually came in under the expected projected cost. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### **7. Consider and take action on Minor Land Division 2025-1004 in Extra Territorial Zone, Town of Elba – Roberts:**

Motion made by Alderperson Lawson, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the Dodge County Minor Land Division 2025-1004 in the Extra Territorial Zone located in the Town of Elba, Dodge County. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### **8. Consider and take action on Ruekert-Mielke Task Order 2025-06: Fireman's Park Pavilion HVAC (CoW 11/18/25):**

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to approve the Ruekert-Mielke Task Order 2025-06: Fireman's Park Pavilion HVAC. Motion carried on a 5-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Council President Finkler, Alderperson Lawson, Alderperson Meier, Alderperson Reid, and Alderperson Rostad.

### **9. Consider and take action on Tourism Ordinance, Sec. 2-381 of the City of Columbus Municipal Code (CoW 11/18/25):**

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Council President Finkler to adopt the Tourism Ordinance update to Sec. 2-381 in the City of Columbus Municipal code with the edit to the Tourism members annual start date to coincide with the other City Committees. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### **10. Consider and take action on Claims in the amount of \$1,137,484.03:**

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the claims in the amount of \$1,137,484.03. Motion carried on a 5-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Council President Finkler, Alderperson Lawson, Alderperson Meier, Alderperson Reid, and Alderperson Rostad.

## **Report of City Officers – City Administrator, Mayor**

Amundson reminded everyone that the Annual Tree Lighting will take place on Saturday, November 29th beginning at 7:00pm with the Sparkle in the Park officially starting at 8:00pm. There will be a

Public Information meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 in City Hall regarding the 2025 W. School Street Reconstruction Project. The Public Safety Building team has begun meeting and having

preliminary discussions about design ideas, needs and wants. Amundson also congratulated the Columbus High School Football Team on their successful season and feels they are great ambassadors of our community.

Mayor Hammer also congratulated the Columbus High School Football Team on their season and wished everyone a successful deer hunt and a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

**Adjourn**

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to adjourn at 6:58pm. 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.

Respectfully Submitted by

Susan L. Caine, Clerk