



Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 07, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Council President Molly Finkler called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members present included: Mayor Joe Hammer, Council President Molly Finkler, Alderperson Rhonda Fuller, Alderperson Michael Lawson, Alderperson Trina Reid, Alderperson Amy Roelke, and Alderperson Ryan Rostad.

Notice of Open Meeting

Noted as posted.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke 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.)*

Brian Nagle - 551 W. Harrison Street - spoke regarding his concern of the composition of the Ethics Committee as outlined in the proposed ordinance.

New Business

1. Discussion regarding Ordinance No. 817-26 Concerning the Composition of the Ethics Committee:

Administrator Amundson shared that this ordinance came about with guidance from the League of Wisconsin Municipalities having the goal be not to have all of the Council members serving on the Ethics Committee. Amundson referred to Mayor Hammer as to whether or not there are enough residents willing to serve as the five citizen members, as is the procedure with other committees. Hammer shared that although it is a struggle to find enough dedicated individuals, he agrees that Council members should not be on this committee. He would be willing to put out a notice for interest.

Alderperson Rostad would like Hammer to reach out to see what the response would be.

Alderperson Lawson asked if there are any vacancies after that, would we fill them with other Committee Chairs. He concurred with Nagle's comments regarding having non-council members serve. Alderperson Reid and Finkler liked the hybrid approach, Filling the five seats with resident volunteers, filling vacancies with other Committee Chairs. Committee members agreed to move forward to the July 7, 2026 Common Council meeting with the changes discussed.

2. Discussion regarding Ordinance No. 818-26 Parking in Downtown:

Amundson shared this ordinance was brought forward by Police Chief Weiner. There is a safety issue when cars are parked on the west side of Water Street just around the corner from E. James Street for east bound traffic turning right onto Water Street.

Alderson Lawson asked if this change would move the problem to the other side of Water Street. Chief Weiner shared that traffic turning right at that intersection would not be affected by cars parked on the east side of Water Street. Alderson Rostad asked if we should amend the ordinance by adding verbiage that would allow the Police Chief to add additional parking restrictions for the east side of Water Street in the future, if needed. Amundson stated that that could also be handled with a future ordinance amendment. He also reminded everyone that there is additional parking available in the Water Street parking lot. Alderson Fuller asked if signage would be added to that section of the road, and thanked Chief Weiner for being pro-active in addressing the parking situation before it becomes a bigger issue. Signage will be posted. Committee Members agreed to move forward to the July 7, 2026 Common Council meeting.

3. Discussion of Appointment of additional 2026 – 2027 Election Inspectors:

Clerk Susan Caine requested three additional residents, Elizabeth Gilbertson, Ryan Rostad and David Stira who have asked to be appointed Election Inspectors for the 2026 - 2027 term. Committee Members agreed to move forward to the July 7, 2026 Common Council meeting.

Adjourn

Motion made by Alderson Rostad, Seconded by Alderson Reid to adjourn at 6:47pm. 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.