



Common Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 04, 2025 at 6:35 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Mayor Hammer called the meeting to order at 6:42pm. Members present included: Mayor Joe Hammer, Council President Molly Finkler, Alderperson Michael Lawson, Alderperson Marcus Meier, Alderperson Trina Reid, Alderperson Amy Roelke and Alderperson Ryan Rostad.

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 Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to approve the agenda. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

Michelle Stark - 661 Meadow Lane - spoke about timing of citations issued to residents who are attempting to shovel and clear off their driveways during snow events.

Committee Minutes for File included: Committee Minutes for File: CDA (08/18/25), HLPC (07/23/25), Library (09/16/25), Public Spaces (10/13/25), and Tourism (08/11/25).

Consent Agenda

1. Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the consent agenda which included the Committee of the Whole and Common Council Meeting Minutes from 10/21/2025. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

New Business

2. **Consider and take action on Resolution 13-25: A Resolution for 2026 Budget Adoption and Approval of a Tax Levy for the City of Columbus and Tax Incremental Districts:**

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Council President Finkler to adopt Resolution 13-25: A Resolution for 2026 Budget Adoption and Approval of a Tax Levy for the City of Columbus and Tax Incremental Districts with the following changes on the updated budget resolution to read:

"Now, therefore, be it resolved, there is hereby levied the tax levy amount approved by the Common Council of the City of Columbus in the amount of ~~\$4,656,416.00~~ \$4,498,574.00 on all taxable property within the City of Columbus as returned by the City assessor in the year 2025, for the used and purposed as set forth in the attached budgets and for Tax Incremental Districts #4, #5, #6 and #7 in the amount of ~~\$571,323.00~~ \$563,362.00, and..."

Alderperson Meier commented that it was great we were able to keep the Merit Pay in the budget and asked if the Police Department wage updates were also kept in. Amundson replied that they

were, and it is a substantial investment in the city that is already seeing tangible results with recruitment. In response to Alderperson Rostad's questions regarding the Cemetery Fund, Amundson shared that there will be a future Council/Cemetery Board Workshop.

Motion carried on a 6-0 Roll Call vote.

4. Consider and take action on the Appointment of Randall Myrum as Utility Director (UC 10/30/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to approve the appointment of Randall Myrum as Utility Director.

Alderperson Rostad asked when the tentative start date will be. Amundson shared it will be November 10, 2025.

Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

5. Consider and take action on Claims in the amount of \$166,173.78:

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Lawson to approve payment of the Claims in the amount of \$166,173.78. Motion carried on a 6-0 Roll Call vote.

Report of City Officers – City Administrator, Mayor

Amundson thanked everyone involved in the budget process. It was a great experience. We ended up with a substantial pay increase to our Police officers and a 2.5% COLA increase across the board to our City staff, even with an 8.5% increase in Health insurance costs and have maintained all of our services.

Mayor Hammer thanked council members, but also Amundson, Riddle and Caine and other staff for the work put into the budget process. He also thanked everyone for the safe and fun Trick or Treating experience this year.

Adjourn

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to adjourn at 7:03pm. 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