



Common Council Public Hearing - Proposed 2026 Budget Minutes

Tuesday, November 04, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Mayor Hammer called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30pm. Council 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.

Notice of Open Meeting

Noted as posted.

Public Hearing on the Proposed 2026 Budget for the City of Columbus

1. Open Public Hearing:

Mayor Hammer opened the Public Hearing. Administrator Amundson shared the updated and final version of the 2026 City of Columbus budget. Changes have been made to the draft budget since it was previously published and posted on October 25, 2025. Amundson shared the specific changes made including the creation of a Recreation/Community Center Special Revenue Fund. In expenses, the Contingency Fund was reduced to \$437,158.21 and the Merit Pay was reduced to \$45,000. In addition, the 2026 W. School Street project was moved to Capital Projects. Overall, the updated budget will result in a General Fund tax levy in the amount of \$2,685,075.65.

Resident, Kelly Crombie spoke on behalf of the 2026 Budget, thanking the city and staff for continuing to offer the full services they do here in Columbus. No one else present spoke for or against the proposed 2026 Budget.

2. Close Public Hearing:

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to close the Public Hearing at 6:41pm. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Adjourn

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to adjourn at 6:41pm. 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