



Common Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 6:35 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Mayor Hammer called the meeting to order at 7:22pm. Members present included: Alderperson Molly Finkler, Mayor Joe Hammer, Alderperson Trina Reid, Council President Amy Roelke, and Alderperson Ryan Rostad. Alderperson Michael Lawson and Alderperson Sarah Motiff were 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 Finkler to approve the agenda with the removal of the Fred Dartt Day recognition. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Department Reports for File included Fire (02/2025), Library (02/2025), Police (02/2025) and Treasurer (01/2025).

Public Comment - None.

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the Consent Agenda which included: Special Committee of the Whole and Common Council Minutes from 02/27/2025; Special Committee of the Whole, Common Council and Committee of the Whole Minutes from 03/04/2025.

Ordinances – First Reading (Final action may be taken by a motion to suspend the rules and waive the readings under City of Columbus Ordinance Sec 2-46)

4. Ordinance No. 799-25: An Ordinance Concerning Committees, Commissions, and the Manner in which the City Council Conducts its Business:

Motion made by Alderperson Finkler, Seconded by Council President Roelke to suspend the rules. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Council President Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Finkler to waive the readings of Ordinance 799-25: An Ordinance Concerning Committees, Commission, and the Manner in which the City Council Conducts its Business. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Council President Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Finkler to adopt Ordinance 799-25: An Ordinance Concerning Committees, Commission, and the Manner in which the City Council Conducts its Business pending final review by the City Attorney. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

New Business

5. Consider and take action regarding the Purchase Agreement for 1149 W James Street:

Motion made by Council President Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Finkler to approve the Purchase Agreement for 1149 W. James Street. Motion carried on a 3-1 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Alderperson Finkler, Council President Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad. Voting Nay: Alderperson Reid.

6. Consider and take action on award of the Zoning and Subdivision Rewrite RFP to Vandewalle & Associates not to exceed the amount of \$129,090:

Motion made by Alderperson Finkler, Seconded by Council President Roelke to award the Zoning and Subdivision rewrite to Vandewalle & Associates not to exceed the amount of \$129,090. Motion carried on a 4-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Alderperson Finkler, Alderperson Reid, Council President Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

7. Consider and take action on Parking Reduction Request for Cardinal Heights– Lamps Landing:

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Council President Roelke to approve the parking restriction, a reduction request by Cardinal Heights. Motion carried on a 3-1 voice vote with Alderpersons Rostad, Finkler, and Roelke voting Yea, and Alderperson Reid voting Nay.

8. Consider and take action on Task Order 2025-02 with Ruckert Mielke for construction assistance associated with the Fireman's Park stormwater project in the amount of \$51,000 (CoW 3/18/25):

Motion made by Council President Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Finkler to approve Task Order 2025-02 with Ruckert Mielke for Construction Assistance associated with the Fireman's Park Stormwater Project in the amount of \$51,000. Alderperson Rostad asked for clarification of the start date noting the City's 4th of July Celebration. Motion carried on a 4-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Alderperson Finkler, Alderperson Reid, Council President Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

9. Consider and take action on Task Order 2025-03 with Ruckert Mielke for construction services related to the 2025 Street & Utility Improvement project (Brookside Lane) in the amount of \$83,220 (CoW 3/18/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Finkler, Seconded by Council President Roelke to approve Task Order 2025-03 with Ruckert Mielke for construction services related to the 2025 Street & Utility Improvement project (Brookside Lane) in the amount of \$83,220. Motion carried on a 4-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Alderperson Finkler, Alderperson Reid, Council President Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

10. Consider and take action on award of quote to Quality Electric in the amount of \$8,700 to replace furnaces at the Fire Department (CoW 3/18/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to approve the purchase of furnaces for the Fire Department from TAS HVAC, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$10,400. Motion carried on a 4-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Alderperson Finkler, Alderperson Reid, Council President Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

11. Consider and take action on Public Works Director job description (CoW 3/4/25):

Amundson reminded that this item was discussed at the March 4, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion made by Alderperson Finkler, Seconded by Council President Roelke to approve the Public Works Director job description. Alder Rostad asked Amundson if there was an accepted offer. Amundson replied yes, with a April 7, 2025 start date. Motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

12. Consider and take action on authorizing an additional Maintenance II staff position for Public Works (CoW 3/18/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Finkler to hire an additional Maintenance II staff position at the Public Works Department. Motion carried on a 4-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Alderperson Finkler, Alderperson Reid, Council President Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

13. Consider & take action on claims in the amount of \$569,636.85:

Motion made by Council President Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to pay the Claims in the amount of \$569,636.85. Motion carried on a 4-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Alderperson Finkler, Alderperson Reid, Council President Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

Report of City Officers – City Administrator, Mayor

Amundson shared that a Staff Retreat was held on March 13, 2025. The focus was on the implementation of the Strategic Plan. The next step will be putting the discussed data into the work plan. There will be a Council Retreat on June 24th which will be an all day event. Details will be shared at a later date.

Mayor Hammer thanked the City staff for all they continue to do. The upcoming Spring and Summer are going to be busy in the city. He addressed the use of Facebook by others. We, as council, direct our Police Officers to do a job and they are doing their job. We have good people working for our city and we need to be supportive of them.

Convene to Closed Session

Convene to closed session pursuant to § 19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, specifically the annual performance review of City Administrator.

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Finkler to go into Closed Session at 7:41pm. Motion carried on a 4-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Alderperson Finkler, Alderperson Reid, Council President Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

Reconvene to Open Session

Motion made by Alderperson Finkler, Seconded by Council President Roelke to reconvene to Open Session at 8:22pm. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote. No action followed.

Adjourn

Motion made by Alderperson Finkler, Seconded by Council President Roelke to adjourn at 8:22pm. 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.