

COMMON COUNCIL
 CAL BRAND MEETING ROOM
 CITY HALL and WEBEX
 DECEMBER 18, 2023

Mayor James Lienhoop appeared in person and called a regular meeting of the City Common Council to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the Cal Brand Meeting room.

I. Meeting Called to Order

- A. Josh Burnett provided the opening prayer.
- B. Mayor Lienhoop led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Roll Call was taken: Jerone Wood, David Bush, Frank Miller, Tim Shuffett, Tom Dell, and Grace Kestler were present in person. Elaine Hilber was present via WebEx.
- D. Councilor Miller made a motion to approve the Special Joint Meeting minutes between Columbus City Council and Columbus Redevelopment Commission of November 14, 2023, as presented. Councilor Shuffett seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Jerone Wood	Aye
Elaine Hilber	Aye
David Bush	Aye
Frank Miller	Aye
Tim Shuffett	Aye
Tom Dell	Aye
Grace Kestler	Aye

Motion passed by a vote of seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

Councilor Shuffett made a motion to approve the minutes from the Common Council meeting on December 5, 2023, as presented. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Elaine Hilber	Aye
David Bush	Aye
Frank Miller	Aye
Tim Shuffett	Aye
Tom Dell	Aye
Grace Kestler	Aye
Jerone Wood	Aye

Motion passed by a vote of seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

Councilor Kestler made a motion to suspend the rules of order to hear item A under New Business prior to Old Business. Councilor Shuffett seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

David Bush	Aye
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Frank Miller	Aye
Tim Shuffett	Aye
Tom Dell	Aye
Grace Kestler	Aye
Jerone Wood	Aye
Elaine Hilber	Aye

Motion to amend the agenda passed by a vote of seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

II. Old Business Requiring Council Action

- A. Confirmation of an Ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE NO. 27, 2023, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COLUMBUS & BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS." Jeff Bergman, Planning Director, presented this ordinance. He stated this is a continuation of the previous discussion of the proposed zoning ordinance. Jeff explained the process for the Columbus Plan Commission is to have an opportunity to approve or disapprove the changes made by City Council. The Plan Commission passed a resolution disapproving amendments to the Commercial Solar Energy System (CSES) provisions in the recommended ordinance revisions of the prohibition on the portion of solar facilities that serves to connect the area of solar arrays with the transmission line through which the electricity generated is added to the electric grid. Jeff stated the Plan Commission is recommending that the "gen-tie" or "feeder-line" be a conditional use. He indicated the Plan Commission forwarded this recommendation to the City Council by a vote of eight (8) in favor and one (1) opposed. Much discussion followed. Mayor Lienhoop opened the meeting for public comments. Barry Kastner, 660 Terrace Lake Road, spoke on behalf of Energy Matters Community Coalition. He stated Energy Matters urges Council to be fully welcoming and accommodating to global energy investments in our community. Kenny Ventura, 42 Hege Avenue, indicated human rights deserves energy that is renewable. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to accept the ordinance as presented by the Columbus Plan Commission with amendments. Councilor Bush seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Jerone Wood	Aye
Elaine Hilber	Aye
David Bush	Aye
Frank Miller	Aye
Tim Shuffett	Aye
Tom Dell	Nay
Grace Kestler	Aye

Motion passed by a vote of six (6) in favor and one (1) opposed.

- B. Second Reading of an Ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE NO. 35, 2023, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA, AUTHORIZING A DIRECT LOAN TO THE DEVELOPER OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FACILITY (6TH & WASHINGTON PROJECT) AND APPROVING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH." Heather Pope, Redevelopment Director, presented this ordinance. She introduced Adam Steuerwald

with Barnes & Thornburg, Jim Schacht with Cummins Inc., Kyle Hendricks, Vice President of the Redevelopment Commission, and Deron Kintner with Flaherty & Collins. Heather stated this is a second reading requesting a forgivable loan to Flaherty & Collins in the amount of \$5.8 million for an economic development mixed-use development project at the corner of 6th and Washington Street. Adam Steuerwald spoke briefly about tax requirements of Flaherty & Collins. Discussion followed. Mayor Lienhoop opened the meeting for public comments. Mike Kirsh, 9805 Raintree Drive, suggested the city pay for the entire project, giving the city a better rate of return for the funds. Sondra Bolte, 3423 Westenedge Drive, urged the Council to deny the high-end living space until the community can get people housed who are living on the streets. Kenny Ventura stated if people on the street want a better life for themselves, they must have the desire to change. Sara Kilbarger- Stumpff, 1466 Grand Avenue, asked Council to deny the approval. She stated local government is one of the biggest barriers to affordable housing in Columbus. Beth Stroh, 628 Lafayette Avenue, owner of View Point Bookstore on Washington Street, supports downtown development; however, the construction project of the massive structure will undoubtedly bring enormous challenges. Terese Nabaldi, downtown resident, expressed disappointment in the Council for not listening to the public's concerns on this project. She referred to the city's Envision Columbus plan document. Chris Rutan, 325 McClure Road, stated public opinions are not being considered and its Council's responsibility to recognize that there is a homeless problem. Discussion followed. Tracy De Martinez, 3465 Riverside Drive, spoke in opposition to this project. Ed Curtin, 193 E 925 N, stated the return of investment for the city is significant. Lee Shipman, 1043 Lapwing Drive, feels Council should listen to public opinions and any vote should reflect the vote of their constituents. Eric Riddle, 2204 Home Avenue, agrees with economic growth and the need for more people living downtown; however, he feels the housing project should include a mix of price points. Mayor Lienhoop closed the meeting for public comment. Councilor Dell made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the ordinance as presented. Councilor Bush seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Jerone Wood	Nay
Elaine Hilber	Abstain
David Bush	Aye
Frank Miller	Aye
Tim Shuffett	Aye
Tom Dell	Aye
Grace Kestler	Nay

Motion passed by a vote of four (4) in favor, two (2) opposed, and one (1) abstaining.

III. New Business Requiring Council Action

Reading of a Resolution entitled, "RESOLUTION NO. 21, 2023, A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN CATEGORIES IN AVIATION NON-REVERTING FUND FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2023." Brian Payne, Airport Director, presented this resolution. He explained the request is for a transfer of

\$100 for self fueling sales tax. There were no comments from the audience. Councilor Miller made a motion to pass the resolution. Councilor Kester seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Frank Miller	Aye
Tim Shuffett	Aye
Tom Dell	Aye
Grace Kestler	Aye
Jerone Wood	Aye
Elaine Hilber	Aye
David Bush	Aye

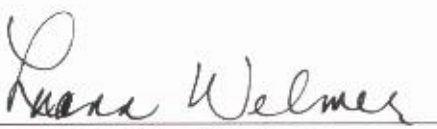
Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

IV. Other Business

- A. Standing Committee and Liaison Reports
- B. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 2, 2024, 6:00 p.m.**
- C. Councilor Bush made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Shuffett seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Jerone Wood	Aye
Elaine Hilber	Aye
David Bush	Aye
Frank Miller	Aye
Tim Shuffett	Aye
Tom Dell	Aye
Grace Kestler	Aye

Motion passed by a vote of seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:07 P.M.


 Clerk of the City of Columbus


 Presiding Officer