

COMMON COUNCIL  
 CAL BRAND MEETING ROOM  
 CITY HALL  
 APRIL 1, 2025

City Council President Frank Miller 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. Councilor Josh Burnett introduced Larry Perkinson from Sandcreek Azalia Friends Church, who provided the invocation.
- B. Councilor Josh Burnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Roll Call was taken: Chris Bartels, Elaine Hilber, Jerone Wood, Kent Anderson, Frank Miller, Jay Foyst, Josh Burnett, Tom Dell, and Grace Kestler were present in person.
- D. Councilor Foyst made a motion to approve the minutes from the Common Council meeting on March 18, 2025, as presented. Councilor Hilber seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of nine (9) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

**II. Old Business Requiring Council Action**

- A. None

**III. New Business Requiring Council Action**

- A. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 4, 2025, A RESOLUTION APPROVING A DEDUCTION FOR TAX ABATEMENT IN A PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE 6-1.1-12.1, ET. SEQ. AND AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMON COUNCIL TO EXECUTE THE STATEMENT OF BENEFITS FORM." Paul Smith, Assistant Director of Community Development, presented this Resolution. He explained that Toyota Material Handling was requesting a real property tax abatement on a ten year, \$8,700,000 investment to expand their current facility, located at 5620 S 175 W, by approximately 60,000 square feet. As a result of this investment, 1,770 jobs will be retained and six new permanent jobs will be created by 2028 with an expected blended wage of \$50.07/hour. Paul introduced Josh Linnemann, Vice President of Engineering at Toyota Material Handling, to answer questions about the expansion. Josh said that Plant 4 is where the company tests many of their electric vehicles. Expanding the plant would allow the company to speed production due to the ability to test products year-round and avoid outdoor testing in inclement weather. Councilor Dell stated that the Columbus Redevelopment Commission found Toyota Material Handling's application for a tax abatement to be in substantial compliance. Councilor Miller opened the meeting for public comments. Mayor Mary Ferdon stated that Toyota Material Handling is an amazing public and private partner to the community, with many employees living and volunteering in Columbus. Jason Hester, President of Greater Columbus Indiana Economic Development, stated they are pleased with the expansion. Councilor Miller closed the meeting to public comments. Councilor Hilber

made a motion to pass the Resolution. Councilor Burnett seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Frank Miller	Aye
Kent Anderson	Aye
Jerone Wood	Aye
Elaine Hilber	Aye
Chris Bartels	Aye
Grace Kestler	Aye
Tom Dell	Aye
Josh Burnett	Aye
Jay Foyst	Aye

Motion passed by a vote of nine (9) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

**IV. Other Business**

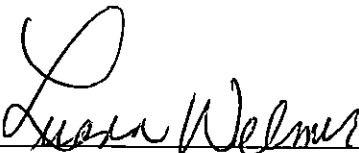
- A. Update on the homelessness initiative – Mark Stewart, President of United Way of Bartholomew County, and Kathy King, Director of Impact for United Way of Bartholomew County, provided a detailed update on the homelessness initiative.
- B. Standing Committee or Liaison Reports – Councilor Dell reported the Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) has a scheduled Open House on Tuesday, April 8 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the Cal Brand meeting room.

Councilor Kester stated the next Columbus Downtown 2030 Open House is scheduled for April 17 at The Commons, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Councilor Anderson reported the Columbus Armory is being rebuilt, which is great news for our city.

- C. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**
- D. Councilor Hilber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of nine (9) in favor and zero (0) opposed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:52 p.m.

  
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Presiding Officer

  
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Clerk of the City of Columbus