

COMMON COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL
APRIL 15, 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 Council Chambers.

I. Meeting Called to Order

- A. Councilor Josh Burnett introduced John Bundick who provided the invocation.
- B. Councilor Josh Burnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Roll Call was taken: Chris Bartels, Elaine Hilber, Kent Anderson, Frank Miller, Jay Foyst, Josh Burnett, Tom Dell, and Grace Kestler were present in person. Jerone Wood was absent.
- D. Councilor Hilber made a motion to approve the minutes from the Common Council meeting on April 1, 2025, as presented. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

Councilor Miller made a motion to suspend the rules of order to hear Item A under New Business prior to Old Business. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion to suspend the rules of order. Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

II. Old Business Requiring Council Action

- A. Reading of a Resolution entitled “RESOLUTION NO. 6, 2025, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FISCAL PLAN FOR PROPERTY TO BE ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA.” (Darrell & Melanie Nichols Annexation) Jeff Bergman, Planning Director, presented this Resolution and the following Ordinance (Item B) at the same time. Jeff stated the property in question is a lot that is little more than an acre in size. The zoning for the property would remain RS2 (single-family residential). The applicants are seeking annexation because they would like to build a home on the property, and would like to connect to the City sewer and water services. He displayed maps of the area. Jeff said that the Columbus Plan Commission forwarded the application to City Council with a favorable recommendation by a unanimous vote. Brief discussion followed. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the Resolution as presented. Councilor Burnett seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Frank Miller	Aye
Kent Anderson	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 eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

- B. Second reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 7, 2025, AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING AND DECLARING CERTAIN TERRITORY TO BE A PART OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA." (Darrell & Melanie Nichols Annexation) Jeff Bergman provided no additional information. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the Ordinance. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Frank Miller	Aye
Kent Anderson	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 eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

III. New Business Requiring Council Action

- A. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 5, 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 COMMON COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE THE STATEMENT OF BENEFITS FORMS." (Cummins Inc.) Paul Smith, Assistant Director of Community Development, presented this Resolution. He introduced Rob Jones, GTO Test Technology Project Leader for the building expansion, and Tim McClean, Director of Operations and Associate Project Leader, both with Cummins Inc. Paul explained Cummins Inc. is requesting a real property tax abatement for a \$50 million investment in expanding their existing Olympic (OLY) facility located at 3540 W 450 S in Columbus. Paul stated they are also requesting a \$20 million personal property tax abatement for new advanced testing equipment at their production facility at Woodside Industrial Park. As a result of this investment, 41 jobs will be retained and seven new permanent jobs will be created. Rob Jones and Tim McClean presented City Council with a Cummins Olympic Expansion Project handout, which provided details regarding the development and new equipment. Brief discussion followed. Councilor Dell stated the Incentive Review Committee met prior to the meeting and found that Cummins Inc. paperwork, with a slight modification, is in complete compliance. Councilor Miller opened the meeting for public comments. Brad Davis with *The Republic* asked about the 10½-acre property that was recently purchased. Tim stated the property was purchased in 2019 and there are no specific plans for the property at this point. Keri Sinibaldi asked about the creation of new jobs. Rob explained seven new jobs would be added as part of this investment. President Miller closed the meeting for public comment. Councilor Dell made a motion to accept, with a minor modification to the timing of the seven new employees from 2025 to 2026 on SB1 Exhibit A and Exhibit B. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Frank Miller	Aye
Kent Anderson	Aye
Elaine Hilber	Abstain
Chris Bartels	Aye
Grace Kestler	Aye

Tom Dell	Aye
Josh Burnett	Aye
Jay Foyst	Aye

Motion to amend passed seven (7) in favor, zero (0) opposed, and one (1) abstaining vote. Councilor Dell made a motion to pass the amended Resolution as presented. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed seven (7) in favor, zero (0) opposed, and one (1) abstaining vote.

- C. First reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. ____, 2025, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA, TO REPEAL AND REPLACE COLUMBUS STREET CUT ORDINANCE NO. 08-28." Andrew Beckort, City Engineer, presented this Ordinance. He explained the original Ordinance is outdated and there are several items that need addressed. Andrew stated the proposed Ordinance is modeled from several other communities and has been reviewed by local plumbers and local utility companies. He detailed many of the key issues. Discussion followed. President Miller opened the meeting for public comments. Brad Davis with *The Republic* asked what benchmark cities were used. Andrew stated the benchmark cities were Franklin, Greenwood, and Carmel. President Miller closed the meeting for public comment. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the first reading of the Ordinance and place in proper channels. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Frank Miller	Aye
Kent Anderson	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 eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

- D. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 7, 2025, A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF COLUMBUS REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO EXPEND FUNDS OVER \$500,000 FOR THE DEAYER ROAD SANITARY SEWER LINE PROJECT LOCATED IN THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION AREA." Heather Pope, Redevelopment Director, presented this Resolution. She explained the request is to spend over \$500,000 from the Central Allocation Area. Heather stated on March 24, 2025, the Redevelopment Commission held a public hearing and voted unanimously to engage the services of Bowen Engineering Corporation to install the new sanitary sewer line along Deaver Road to the new (currently under construction) Toyota Material Handling's 295,000 sq. ft. facility at the intersection of Deaver Road and CR 225. The cost of the project is an amount not to

exceed \$3,791,431.00. She indicated this is a partnership between the Engineering Department, Columbus City Utilities, and the Redevelopment Commission. Brief discussion followed. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Dell made a motion to pass the Resolution as presented. Councilor Hilber seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Frank Miller	Aye
Kent Anderson	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 eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

IV. Other Business


- A. Standing Committee and Liaison Reports – Councilor Kestler reported the Columbus Downtown 2030 Open House is scheduled for April 17 at The Commons, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

President Miller stated the Bartholomew County Solid Waste Management District is celebrating Earth Day on April 25, 2025, at the Recycling Center, 720 S. Mapleton Street.

- B. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**
- C. Councilor Hilber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:43 p.m.



Presiding Officer



Clerk of the City of Columbus