

COMMON COUNCIL
 COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 CITY HALL
 DECEMBER 2, 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 Grace Kestler provided the invocation.
- B. Councilor Grace Kestler led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Roll Call was taken: Elaine Hilber, Jerone Wood, Kent Anderson, Frank Miller, Jay Foyst, Tom Dell, and Grace Kestler were present in person. Josh Burnett was present via WebEx. Chris Bartels was absent. A Quorum was established and the Policy for Electronic Participation was followed.
- D. Councilor Foyst made a motion to approve the minutes from the Common Council meeting on November 28, 2025, as presented. Councilor Hilber seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

II. Old Business Requiring Council Action

- A. Second reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 36, 2025, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND – CITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025." Regina McIntyre, Controller, presented this Ordinance. She explained that the Department of Public Works is requesting an additional appropriation of \$25,000 for vehicle parts and repair supplies. Brief discussion followed. 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:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

- B. Second reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 37, 2025, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND – ANIMAL CARE DEPARTMENT FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025." Regina McIntyre presented this Ordinance. She stated this Animal Care request is for an additional appropriation of \$11,150 for HVAC repairs and maintenance. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Foyst made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the Ordinance. Councilor Dell seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

- C. Second reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 38, 2025, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND – ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025." Regina McIntyre presented this Ordinance. She explained that the Administration Department is requesting an additional appropriation of \$15,420 for a calculation error from the 2025 budget. Brief discussion followed. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the Ordinance. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

- D. Second reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 39, 2025, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND – CITY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025." Regina McIntyre presented this Ordinance. She reported that City Hall Maintenance is requesting an additional appropriation of \$2,020 for overtime pay. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Kestler made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the Ordinance. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

- E. Second reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 40, 2025, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE THOROUGHFARE FUND FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025." Regina McIntyre presented this Ordinance. She explained Engineering is requesting an additional appropriation of \$1,500,000 for thoroughfare expenses related to the FTA Flex Fund projects. Discussion followed. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the Ordinance. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

III. New Business

- A. First reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. ___, 202_, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA, REZONING THE SUBJECT PROPERTY FROM RM (RESIDENTIAL: MULTI-FAMILY) TO CO (COMMERCIAL: PROFESSIONAL OFFICE)." (National Road Professional Plaza Rezoning) Jeff Bergman, Planning Director, presented this Ordinance. He explained the National Road Professional Plaza includes two parcels – one of 1.5 acres at the immediate northwest corner of National Road and Sycamore Court that contains office buildings, and one of 0.28 acres further north along Sycamore Court that contains a small parking lot. Jeff stated the smaller lot is zoned RM (Residential: Multi Family). The National Road Professional Plaza Owners Association is proposing to rezone the smaller lot to CO (Commercial: Professional Office) to match the zoning of the other parcel. Jeff displayed maps and photographs of the area. He reported the Columbus Plan Commission forwarded the application to City Council with a favorable recommendation by a vote of 7 in favor and 0 opposed. Brief discussion followed. A representative from the National Road Professional Plaza Owners Association stated they are trying to have the rezoning match both parcels. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the first reading and place in proper channels. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

B. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 18, 2025, A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF COLUMBUS REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO GRANT FUNDS IN EXCESS OF \$500,000 TO BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING IGRAD, S.T.E.M. AND TRANSITION PLANNING FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2025/2026." Heather Pope, Redevelopment Director, presented this Resolution. She introduced Dr. Chad Phillips, Superintendent of Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation (BCSC), and Dr. Brett Boezeman, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations. Heather stated the request is to award a \$1,000,000.00 grant to BCSC for Workforce Development Funding from the Redevelopment Commission. Dr. Phillips provided information regarding iGrad, Transition Planning, S.T.E.M., and Information Technology Pathway through Ivy Tech within CSA New Tech. Much discussion followed. Councilor Wood recused himself from voting as he is an employee of BCSC. Further discussion followed. President Miller opened the meeting for public comments. Brad Davis from *The Republic* questioned the parameters for the workforce grant. Heather responded. President Miller closed the public portion of the meeting. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the Resolution as presented. Councilor Dell seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

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

C. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 19, 2025, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING BUDGETED APPROPRIATIONS FROM GENERAL FUND – INFORMATION SERVICES MISC PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO GENERAL FUND – INFORMATION SERVICES OFFICE OTHER." Regina McIntyre presented this Resolution. She explained this is a request to move already appropriated funds from category 3 (professional services and other charges) to category 2 (supplies) for the Information Services Department. Regina stated the funds are for additional office furniture for staff. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the the Resolution. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

D. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 20, 2025, RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS ADOPTING A CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT." Jeff Rocker, Legal Counsel for City Council, and Alex Whitted, City Attorney, both presented this Resolution. President Miller discussed the need to

update the Resolution. Jeff explained that the Resolution captures the modernization of the code of ethical conduct to bring it in line with class 2 city. He stated the goal was to improve clarity, add definitions, eliminate redundancy, and align it with the change in times, etc. Jeff indicated they wanted to strengthen the result of this body towards avoiding conflict of interest. Alex explained they worked on tightening up the processes within the Resolution. He stated they wanted to make sure it was consistent with Indiana law and consistent with best practices. Much discussion followed. *Councilor Burnett arrived in person at the meeting at approximately 6:53 p.m.* President Miller opened the meeting for public comments. Brad Davis with *The Republic* asked if there was a tangible enforcement mechanism to make sure people abide by the requirements. Jeff Rocker and Arlette Cooper-Tinsley both responded. Discussion followed. Cole Bennett of Columbus questioned section 50 on page 6 regarding employment restrictions. He asked for some examples of this. Alex addressed this question. Keri Sinibaldi asked questions about sections 90 and 100. Jeff and Alex both responded. President Miller closed the meeting for public comments. Much discussion followed. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the Resolution as presented. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

IV. Other Business

- A. President Miller reported that he received one request to address the Council from Tyler Spray; however, he was not present at the meeting.
- B. Standing Committee and Liaison Reports - Councilor Kestler announced several December events: December 6, 2025, the Festival of Lights Parade, December 5, 2025, the Historical Society is hosting a home Christmas tour, and December 4, 2025, Not So Silent Night event.
- C. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.**
- D. Councilor Hilber made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Burnett seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.



Presiding Officer



Clerk of the City of Columbus