

COMMON COUNCIL  
 COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
 CITY HALL  
 APRIL 21, 2026

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 Jay Foyst introduced Pastor Luke Maggard with Columbus Free Methodist Church, who provided the invocation.
- B. Councilor Jay Foyst led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Roll Call was taken: Chris Bartels, Elaine Hilber, Frank Miller, Jay Foyst, Josh Burnett, Tom Dell, and Grace Kestler were present in person. Kent Anderson was present via Webex. Jerone Wood 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 April 7, 2026, as presented. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Chris Bartels	Aye
Elaine Hilber	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**

- A. Second reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 9, 2026, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA, REZONING THE SUBJECT PROPERTY FROM PUD (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT) TO RMc (RESIDENTIAL: MULTI-FAMILY WITH COMMITMENTS)." (Volunteers of America/Hutchins Crossing Rezoning) Jeff Bergman, Planning Director, presented this Ordinance. He explained that the applicant, Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana, proposes to rezone 0.61 acres at the southwest corner of the intersection of Hutchins Avenue and 14<sup>th</sup> Street to RMc (Residential: Multi-Family with commitments). Jeff stated the applicants have indicated their intent to develop the property as a small apartment building for low-income residents. He displayed maps and pictures of the area. Jeff stated the Columbus Plan Commission forwarded the applications to City Council with a favorable recommendation by a vote of ten (10) in favor and zero (0) opposed. Chloe Engleking with Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana was present for any questions. President Miller opened the meeting for public comment. Paul Hoffman, 2214 Chandler Lane, expressed excitement about the project and discussed how proud he was of his church and the housing committee to make this housing development happen. President Miller closed the meeting for public comment. Councilor Hilber made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the Ordinance. Councilor Kestler seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Chris Bartels	Aye
Elaine Hilber	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. 10, 2026, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA, TO AUTHORIZE AND REGULATE THE USE OF GOLF CARTS AND UTILITY TASK VEHICLES (UTVs)." Austin Whitted, City Attorney, and Deputy Chief Matt Martindale presented this Ordinance. Austin explained that four (4) changes had been proposed to the Ordinance. He stated the modifications include adding a definition for low speed vehicle and information regarding low speed vehicles which are already authorized to be on roads. Deputy Chief Martindale discussed a modification that seatbelts for all occupants must be properly fastened about the occupant's body at all times when the vehicle is in motion. He also stated a proposed modification includes establishing an effective date for full force and effect of June 1, 2026. Much discussion followed. President Miller opened the meeting for public comment. Larry Warford, 5104 Sanibel Drive, has researched several municipalities and none of them omit registration of the vehicle. He believes the Ordinance falls short of adequate regulation and recommends not passing the Ordinance in its current form. Jim Skalaki, 5113 Delray Drive, asked how this will be enforced and recommended requiring registration. Kerri Sinibaldi, 524 10<sup>th</sup> Street, stated golf carts don't belong on streets, she believes not registering them poses a problem because there is no verification that all the safety features are in place. She suggested not passing the Ordinance. Scott Adams (address inaudible) spoke in favor of golf carts on city streets. Larry Thomas, 5028 Imperial Drive, expressed if golf carts are going to be allowed on the streets they should also be allowed on the people trails. He stated golf carts should be allowed on trails according to ADA guidelines for people with disabilities. President Miller closed the meeting for public comment. Much discussion followed. Councilor Hilber made a motion to amend the Ordinance to include the four (4) changes as proposed. President Miller seconded the motion to amend the Ordinance. Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion to amend passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed. Councilor Dell made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the Ordinance as presented. Councilor Hilber seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Chris Bartels	Aye
Elaine Hilber	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.

### III. New Business

- A. First reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_, 2026, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA, TO REPEAL AND REPLACE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE NO. 50-2024." Andrew Beckort, City Engineer, presented this Ordinance. He explained the request for stormwater management is mostly due to State legislature with House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1037 which rolled back some of the stormwater regulations for the State. Andrew stated some of the key changes include that the City can no longer regulate construction sites less than one acre with a stormwater permit, the City can no longer require financial guarantees or performance bonds as a condition of permit approval, and the bill added some language to help address erosion control or stormwater issue on sites less than an acre. He indicated that the Ordinance was also updated and clarified indemnification language to better define responsibilities and protect the City from unnecessary exposure. Andrew stated the proposed Ordinance helps comply with HEA 1037 and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) regulations for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program. Brief discussion followed. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Bartels made a motion to pass the first reading and place in proper channels. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

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

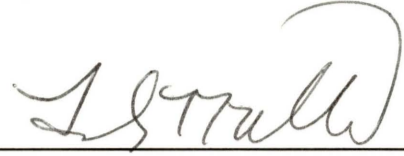
Motion passed by a vote of eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

### IV. Other Business

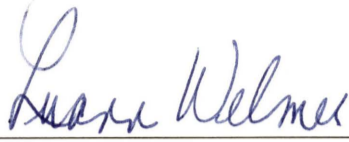
- A. Solid Waste Management District (SWMD) Annual Presentation- Heather Siesel, Director
- B. There were no Standing Committee or Liaison Reports
- C. The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 6, 2026, 6:00 p.m.**
- C. Councilor Dell made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Burnett seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows:

Chris Bartels	Aye
Elaine Hilber	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. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:17 p.m.



Presiding Officer



Clerk of the City of Columbus