



Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 01, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

President Finkler called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The following members were present: Mayor Joe Hammer, Council President Molly Finkler, Alderperson Rhonda Fuller, Alderperson Michael Lawson, Alderperson Trina Reid, Alderperson Amy Roelke, and Alderperson Ryan Rostad.

Notice of Open Meeting

Noted as posted.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the agenda. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment *(Public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Speakers must begin by stating their name and address for the record. To ensure that all individuals have an opportunity to be heard, the presiding officer may enforce the time limit and may call speakers to conclude their remarks when their time has expired.)*

The following people spoke regarding the items noted:

Sandy Curtis - 100 Brookside Lane - thanked the Council members and the city for continuing to work toward solutions for stormwater management in the city. She encouraged the council to proceed with securing a dedicated funding source for continued management of storm water in this community.

David Stira - 551 W. Harrison Street - appreciates the ongoing discussion of developing a policy for Flock cameras and their use within the the City of Columbus, especially as future staffing changes. He appreciates the fact that Chief Weiner has firm control currently.

New Business

1. Discussion regarding Pavilion rental noise concerns:

Administrator Amundson outlined the update on the previous discussion of noise concerns at the Pavilion held on August 18, 2026, meeting. He found that a decibel meter may not be the complete answer to decibel monitoring, but a sound limiter/noise controller at a cost of \$1,500, plus installation, might be a better option. It continuously monitors the sound level, cuts the power when the sound levels are too high based on a preset level, and is difficult to bypass. Amundson also shared a draft letter and contract to future renters in the packet for consideration.

After committee discussion the majority consensus was to require rentals end at 11:59pm, that noise is not plainly audible at least 100 feet from the pavilion at any time, and that failure to cease amplified sound by 11:30pm will result in forfeiture of 50% of the security deposit. More research is requested regarding decibel levels. Committee Members agreed to move forward to the September 1, 2026 Common Council meeting.

New Business, cont'd:

2. Discussion regarding Stormwater Utility Funding:

Amundson outlined the previous Committee of the Whole discussions regarding Stormwater Utility Funding dating back to May 7, 2024. Jason Leitha, City Engineer, gave a presentation to the Utility Commission on August 20, 2026. The Utility Commission is recommending based on a unanimous roll call vote, Funding Scenario #2 - Balanced Program and charge through the utility bills. The next step for the Council if they wish to proceed would be to repeal Ordinance 782-23. The Council would then need to adopt a resolution to establish the base rate and the start date for the imposition of the fee, and also provide direction for staff to work with Ruekert Mielke to develop the budget and fee structure for the stormwater utility. Leitha mentioned that the rate structure previously presented in 2021 would need to be checked, including the ERU, and a credit policy would need to be developed.

Aldersperson Rostad shared that if a stormwater fee will be collected, then the city should better enforce ordinances that affect the stormwater such as 'grass clippings in the roads.' Committee Members agreed to move forward to the September 1, 2026 Common Council Meeting.

3. Additional discussion on amending Chapter 98 of city ordinance to add and regulate e-bikes, e-scooters, EPAMD's (electric personal assistant mobility device) and similar vehicles:

Police Chief Weiner asked Committee Members for any additional thoughts or ideas regarding ages of riders, helmet use, education throughout the city and walking bicycles, e-bikes, and e-scooters in the downtown area and where those boundary lines should be in order to complete his final draft of the amended ordinance. The goal of this ordinance is to encourage the safe use of these vehicles.

Chief Weiner will take the feedback received into consideration in preparing the final draft copy to be presented at a future Common Council meeting.

4. Discussion regarding the award of bid to Thunder Road for 2026 street maintenance contract for Crack Seal:

Sam Bowman with Ruekert-Mielke shared the bid results for the 2026 Street Maintenance contract of Crack Sealing with members. Fahrner Asphalt submitted a bid for work to be completed in 2027, not 2026 as requested. Thunder Road LLC was the low and winning bid with a base bid of \$11,215, plus a mandatory alternate of \$6,160 for a total of \$17,375. Committee members agreed to move forward to the September 1, 2026 Common Council meeting.

5. Discussion regarding the award of bid to Struck and Irwin for 2026 street maintenance contract for Slurry Seal:

Sam Bowman with Ruekert-Mielke shared the bid results for the 2026 Street Maintenance contract for Slurry Sealing with members. Fahrner Asphalt submitted a bid for work to be completed in 2027, not 2026 as requested, therefore Struck & Irwin Paving, Inc. was the winning bidder with a base bid of \$54,125.85, plus a mandatory alternate of \$17,355.75 for a total of \$71,481.60.

Committee members agreed to move forward to the September 1, 2026 Common Council meeting.

Adjourn

Motion made by Aldersperson Rostad, Seconded by Aldersperson Roelke to adjourn at 7:59pm. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

*A quorum of city committees and/or commissions may be present at this meeting. No action will be taken or considered by those committees and/or commissions.