



Common Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 06, 2026 at 6:35 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Mayor Hammer called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Members present included: Mayor Joe Hammer, Alderperson Michael Lawson, Alderperson Marcus Meier, Alderperson Trina Reid, Alderperson Amy Roelke and Alderperson Ryan Rostad. Council President Molly Finkler was excused.

Pledge of Allegiance

Notice of Open Meeting

Noted as posted.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to approve the agenda with correction on Item #6 to be 47 feet, 37 feet. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

None.

Committee Minutes for File included: Hillside Cemetery (11/18/25), Library (10/21/25), (11/18/25), and PFC (11/06/25).

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to approve the Consent Agenda which included Special Common Council Meeting Minutes of 12/09/2025, Committee of the Whole and Common Council Meeting Minutes of 12/16/2025, and Mayoral Appointments of Jason Stapelmann to the Plan Commission replacing Andy Traxler with a term to expire in 2027, and Nate Anfinson to the Plan Commission replacing Steve Bright with a term to expire in 2026. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

New Business

4. Consider and take action regarding amendments to by-laws of the Community Development Authority (CDA 12/15/2025):

Community and Economic Development Director Mike Kornmann shared that the amendments are updating and clarifying the language in the CDA By-Laws. Previously, CDA was required to receive Council approval on expenditures over \$10,000. The request is to increase that amount to \$25,000, which is also the maximum amount CDA can award in the façade grant program. The term of member appointment was also changed to three years to be consistent with other committee terms.

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to approve the amendments of the CDA By-Laws as presented. After discussion motion failed on a 1-4 Roll Call vote with Alderperson Lawson voting Yea, and Alderpersons Rostad, Reid, Roelke and Meier voting Nay.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to approve the adjusted, amended CDA By-Laws with the exception of keeping the current expenditure of funds in excess of \$10,000 subject to review and approval by Council. Motion carried on a 5-0 Roll Call vote.

5. Consider and take action to allow the Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission (HLPC) to replace the front doors of the Rest Haven, update electrical, and add accessibility push button access. (HLPC10/22/25, HLPC11/19/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve replacement of the Rest Haven front doors, adding push button access, and updating electrical as needed in an amount with a cost of labor not to exceed \$25,000. Ruth Hermanson was present to share an overview of the requested improvements, with quotes, to Rest Haven by the HLPC. The HLPC has secured funding for this project. Motion carried on a 5-0 Roll Call vote.

6. Consider and take action regarding waiver of commercial driveway width at 333 Transit Road (CoW 01/06/26):

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the waiver of Commercial Driveway width at 333 Transit Road and allow a 47' driveway width. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

7. Consider and take action on Resolution 1-26: Intention to join the Statewide Public Safety Interoperable Communication System for Dodge County, Wisconsin Grant Program (CoW 01/06/26):

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to approve Resolution 1-26: Intention to Join the Statewide Public Safety Interoperable Communication System for Dodge County. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

8. Consider and take action on the Wage Study & Proposed Wage Scale (CoW 01/06/26):

Motion made by Alderperson Lawson, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to approve the Wage Scale as presented. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

9. Consider and take action on claims in the amount of \$450,296.22:

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to approve payment of the claims in the amount of \$450,296.22. Motion carried on a 5-0 Roll Call vote.

Report of City Officers – City Administrator, Mayor

Amundson shared that there is currently utility work happening at the corner of James Street and Ludington to repair a water main leak.

Mayor Hammer extended condolences to the family of Doug Caldwell. He was an active member of our community, and he will be missed.

Adjourn

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to adjourn at 8:04pm. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.