



Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 03, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Council President Finkler called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members present included: Mayor Joe Hammer, Council President Molly Finkler, Alderperson Michael Lawson, Alderperson Marcus Meier, Alderperson Trina Reid, Alderperson Amy Roelke, and Alderperson Ryan Rostad.

Notice of Open Meeting

Noted as posted.

Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comment

None.

New Business

1. Discuss and review revised job descriptions for the Police Clerk, Administrative Manager, and approve recruitment for a 30 hour per week Police Clerk:

Police Chief Weiner shared that due to the former Public Safety Clerk's resignation, the positions of Police Clerk and Administrative Manager were revised. The Public Safety Clerk was previously designed to work 8 hours with the Fire Department and 32 Hours with the Police Department. The Fire Department duties have been reassigned to Rachel Packard, the Administrative and Billing Clerk located in City Hall, therefore Chief Weiner is looking for approval to post an available 30-hour/week Police Clerk position. Alderperson Rostad asked if this is a benefited position. Weiner and Administrator Amundson shared that this position's benefits will be pro-rated. The Police Clerk will be under the supervision of the Police Lieutenants, while the Administrative Manager has been amended to reflect the removal of supervisory responsibilities over the Police Clerk. Committee Members agreed to move forward to the February 3, 2026 Common Council meeting.

2. Authorization to fill the vacant Maintenance II position at Public Works:

Amundson shared that due to a recent vacancy, he is requesting to post and fill the Maintenance II position at Public Works. After a brief discussion, members concurred that a posting should go out for both a Maintenance I and a Maintenance II position to increase the amount of experienced applicants to draw from. Committee Members agreed to move forward to the February 3, 2026 Common Council meeting.

3. Discussion regarding Task Order 2025-07 with Ruekert Mielke related to the 2025 Fireman's Park Culvert Removal:

Amundson shared that the 2025 Fireman's Park Culvert Removal is a completed project, however Ruekert-Mielke is requesting additional funds to cover the expense of their additional services required to successfully complete the Fireman's Park effort including updated hydraulic modeling,

the added ADA-compliant path located west of the the 2nd Ward Creek connecting to the high school, and the post-project FEMA Letter of Map Revision (LOMR). Mayor Hammer reminded everyone that this project came in substantially under budget originally. Members agreed to move forward to the February 3, 2026 Common Council meeting.

4. Discussion regarding Ordinance No. 812-26: To Repeal Sec. 2-286 of the City Code of Ordinances Concerning the Recreation Committee and Sec. 2-311 Concerning the Community Center Committee and Recreating Sec. 2-286 to Recreate the Recreation Committee:

Amundson shared that this ordinance is a follow up to a previous discussion at the December 2, 2025, Council Workshop. Basically, it eliminates the Community Center Committee and allows the Recreation Committee to have oversight for programming related to the Community Center and the Public Spaces Committee to be responsible for the facility. Mayor Hammer encouraged current Community Center Committee members to still attend meetings to share their ideas and concerns.

5. Discussion of date change of the April 7, 2026, Committee of the Whole and Common Council meetings due to the Spring Election:

Clerk Caine is requesting the April 7, 2026, Council meeting date be changed to Wednesday, April 8, 2026, due to the Spring Election. Committee Members agreed to move to the February 3, 2026 Council meeting.

Convene to Closed Session

6. Convene to closed session per section 19.85(1)(e), stats for deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, specifically to discuss a memorandum of understanding between the City of Columbus and Colwis LLC and Vita Plus Corporation.

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to convene into Closed Session at 6:50pm. Motion carried on a 7-0 Roll Call vote.

Reconvene to Open Session

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to reconvene into Open Session at 7:10pm. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Adjourn

Motion made by Alderperson Lawson, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to adjourn at 7:10pm. 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.

Respectfully Submitted by
Susan L. Caine, Clerk