



Common Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 02, 2025 at 6:35 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Mayor Hammer called the meeting to order at 7:32pm. 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.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Notice of Open Meeting

Noted as posted.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Council President Finkler to approve the agenda with the removal of Item #4: Consider and take action on ORD.810-25: An Ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Certain Provisions of Section 86-191 of the City Code of Ordinances Concerning Requirements for Driveways (CoW 09/02/25). Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

None.

Committee Minutes for File included minutes from CAAC (05/28/2025), CAAC (06/25/2025), CDA (06/16/2025), CDA (07/21/2025), CDA (08/18/2025), HLPC-Rest Haven Sub Comm. (06/23/2025), HLPC (06/25/2025), Plan Comm. (07/10/2025), Recreation (07/14/2025) and Tourism (06/30/2025).

Consent Agenda included minutes from Committee of the Whole, Common Council and Council Workshop of 08/19/25.

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Ordinances – First Reading (Final action may be taken by a motion to suspend the rules and waive the readings under City of Columbus Ordinance Sec 2-46)

3. Consider and take action on ORD.809-25: An Ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Sec. 114-95 of the City Code of Ordinances Concerning Outdoor Storage of Vehicles. (PC 08/14/25):

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to suspend the rules per Sec. 2-46. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Alderperson Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to waive the readings of Ordinance 809-25: An Ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Section 114-95 of the City Code of Ordinances Concerning Outdoor Storage of Vehicles per Sec. 2-46. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Alderperson Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to adopt Ordinance 809-25: An Ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Section 114-95 of the City Code of Ordinances Concerning

Outdoor Storage of Vehicles, with the change of the word "said" *vehicles* to "recreational" *vehicles*, and the addition of "motorhomes" to the listing of recreational vehicles in the *Recreational Vehicles* paragraph. Alderperson Lawson suggested removing #5 from the final copy as it is blank. Staff will make the clarifying changes to the final draft of Ordinance 809-25 before signing. Motion carried on a 5-1 voice vote, with Alderperson Rostad voting Nay.

4. Consider and take action on ORD.810-25: An Ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Certain Provisions of Section 86-191 of the City Code of Ordinances Concerning Requirements for Driveways. (CoW 09/02/25):

Item removed from agenda.

New Business

5. Consider and take action on approval of up to \$18,917.92 for the Community Development Authority's (CDA) Façade Grant for MP's Town Tap for tuckpointing (CDA 8/18/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the CDA Grant in the amount of up to \$18,917.92 for MP's Town Tap for tuckpointing. Alderperson Rostad asked to verify that \$18,917.92 was the remainder of available grant funds. Alders Lawson and Meier agreed that it was. Motion carried on a 6-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Council President Finkler, Alderperson Lawson, Alderperson Meier, Alderperson Reid, Alderperson Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

6. Consider and take action regarding a Conditional Use Permit for outdoor storage at 277 Industrial Drive - Core and Main (PC 8/14/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to approve the Conditional Use Permit for outdoor storage at 277 Industrial Drive (Core and Main) with conditions outlined by the Plan Commission that include: fencing completely enclosing the outdoor storage, storage materials not to exceed the height of the fence, a fence height not to exceed eight feet, and the permit remaining in effect as long as all conditions are met. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

7. Consider and take action to authorize City Administrator to approve the purchase of police equipment up to \$20,000 when LESO (Law Enforcement Support Office) funds are available for the purchase (CoW 8/19/25):

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to authorize the City Administrator approval of purchases of police equipment up to \$20,000 when LESO (Law Enforcement Support Office) funds are available for said purchases.

Alderperson Rostad asked for clarification between the \$20,000 vs. standard \$25,000 spending limit for the City Administrator. Amundson reminded all that LESO funds are not budgeted funds and the \$20,000 limit was agreed upon by Chief Weiner and Amundson.

Motion carried on a 5-1 Roll Call vote with Council President Finkler, Alderperson Lawson, Alderperson Reid, Alderperson Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad voting Yea, and Alderperson Meier voting Nay.

8. Consider and take action on an Encroachment Agreement between the City of Columbus and Keith and Andrea Loppnow (CoW 9/2/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Council President Finkler to approve the Encroachment Agreement between the City of Columbus and Keith and Andrea Loppnow for parcel number 11211-45.03. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

9. Consider and take action on approval of job description for Utility Director and authorization to fill vacancy (CoW 9/2/25):

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the job description for Utility Director and authorization for staff to fill the vacancy. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

10. Consider and take action on Claims in the amount of \$591,841.04:

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to approve and pay the claims in the amount of \$591,841.04. Motion carried on a 6-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Council President Finkler, Alderperson Lawson, Alderperson Meier, Alderperson Reid, Alderperson Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

Convene to Closed Session

11. Convene to Closed Session per § 19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investment of public funds, or conducting other public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, specifically to discuss proposals received for the design of the Public Safety Building:

Motion made by Alderperson Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to convene into Closed Session at 7:51pm. Motion carried on a 6-0 Roll Call vote. Voting Yea: Council President Finkler, Alderperson Lawson, Alderperson Meier, Alderperson Reid, Alderperson Roelke, and Alderperson Rostad.

Reconvene to Open Session

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Council President Finkler to reconvene into Open Session at 8:11pm. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

12. Consider and take action on the award of design services for the Public Safety building (CC 8/6/25):

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to direct city staff to work with Axiom Consultants on a contract for design services for the Public Safety Building. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Report of City Officers – City Administrator, Mayor

Amundson reminded everyone that now that school is back in session to be aware of pedestrians, school buses and yielding in crosswalks as we drive through the city.

Mayor Hammer publicly welcomed Collin Bjerke as our new Maintenance II employee at the Department of Public Works.

Adjourn

Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to adjourn at 8:13pm. 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