



Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 02, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Aldersperson Rhonda Fuller was sworn in by Clerk, Susan Caine before the meeting began. Council President Finkler called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The following members were present: Mayor Joe Hammer, Council President Molly Finkler, Aldersperson Rhonda Fuller, Aldersperson Michael Lawson, Aldersperson Trina Reid, Aldersperson Amy Roelke and Aldersperson Ryan Rostad.

Notice of Open Meeting

Noted as posted.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Aldersperson Rostad, Seconded by Aldersperson Roelke 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.)*

None.

New Business

1. Discussion Regarding Personal Property Tax Write Off:

Administrator Amundson shared these are unpaid, outstanding Personal Property taxes from local businesses, some of which date back to 2013. Staff has made attempts every year to collect them. The City Attorney has shared that the time and expense to proceed further with collections would exceed the amount due to the city. Going forward, Personal Property taxes are no longer assessed. Finance Director Riddle would like to have these items cleaned up within the accounting system before the transfer to the new platform in July occurs. Committee members agreed to move forward to the June 2, 2026 Common Council meeting.

2. Discussion regarding an amended job description for the position of Communications and Economic Development Coordinator/Deputy Zoning Administrator:

Community and Economics Director Mike Kornmann shared that during the performance review process it was discovered that David Bennett's job description needed to be updated to reflect the current duties of his position as Communications and Economic Development Coordinator / Deputy Zoning Administrator. Committee members agreed to move forward to the June 2, 2026 Common Council meeting.

3. Discussion regarding Ordinance change to eliminate the Columbus Area Aquatic Center Committee and assign its duties and responsibilities to the Recreation Committee:

Amundson shared that this ordinance change was originally discussed at a council workshop. The CAAC Committee has not met during this past year. Committee members agreed to move forward to the June 2, 2026 Common Council meeting.

4. Discussion to install a Fire Lane at Cardinal Heights for the FDC (Fire Department Connection) on the north side of the apartment building:

Chief Hazeltine shared that the new apartment building located at 125 O'Brien Court is on a sprinkler system and the Fire Department would like a fire lane in order to access the Fire Department Connection (FDC) located on the north side of the building for engine hook up. The FDC is a backup to the sprinkler system, allowing a fire engine to act as the fire pump for the system should the internal one fail. The new fire engine would require at least a 50' parking spot marked and reserved as a fire lane. Alderperson Rostad asked if there are any other businesses that should be addressed within the city. Hazeltine agreed that that should be looked into. Committee members agreed to move forward to the June 2, 2026 Common Council meeting.

5. Discussion regarding the Capital Improvement Program and priorities with available projected funds:

Amundson shared that the City has fully borrowed the funds needed to complete the West School Street project. We were later awarded a grant of approximately \$1,000,000 through the WI Department of Transportation Local Road Improvement Program for the West School Street project. Staff has been discussing how these funds could be used and Amundson shared a list of viable project ideas. Two projects stood out because they are less likely to be included in future capital planning based on past practices. These included Implementation of the Fireman's Park Master Plan and Incentivizing Development as a non TIF funding source, supporting needed infrastructure. Committee members discussed the options and agreed to continue the conversation, including City Engineer Leitha for consult, during the 2027 budget preparations.

Adjourn

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Lawson to adjourn at 7:06pm. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Submitted by Susan L. Caine, Clerk