Common Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 03, 2026 at 6:35 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Roll Call

Mayor Hammer called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. 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 Rostad, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to approve the agenda. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

None.

Committee Minutes for File included Library (12/16/25).

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to approve the Consent Agenda which included Committee of the Whole and Common Council Meeting Minutes of 01/20/2026, and Approval of Temporary Alcohol Beverage Licenses for Oddfellows Tri-County Lodge #40 for Odd Food Truck Fest and Craft Fair on 05/09/26, and the annual Oddtoberfest on 09/26/26, both to be held at the Fireman's Park Pavilion. 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)

4. **Consider and take action 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. (CoW 02/03/26):**

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

   Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to waive the readings. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

   Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke adopt Ordinance 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. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

New Business

5. **Consider and take action on the Merit Pay Policy (CoW 1/20/26):**

   Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to approve the City of Columbus Merit Pay Program. Alderperson Lawson questioned if Sec. 8.1 should align with Sec. 8.3 with the change of the verbiage regarding Lump-Sum Bonus in Sec. 8.1 to read "(*may be* used when pay is at/above range midpoint or to maintain internal equity)". Motion was amended by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to reflect the change. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

6. **Consider and take action on the revised job descriptions for the Police Clerk, Administrative Manager, and approve recruitment for a 30 hour per week Police Clerk. (CoW 02/03/26):**

   Motion made by Council President Finkler, Seconded by Alderperson Meier to approve the revised job descriptions for the Police Clerk, and Administrative Manager, and to also approve recruitment for a 30 hour per week Police Clerk. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

7. **Consider and take action regarding filling the vacant Maintenance II position at Public Works. (CoW 02/03/26):**

   Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Council President Finkler to fill the vacant Maintenance II position at Public Works by posting an ad for both a Maintenance I or a Maintenance II position. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

8. **Consider and take action regarding Task Order 2025-07 with Ruekert Mielke related to the 2025 Fireman's Park Culvert Removal in an amount not to exceed $35,800. (CoW 02/03/26):**

   Motion made by Alderperson Lawson, Seconded by Alderperson Roelke to approve Task Order 2025-07 with Ruekert-Mielke related to the 2025 Fireman's Park Culvert Removal in an amount not to exceed $35,800. Motion carried on a 6-0 Roll Call vote.

9. **Consider and take action on date change of the April 7, 2026, Committee of the Whole and Common Council meetings due to the Spring Election. (CoW 02/03/26):**

   Motion made by Alderperson Roelke, Seconded by Alderperson Reid to change the April 7, 2026 Council meeting date to Wednesday, April 8, 2026 due to the Spring Election. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

10. **Consider and take action on Claims in the amount of $354,238.28:**

    Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Council President Finkler to approve payment of the claims in the amount of $354,238.28. Motion carried on a 6-0 Roll Call vote.

Report of City Officers – City Administrator, Mayor

Amundson publicly thanked those that attended the Public Information meeting for the proposed Public Safety Building held on January 27th at the Columbus High School. Staff is planning with both the consultant team and the core team working on the project to provide an update at the February 17, 2026 Council meetings.

Mayor Hammer concurred and felt residents enjoyed having the session at the high school during basketball games so they could give their input. The 250th 4th of July and Summer Concert Series Committees are looking for volunteers to help plan this summer's festivities.

Adjourn

Motion made by Alderperson Meier, Seconded by Alderperson Rostad to adjourn at 7:23pm. 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