

COMMON COUNCIL

September 8, 2025

The Common Council of the City of Wabash met in the Council Chambers of the City Hall and held a council meeting on Monday, September 8, 2025, in regular session.

The meeting was called to order with Mayor Pro Tem John Burnsworth presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison; Robb Rensberger of Wabash Church of God gave the prayer. The roll was answered by 5 Council members: Mitzi Pilgrim, Eric Schoening, Bill Barrows, John Burnsworth, and Bryan Dillon. Terry Brewer and Charlie Coyne were absent.

The minutes of the meeting held August 25, 2025, were approved. Council Member Dillon made a motion to accept the minutes. Council Member Schoening seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Second Reading of General Ordinance No. 9, 2025 – An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Wabash, Indiana Amending the Zoning Ordinance and Making Changes to the Zone Map of the City of Wabash. This Ordinance changes the zoning of a 3.4 acre parcel at 1965 South Wabash Street from General Business to Heavy Industry. Schoening made a motion to approve the second reading of General Ordinance No. 9; Council Member Burnsworth seconded the motion. All present were in favor.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Resolution No. 12, 2025 – A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Wabash, Indiana Making Findings with Respect to the Statement of Benefits of Phillip and Kimberly Scott. Phillip Scott was present to answer questions and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to apply for a five-year property tax abatement from the Council for the home he is building on West Harrison Street. Dillon made a motion to approve Resolution No. 12; Burnsworth seconded the motion. All present were in favor.**
- 2. Appointment of a Committee to Review Request for Qualifications – This is the next step in the process of beginning a solar project to reduce electricity expenses for the wastewater plant and some other City buildings. Rick Anderson of Veregy was present to answer questions. The City sent out requests for qualifications to providers of this type of**

service. The only response we had was from Veregy and now we must appoint a three-person committee to ensure that all the required qualifications have been met by Veregy's response. Due to time constraints in place regarding additional benefits for the City, the plan is to have things ready for approval at the September 22 Council meeting. The three who have volunteered to be on the Qualifications committee are Eric Schoening, Mitzi Pilgrim, and Bill Barrows.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dillon asked if the City had been in contact with Republic Services about the public's trash pickup. He has heard complaints about skipped days and missed pickups. Maria Smyth, Receptionist, stated that she has spoken with the company many times over the last week or two and has learned that their troubles are due to internal issues, employee issues, and staff shortages. They are working through these issues and hope to be back on track soon.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

There were no questions from the audience.

REPORTS FROM LIAISONS:

Burnsworth reported that the fly-in at the airport is coming up September 13 to benefit Special Olympics. A car show, band, and plane rides will be available.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Fire Chief Oswalt reported that the City has signed an agreement with the Community Foundation to create a fund allowing incoming donations for the fire training facility to be run through their 501(c)(3). He also invited the Council to join the department for the annual 9-11 Stair Climb on Thursday from 6am to 6pm, climbing the equivalent of 110 floors with stair climbers.

Burnsworth also stated that the members of the fire and police departments were involved in today's "Float the River" event with area students.

Police Chief Mooney reported that two department members, Officer Dixon and Officer Ensor, graduated from the law enforcement academy last

month. Officer Loft passed her exam and started her training at the academy last Monday. She will return in sixteen weeks.

Mayor Pro Tem Burnsworth asked if there were any Title VI or ADA compliance concerns. None were heard.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next City Council meeting will be held on Monday, September 22nd at 6:00 pm.

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Wabash City Council meeting. A video recording of this meeting can be found for at least 90 days following the meeting date at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTM2Yqfit08>

SCOTT LONG, MAYOR



ATTEST:

MELANIE GIVENS PENN, CLERK-TREASURER

