

**The Common Council of the City of Wabash met in the Council Chambers of the City Hall and held a council meeting on Monday, February 23, 2026, in regular session beginning at 6pm.**

**The Council meeting was called to order with Mayor Scott Long presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison; Susan Shambaugh of the Lafontaine and Somerset Woodlawn United Methodist Church gave the prayer. The roll was answered by 6 Council members: Eric Schoening, Bill Barrows, John Burnsworth, Terry Brewer, Charlie Coyne, and Mitzi Pilgrim. Bryan Dillon was absent.**

**The minutes of the meeting held February 9, 2026, were approved as Council Member Schoening made a motion to accept the minutes. Council Member Burnsworth seconded the motion. All present were in favor.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Second Reading of Special Ordinance No. 1, 2026 – Being an Ordinance Vacating an Alleyway on Sinclair Street in the City of Wabash, Indiana. Burnsworth made a motion to accept the second reading of Special Ordinance No. 1, 2026. Schoening seconded the motion. All present were in favor.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution No. 6, 2026 – New Tax Abatement Request from Michael and Rhonda Daniel, 204 Salamonie Lane. The Daniels were present to answer questions and stated they hope to be moved in by July. Council Member Coyne made a motion to accept Resolution No. 6, 2026. Council Member Brewer seconded the motion. All present were in favor.**

**First Reading of General Ordinance No. 4, 2026 – An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Wabash, Indiana, amending Chapter 10 of the Wabash City Code to Provide for Regulation of Battery, Solar and Wind Energy Systems. Burnsworth made a motion to accept the Ordinance on first reading. Brewer seconded the motion. A summary sheet was given to council members explaining background and context, what the ordinance prohibits, what it regulates, and protections for**

neighboring property owners. In addition, Burnsworth, in his capacity as former Plan Commission president when this Ordinance was crafted, gave some of the reasoning behind the things included. There was no other discussion. Upon the completion of roll call, all present were in favor. The second reading of the Ordinance will be on the agenda of the next meeting.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was no other business.

#### **QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

County resident Suzanne Peebles asked about the progress of the City Solar project. The mayor stated that the leased land to be used has been cleared and we are waiting for some testing results. She then asked what protection the City of Wabash had against data centers. Mayor Long stated that we don't have the electrical capacity required for a data center nor do we expect to get it. She then asked if the Council would consider an ordinance banning them. The mayor replied that while data centers are required to allow us all to enjoy technology, that issue would have to go through the City's Zoning Board and that's where any decision will be made. Attorney Lehman stated that he anticipates our zoning ordinance will soon be updated and he expects data centers to be addressed within that revision.

#### **REPORTS FROM LIAISONS:**

Schoening reported that the Parks Board had the high school freshmen PCAP students at their meeting to present their murals for potential future implementation at various Park locations. Landon Fisher, who created the winning entry, hopes to place his mural along the river on the opposite wall of where a mural is now, if funding can be found.

#### **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

There were no reports from department heads.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Long 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, March 9 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=Hnjy1AJri6U>

**SCOTT LONG, MAYOR** 

**ATTEST:**  
**MELANIE GIVENS PENN, CLERK-TREASURER** 