

**COMMON COUNCIL**

**August 12, 2024**

The Common Council of the City of Wabash met in the Council Chambers of the City Hall and held a Council Meeting on Monday, August 12, 2024, in regular session. The meeting was called to order with Mayor Pro Tem John Burnsworth presiding, and the Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

Bruce Hostetler of the Faith Harvest Church gave the prayer.

The roll was answered by 7 Council members: Mitzi Pilgrim, Charlie Coyne, Terry Brewer, Bryan Dillon, John Burnsworth, Eric Schoening and Wade Weaver.

The minutes of the meeting held July 29, 2024 were approved as circulated. Council Member Weaver made a motion to accept the minutes. Council Member Dillon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Cameron J. Richison was sworn in by Mayor Pro Tem Burnsworth as Probationary Police Officer.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was no other business brought before the Council.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

There were no questions from the audience.

**REPORTS FROM LIAISONS:**

There were no reports from liaisons.

**REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Fire Chief Andy Oswalt stated that tryouts are being held for the department's three open positions. The demonstration weekend of the new

**Burn Training facility went well and he publicly thanked both the Street and Park departments for their last-minute help with the event.**

**Street Department Head Scott Richardson stated that they are currently painting center lines and curbs all over town and prepping for asphalt on Thorne and Spring Streets. Pavers are being installed on the Wabash Street hill. Stitt Street will be paved next year. Council Member Dillon verified that the Carroll Street bridge is back open after completion of the deck overlay.**

**Park Department Head Adam Hall stated that the pool is now closed for the year and attendance had been good although final numbers aren't yet available. Surfacing for the City Park's playground is next week prior to the ribbon cutting, after which it will be open to the public. Council Member Coyne said that he was at Friendship Park and noticed the geodesic play equipment has bolts missing on the main structure; Adam said he would check it out.**

**Wastewater Superintendent Bob Gray stated that they are just digging rock now which is a slow process. He hopes to be done by the middle of October. The Crown Hill area is not capable of handling heavy trucks and those have been rerouted to Stitt Street.**

**Police Chief Jason Mooney reported that the new hire, Cameron Richison, is a graduate of Huntington North and Northwestern Ohio. Another applicant is at the PERF step in the process of being hired and the department has one more position to fill. He stated that his officers have fielded 1500 more calls than at this time last year; in response to a question as to why that number is up he replied that it may be due to the grant money received for Operation Pullover. Several of his officers have completed classes for certifications and he now has more instructors available for internal classes. Dillon asked about the new style of markings on police cars and was told that it's a more modern and reflective design called Ghost Graphics. The subject of the school crossing guards' pay was brought up; Chief Mooney said his department supervises them but does not have anything to do with their pay. Council Member Brewer asked why they had not received a pay increase in a number of years and was told that it may be a function of not having anyone to advocate for them combined with the thought that it's currently a well-paid job for the number of actual hours worked.**


**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 meeting will be held on Monday, August 26 at 6:00 pm.**

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Wabash City Council meeting. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at [City Council 8-12-24 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) for as long as this media is supported.

**JOHN BURNSWORTH, MAYOR PRO TEM**

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**ATTEST:**

**MELANIE GIVENS PENN, CLERK-TREASURER**

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