

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 10, 2025, in regular session.

The meeting was called to order with Mayor Scott Long presiding and the Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison; Terry Hines of Refresh & Rekindle Ministries gave the prayer.

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

The minutes of the meeting held January 27, 2025 were approved. Council Member Dillon made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed. Council Member Brewer seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Braxton Worthington was sworn in as Probationary Firefighter by Mayor Long.**
- 2. Trevor West was sworn in as Probationary Firefighter by Mayor Long.**
- 3. Compliance with Statement of Benefits (Real Property) – Carol Cly. Ms. Cly was in the audience available to answer questions. Council Member Burnsworth made a motion to accept the Compliance with Statement of Benefits (Real Property) – Carol Cly. Brewer seconded the motion. All were in favor.**
- 4. Compliance with Statement of Benefits (Real Property) – Sherrie Petterson. Ms. Petterson was in the audience available to answer questions. Dillon made a motion to accept the Compliance with Statement of Benefits (Real Property) – Sherrie Petterson. Council Member Coyne seconded the motion. All were in favor.**
- 5. Compliance with Statement of Benefits (Real Property) – William & Brandy Hyden. Mr. Hyden was in the audience available to answer questions. Brewer made a motion to accept the Compliance with**

**Statement of Benefits (Real Property) – William & Brandy Hyden.
Council Member Barrows seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

- 6. First Reading of General Ordinance No. 2, 2025 – An Ordinance Amending the Wabash City Code Providing for the Regulation of Parking on Certain Streets. As an advisory board to the Council, the Traffic Commission brought concerns about parking at the intersection of Indian Hills and Colerain obstructing views of traffic. They recommend prohibiting parking 90’ from Indian Hills on Colerain to eliminate the problem. In response to questions from Council about the people parking in this area, the mayor stated that they are the homeowners of the houses on Colerain and have driveways. Mayor Long further invited Council members to drive up Indian Hills in the evenings prior to the vote on the second reading of this ordinance to see the issue for themselves. He further stated that those homeowners will be notified prior to the date of the second reading to ensure they are aware a vote is being taken on the issue. Burnsworth made a motion to approve the First Reading of General Ordinance No. 2, 2025; Pilgrim seconded the motion. All present were in favor.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Kurt Mullett brought forward his concerns about hateful rhetoric from one of the Council members, which he sees as an attack on the citizens of Wabash, as members are elected to represent everyone in their district. Several citizens spoke in support of Mr. Mullett’s concerns. Another citizen reminded everyone that council members also have First Amendment rights and elections have consequences. Others said that the lack of voter participation makes a difference, and that threats should not be made toward the Council. Council President Burnsworth told the audience that Mr. Coyne’s views did not represent those of the Council and called a caucus of Council members after this meeting to discuss the issue, saying results may or not be available at the next meeting. Council Member Coyne spoke in his defense to say that he feels his faith and interpretation of the Bible tells him to call out things in society that are evil and wicked and he can do nothing less; he does not understand the concerns being stated. Council Member Dillon thanked everyone who came to participate in tonight’s meeting.

REPORTS FROM LIAISONS:

Dillon reported that the City School Board met twice since the previous Council meeting and shared several highlights of those meetings.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

There were no reports from department heads.

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 meeting will be held on Monday, February 24 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 at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJQBItvYJHI> for as long as this media is supported.

SCOTT LONG, MAYOR

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ATTEST:

MELANIE GIVENS PENN, CLERK-TREASURER

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