

**COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025  
6:00 PM**

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Absent  
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present  
Attorney Marcia McNagy – Absent

**Council Members**

Jennifer Middleton – Present  
Leslee Robinson – Present  
Jennifer Romano – Absent  
Tad Varga – Present  
Daniel Weigold – Present

The Columbia City Common Council met in regular session with all members except Jennifer Romano present. Daniel Weigold called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All stood to say the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES** Jennifer Middleton made a motion to approve the January 14, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. Leslee Robinson seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

**SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICERS** Rosie Coyle performed the swearing in ceremony for new police officers, Austin Sturgess, Lewis Fuller, Jeffrey Ewing and Jamall Smith.

**UTILITY RATE ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENT – NW DISTRICT**

Dan Weigold advised the Council needed to appoint an individual to the Utility Rate Advisory Board for the Northwest District. He shared that Denise Esterline was recommended for this appointment. Tad Varga confirmed she was in agreement to serve. Dan Weigold advised she was.

Tad Varga made a motion to appoint Denise Esterline as the NW District Utility Rate Advisory Board Member. Leslee Robinson seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

**ORDINANCE 2024-1: AMENDMENT TO TRAFFIC SCHEDULE – 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**READING** Tad Varga made a motion to read Ordinance 2024-1 by title only. Jennifer Middleton seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2024-1 an ordinance amending Chapter 75, Traffic Schedules, of Title VII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Kelly Cearbaugh explained this was for the second phase of Timber’s Edge addressing speed limits and stop signs. He thought the utility warranty period approval would be coming at the next meeting.

Jennifer Middleton made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-1 on first reading. Tad Varga seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS** Gary Parrett – Officers Jeffrey Ewing and Jamall Smith were in the FTO process, Officer Fuller was out at the school serving as SRO and Officer Sturgess was in his solo evaluation process, dispatch trainees were doing well, main server crashed but did not affect operations just files that could not be accessed, opened hiring process to hire 3 officers and will take applications up to February 15, should be getting vehicles from Copsgear soon, Officer Fuller putting on a situational awareness class for the 4-H on Thursday, doing a field training day with our officers that would incorporate emergency

vehicle operations, firearms, defensive tactics, and situational awareness. **Shawn Lickey** – changing poles, inventory completed, updated Terms and Conditions and sent to Attorney McNagny to review, took delivery of SUV that will be used to travel to training. **Chip Hill** – trees marked to be cut, received contract from the school for the Shared Kitchen. **Matt Heiden** – final preparations for the father/daughter dance, CDC came up from Berne to look at the ice rink. **Mike Shoda** – working through issues due to the cold weather, installing new services. **Mike Cook** – update on force main, Dystor quote has to be returned for them to add legal verbiage that is required to be in the contract, waiting on quote for sludge removal, staff member starting training to move from Class 1 to Class 2. **Tom LaRue** – 3 candidates moving to peer and chief interviews, training calendar completed for the year, working on personnel issues, breathing air compressor is working, getting quotes to replace some of the metal on the firehouse, pension meeting next Monday. **Kelly Cearbaugh** – bid opening for Community Crossings street improvement packages and bids came in lower than anticipated, working on getting company lined up to grind leaves, everyday maintenance. **Terry Wherry** – domain controller server crashed and was able to get it back up on Monday, waiting on equipment and fiber repair for the Shared Kitchen and getting IT room set up at Eagle Park.

**YOUTH COUNCIL** Erin Devito was present representing the Youth Council and shared the activities they have been doing.

Having no further business to discuss, Dan Weigold called the meeting adjourned.

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Council President Daniel Weigold

Attest:

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Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle