

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025
6:00 PM**

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present
Clerk Treasurer Leslee Robinson – Present
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Present

Council Members

Brent Bockelman - Present
Jennifer Middleton – Present
Jennifer Romano – Present
Tad Varga – Present
Daniel Weigold – Present

The Columbia City Common Council met in regular session with all members present. Mayor Daniel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All stood to say the Pledge of Allegiance led by Troop 83.

MINUTES Mayor Daniel noted a spelling error under Council Appointments and a grammatical error under his report.

Tad Varga made a motion to approve the May 13, 2025, meeting minutes as corrected. Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – KYOCERA SGS PRECISION TOOLS & TITUS PRECISION COMPANY Dale Buuck, EDC Director, was present to discuss the statement of benefits and share progress of each company.

Tad Varga made a motion to approve the Statement of Benefits for Kyocera 2020 Personal Property, Kyocera 2022 Personal Property, Kyocera 2015 Personal Property and Titus Precision 2022 Personal Property and give an additional year of abatement. Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2025-3 AMENDMENT TO THE GOLF CART ORDINANCE – 2ND

READING Jennifer Middleton made a motion to read Ordinance 2025-3 by title only. Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. Clerk Treasurer Leslee Robinson read Ordinance 2025-3 an Ordinance amending Chapter 73 Bicycles, Unicycles, Three-Wheeled Cycles and Golf Carts, of Title VII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Mayor Daniel reminded Council that this is moving the definition of a golf cart from just a 4-wheeled motor vehicle to a 3 or 4-wheeled motor vehicle.

Jennifer Middleton made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-3 on second reading. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2025-4 AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE – 2ND READING

Jennifer Romano made a motion to read Ordinance 2025-4 by title only. Tad Varga seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. Clerk Treasurer Leslee Robinson read Ordinance 2025-4 an Ordinance amending the Text of Chapter 2 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Mayor Daniel explained that this was regarding the fences that Council has had many discussions about and noted that it incorporates the changes that Council discussed in past meetings.

Dan Weigold noted there was a fence request discussed at the Board of Works meeting and advised the individual was willing to work with the line-of-sight concerns.

Jennifer Romano made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-4 on second and final reading. Tad Varga seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2025-5 SUPPLEMENT TO THE CODE Tad Varga made a motion to read Ordinance 2025-5 by title only. Jennifer Middleton seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. Clerk Treasurer Leslee Robinson read Ordinance 2025-5 an Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana and declaring an emergency.

Mayor Daniel explained this was one of those ordinances that we adopt fairly frequently that codifies all the ordinances that have been passed and publishes them on the American Legal Publishing website.

Jennifer Middleton made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-5, declaring it an emergency on first and final reading. Tad Varga seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO THE WHITLEY COUNTY WATER & SEWER BOARD

Brent Bockelman advised he would be willing to serve on the Board.

Jennifer Romano made a motion to approve Brent Bockelman to serve as the representative on the Whitley County Regional Water and Sewer District Board. Tad Varga seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Chip Hill** – update on trail, bridge was installed last Thursday, everything wrapping up with the skate park. **Matt Heiden** – pool did not open this past weekend because of temperatures, bricks were laid down at Patriotic Park, putting in a new drinking fountain at the splash pad, splash pad is now open but will not turn on until the temperature gets over 65°, splash pad open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. everyday, getting ready for Old Settlers and July 4th. **Mike Shoda** - replacing water main on North Park Drive, replaced chlorine pumps. **Gary Parrett** - Officer Sturgess is in his fourth week at the Academy, Officer Morris, Officer Anspach and Officer German are in their second week of FTO, Officer Clark has been chosen to be the next SRO to succeed Officer Leatherman when he retires in June, Memorial Day Parade and Memorial run went well, Pack the Cruiser will be on May 31st from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Kroger, motors on the tornado siren at FOP and Depoy Drive burnt up so are working to get those up and going again. **Mike Cook** – pretreatment and lab personnel working on issues with the incoming flow, staff members cleaned the EQ Basin contact tank and the EQ itself, have a

meeting set up Thursday with our sludge hauling company to look at other options to speed things up so repairs can be made. **Tom LaRue** – update on new employees, Truck 101 is out of service due to pressure sensor issues, rescue pump returned from being repaired, had an attic ladder fail and have parts on order for that.

MAYOR REPORT Mayor Daniel shared department reports for Shawn Lickey, Terry Wherry and Kelly Cearbaugh.

Mayor Daniel reported that Trick or Treat hours were set for Friday, October 31 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. He advised he had budget meetings this week and next. He reported our Comprehensive Plan team will be at the June First Friday to seek input from the public. He thought a survey was on the horizon as well.

Having no further discussion to come before the Council, Mayor Daniel called the meeting adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Leslee Robinson