

**BOARD OF WORKS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025
5:00 P.M.**

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present
Clerk Treasurer Leslee Robinson – Present
Attorney Marcia McNagy – Absent
Daniel Weigold – Present
Lisa Smith – Absent

The Columbia City Board of Works met in regular session with all members except Lisa Smith present. Mayor Daniel called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

MINUTES Dan Weigold made a motion to approve the November 25, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

PETITION TO VACATE – TRIER PROPERTIES Scott Trier of 4455 N. Airport Road was present to discuss their plans to develop property they recently purchased. He advised it would depend on what they decide to do with the property on whether they vacate the alley and utilities, if there were any. He shared that they were looking at a couple different options, one being a duplex if there was enough room.

Mayor Daniel questioned whether the alley vacate would determine what they do or what is decided will determine whether the alley needs to be vacated. Mr. Trier felt that it was both. He understood, in talking with Nathan Bilger, that they could build over it because there was probably nothing there and worst-case scenario was there might be a shared sewer somewhere along there. He noted there was a fire hydrant at the property's edge that should not be affected but Nathan mentioned, maybe 10 years down the road, there could be a possibility they may have to come through and tear up asphalt or do some sort of repair if there were utilities underneath it. He explained the back part of that lot gets very narrow so as far as usable square footage, it was limiting, but if the alley, which is not really an alley and is not used as an alley was vacated, they would have a lot more flexibility.

Discussion took place regarding how much of the alley would be vacated. Mr. Whiteman, a surrounding property owner, was present and understood that this vacate request would not include the part of the alley that runs between his two parcels. He was directed to talk with Chip Hill or Nathan Bilger on vacating that portion of the alley.

Mayor Daniel questioned if we had any utilities in that area. Chip Hill could not confirm whether a sewer line ran along the west side of the property or not. Mr. Trier noted that Walker's mentioned they were unable to find anything. He noted that there was a fire hydrant on the north side of the property.

Dan Weigold explained to Mr. Trier that the Board could approve the vacate but he needed to make sure everything was processed properly in the Auditor's office to show that he has ownership of that parcel.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the petition to vacate the alley of Mr. Trier's property on Whitley Street, parcel number 92-06-11-501-316.901-004. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

STREET CLOSING – SRC PARKING SPACES Mayor Daniel noted this was a retroactive approval. Dan Weigold made a motion to approve the dates 12/7/2025 – 12/31/2025, weather dependent, for the parking spaces in front of and on the side of the SRC Building; Van Buren Street using 4 spaces and on

Chauncey Street using 6 spaces. Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

STREET CLOSING – FIRE DEPARTMENT CANDY GIVEAWAY Mayor Daniel advised this was for the annual Fire Department candy giveaway for the east side of Chauncey Street and the south side of Van Buren Street.

Dan Weigold made a motion to approve the Fire Department candy giveaway for 12/24 on Chauncey Street between Van Buren and Market and Van Buren and Main for the parking spaces from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

HUMANE SHELTER – 2026 AGREEMENT Mayor Daniel reported this was the annual agreement with the Humane Shelter. He did not think it had changed from last year. Leslee Robinson advised it had not.

Mayor Daniel noted it was for up to \$25,000 and to date we have not met that.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the agreement between the Humane Society of Whitley County and the City of Columbia City, Indiana as presented. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

BOOSTER STATION CONTROLS UPGRADE Mike Shoda reported that the controller at the booster station was outdated and not compatible to run on our fiber network. He shared that because of this, the pumps were not automatically switching over when needed. He advised the PLC has been down for about a month and a half now so have only been running on the smallest pump in there, which we have five pumps. He explained that as the water use north of US 30 increases, we need to increase to the bigger pumps to keep pressure up. He shared that currently if something happens we have to go in and manually turn another pump on.

Mike Shoda reviewed the quote from Peerless Midwest to put in a new PLC and make the necessary modifications to the screens at the booster station and the water plant for an amount of \$52,710.

Mayor Daniel questioned that the quote said \$52,71.00 each. Mike Shoda felt that was a mistake as they were only changing one PLC; there was only one in there. He advised we were not changing the pumps or anything, the pumps were good they just will not operate automatically.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the 2026 Walker Way Booster Station project with Peerless Midwest in a not to exceed amount of \$52,710. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

BILLS Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated December 9, 2025 in the amount of \$170,648.60 for checks. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated December 9, 2025 in the amount of \$251,791.16 for EFT payments. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

PAYROLL Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated December 5, 2025 in the amount of \$44,815.11 for wellness bonuses. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated 11/28/2025 for all pay types except overtime in the amount of

\$277,957.64, with overtime only of \$11,590.52, for a total of \$289,548.16 for payroll. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Mike Shoda** – drained and filled the South Tower since it was not in service and have a couple new services to hook up this week. **Matt Heiden** - getting sidewalk and greenways cleared of snow, working through the new software and starting to work on the father-daughter dance. **Mike Cook** – update on the Dystor project, the second half of the SDI force main was cleaned today and has a few more evals to complete. **Tom LaRue** –Truck 107 returned and functional, Christmas Eve from 6 to 8 they will have their candy hand out and working on employee evals. **Terry Wherry** – major projects completed for the year, keeping busy with day-to-day things. **Chip Hill** - working on the jail and the amphitheater, update on trail. **Shawn Lickey** - working up on Brown Road on the pole replacement project, working on inventory, he and Duane Richardson with the IMEA had the privilege of speaking to the eighth grade class to share a little bit about jobs in the trades, jobs available in the city and different options other than just going to college for the point of going to college. He shared that the teacher has already asked him to come back and speak again.

MAYOR REPORT Mayor Daniel shared department reports for Kelly Cearbaugh and Gary Parrett.

YOUTH COUNCIL Charlotte Misiara was present to share what the Youth Council has been doing. She shared that at their last meeting they started brainstorming for their pickleball tournament, volunteered at Autumn Trace, and toured the new jail.

Having no further business to come before the Board, Mayor Daniel called the meeting adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Leslee Robinson