



January 6, 2025  
Common Council

**Present:**

Mike Hartman, Mayor  
Tracey Hawkins, Council District 1  
Kristie Laub, Council District 2  
Darren Alloway, Council District 3 and Council President  
Gale Ryan, Council District 4  
Bill White, Council at Large  
Angela Eck, Clerk-Treasurer  
Gavyn Aden, Wastewater Superintendent  
Mark Cline, Street Superintendent  
Ron Mausteller, Fire Chief  
Braxton Minkey, IT Specialist  
Stuart Mutzfeld, Code Enforcement  
Andrew Provines, City Planner  
Cory Rowe, Assistant Police Chief  
Donald Stuckey, City Attorney

**Absent**

Matt Traster, Police Chief

Mayor Hartman opened the regular session of the Common Council at 7:31 pm at 215 South Broadway.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Hartman asked for comments or questions from the audience pertaining to the agenda items. None

Mayor Hartman opened the floor for nominations for Council President. Council Member Laub made a motion to nominate Darren Alloway for Council President. Council Member White seconded the motion. There were no further nominations. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Hartman announced that Gavyn Aden was promoted to Wastewater Superintendent on January 1<sup>st</sup>.



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The minutes from the December 16<sup>th</sup> and December 30<sup>th</sup> meetings were presented. Council Member Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes and Council Member White seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Proposed **Ordinance 1800, Water Utility Fund Cleanup**, was presented for its second reading by title. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve Ordinance 1800 on its second reading and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Proposed amendments to the **Garbage Collection Ordinance** were presented. Code Enforcement Officer Stuart Mutzfeld reported that he was not comfortable moving forward with the proposed amendments as stated. There is one item in particular that is still included, but has never been enforced. At no time has the City enforced multi-family dwellings and apartment buildings to install enclosures around their cans and or dumpsters. Does the Council want him to start enforcing this aspect? Does he then start enforcing everything in the Codebook? Or does the Council want to start rewriting everything to match what is actually happening?

There was discussion. Council Member Alloway stated that it would be foolish to pass an ordinance that doesn't work. Maybe the code is so outdated that the Council needs to start from scratch.

Mr. Mutzfeld requested that the Council talk to their constituents and find out what they want to see. That will also give Mr. Mutzfeld time to look at the surrounding communities to see if they have rules about dumpsters being enclosed. Mr. Provines also suggested sending letters to the multifamily dwellings and apartment buildings to see what they would like to see.

Council Member Alloway made a motion to table the proposed amendments to the Garbage Ordinance and Council Member Laub seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

**Resolution 25-664, Encumbrance for ARPA Items**, was introduced. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve Resolution 25-664 and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Fire Chief Ron Mausteller reported that he is working with the Police Department to have interdepartmental training. They plan to start these training exercises in February and has several different topics chosen.

City Planner Andrew Provines reported that the Council needs to re-appoint or appoint a member to the Plan Commission. Stuart Mutzfeld term ended on December 31<sup>st</sup>. There was discussion. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to re-appoint Stuart Mutzfeld to the Plan Commission and Council Member Laub seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.



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Mayor Hartman announced that he is appointing Christian Hoff to the Plan Commission as a mayoral appointment.

Mr. Provines reported that he and Mayor Hartman would work on getting the Redevelopment Commission Members either reappointed or get new appointees.

Mr. Provines reported that the Plan Commission meetings would be moving to the third Thursday of the odd months. This change is so that City Attorney Don Stuckey is able to attend the meetings. He has a conflict on the second Mondays.

Assistant Police Chief Cory Rowe reported that Emily McKinley started the Police Academy today and that Jason Creech will start the academy in May.

Code Enforcement Officer Stuart Mutzfeld reported that he will be meeting with each Council Member to discuss the City's outdated codes. There was discussion on whether or not the Council wants to be reactive or proactive in updating codes. Council Members Alloway and Hawkins agree that they would prefer to be proactive.

Council Member Alloway requested that Mr. Mutzfeld notify them on pertinent changes that need to be made.

There was discussion on holding a Building Material Amnesty Day.

Street Superintendent Mark Cline reported that the semi traffic in the 400 Block of West Oak is creating problems again. There was discussion on different ways to correct the issue. Trucks are sometimes blocking driveways for an extended period of time. He is open to any suggestions. He would like to discuss the issue at the January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, after everyone has had time to inspect the area.

IT Specialist Braxton Minkey reported that he is working on obtaining hearing assistance devices for the Council Chambers. He is also working on some phone system problems. Lastly, he reported that the City will be moving to a .gov domain. This is now required for any grant opportunities. He is working with the Indiana Office of Technology (IOT) on the best domain name. IOT is recommending either cityofbutler or butlerciv. There was discussion.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck presented the Fire Protection Contract with Troy Township for 2025 and 2026. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve the contract and Council Member Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck reported that she received the 1782 Notice from the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance. They are not recommending any changes to the City's 2025 Budget. However, the City should reestablish the Cumulative Capital Development Fund and the Fire Equipment Replacement Fund in order to collect the maximum tax revenue.



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Council Member Hawkins made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 pm and Council Member Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

  
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Mayor

  
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Common Council

  
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Clerk-Treasurer