

REGULAR IN PERSON COUNCIL “HYBRID/ZOOM” MEETING October 21, 2025

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in Regular session on Tuesday evening, October 21, 2025, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., Hosted by “Hybrid/Zoom” and streamed live on “My Michigan City” Facebook Page.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Tillman.

Roll call was authorized, and the following were noted present and/or absent.

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS Tim Bietry, Bryant Dabney, Dr. Vidya Kora, Daisy Lee, Nancy Moldenhauer, Joe Nelson, Don Przybylinski, and Tracie Tillman (8)

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER Greg Coulter (1)

President Tillman stated that Councilman Coulter did indicate his absence from this meeting and is excused.

A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT

ALSO, PRESENT: Council Attorney Nick Snow, and City Clerk Gale Neulieb

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Tillman stated that the September 16, 2025, Regular Council (Hybrid/Zoom) meeting minutes, and the October 7, 2025, Regular Council (Hybrid/Zoom) meeting minutes will be approved at the next council meeting.

NOTE: that due to the network disruption with the city computer the minutes will be forth coming.

City Clerk Neulieb stated that October 2, 2025, Executive Session is the only one that needs to be approved and voted on this evening.

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to approve the October 2, 2025, Executive Session, second by Councilman Dabney, the motion carried and the October 2, 2025, Executive Session was approved by the following vote: AYES: Council members Kora, Lee, Nelson, Przybylinski, Bietry, and Dabney (6) NAYS: Council members None (0) Abstained: Council member Moldenhauer, Tillman (2).

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

President Tillman asked if there were any standing committee reports, there was no response.

FINANCE REPORT

President Tillman (Chair) stated the Finance Committee did meet this evening October 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.; a quorum was present and the Michigan City Riverboat/ Boyd Claim Docket for October 21, 2025, was as follows; Riverboat fund #2235 claims was zero (0); Riverboat EFT fund #2235 was zero (0); Rainy Day fund #2236 claims were \$37,928.70 paying Reith and Riley \$ 36,683.70 and Schneider Goemetric \$ 7,245.00; and Boyd Development fund #2504 was zero (0) with the total claims being \$37,928.70.

Councilman Bietry made a motion to approve the October 21, 2025, Riverboat/Boyd Development Claim Docket in the total amount of \$37,928.70 second by Councilman Dr. Kora, the motion carried with October 21, 2025, Riverboat/Boyd Development Claim Docket in the total amount of \$37,928.70 was approved by a verbal vote 8-0.

President Tillman advised the statement of the cash position for October 21, 2025, Riverboat Fund #2235 was \$5,105,702.49 and the Rainy-Day Fund #2236 was \$1,112,136.72 with the fiscal grand total ending balance on October 21, 2025, was \$6,217,839.21.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

President Tillman asked if there were any reports from any boards or commissions.

Kila Ward, Director of Education and Workforce Development- reported on the 2025 Annual Report regarding the Michigan City Promise Scholarship

Note: The 2025 Annual Michigan City Promise Scholarship Report is filed in the Clerk's office (CM-2025 Council Matters).

Discussion ensued between Ms. Ward, President Tillman, Council members Dr. Kora, Bietry, Lee, and Moldenhauer regarding how the amount of funding is decided for each applicant, the benefit of allowing people that are renters to apply, reasons students may not be selected to receive the scholarship, and that students are allowed to apply if they are entering into a trade school.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer invited the public to attend a Workshop on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. located in the EOC Room, "Recycle Smart Do Your Part" hosted by the Michigan City Refuse Department and the Sustainability Commission; to help educate the public to recycle and decrease the amount being took to the landfill.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, member of the Police Civil Service Commission, stated that their commission has a very small budget of \$3,600 annually for legal services; stating several concerns and reason why this commission should have an attorney retained moving forward.

Marylynn Wall, City Controller, advised Mr. Meland that she would provide him with the budget for the Police Civil Service Commission.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, member of the Revolving Loan Fund Committee, advised there is a total of \$1,030,000.00 in that account; reporting on the loans that still exist and have balances owed to the city, delinquent loans and that the mission of this committee moving forward and has been updated to help local businesses throughout our city; advising that the proposed ordinance on the agenda is to approve the moving of funds to pay the Economic Development Corporation \$200,000 annually for two (2) years and \$300,000.00 for a matching grant fund for the all-inclusive playground located in Fedders Ally.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Meland, President Tillman, Council members Dabney, Dr. Kora, Przybylski, Moldenhauer, and Nelson regarding when moving forward if it should even be a loan, proposing if grants should be discussed rather than doing loans, definitions of the Revolving Loan Fund is for exclusively Michigan City residents, the funds being proposed to the All-Inclusive Playground and questioning the why funds are going to the Michigan City Economic Development Corporation in the amount of \$200,000 annually for two (2) years.

President Tillman asked if there were any other board or commission reports; there was no response.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL or SELECT COMMITTEES

President Tillman asked if there were any reports from special or select committees, there was no response.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR OR OTHER CITY OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS

President Tillman asked if there were any reports from the mayor or other city officers and departments, there was no response.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Tillman stated that she would like to address the public.

President Tillman pointed out that there has been an error on her part, an oversight; thanking Mr. Paul Przybylinski for pointing out in regards to our Council rules and "Public Comments and where she had public comments on the agenda; that it does state according to our ordinance the format on how each category should be listed and stands corrected by Mr. P. Przybylinski; thanking him for pointing that out; explaining for the record City Code Chapter 2, Section 2-59A and 8 stated that any presiding officer or council president may entertain comments from people in attendance regarding any ordinance or resolution under consideration after each reading and prior to Council comments and debate; and City Code Chapter 2, Section 2-5-1A-2, that public comment is in the discretion of the presiding officer and that the council has the ability to suspend the rules per two-thirds vote.

President Tillman made a motion to suspend the rules to move public comment on the agenda this evening before council business would take place; asking for a motion, there was no response and the motion failed to move "Public Comments" on the agenda before any council business would take place at the beginning of the meeting.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer called a "Point of Order" stating that "Public Comment" will be at the end of the meeting this evening, advising Mr. P. Przybylinski to speak under "Public Comment" at the end of the meeting.

President Tillman advised there was no motion, public comment will remain at the end of the agenda.

PETITIONS

President Tillman asked Clerk Neulieb if there were any petitions.

Clerk Neulieb read the following petition received in the Clerk's Office.

**PETITION P-101-25; REZONING M2 TO R1C PARCEL NO
46-01-24-100-004.000-022, 46-01-24-100-068.000-022
504 EASTWOOD ROAD, MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA**

COMMUNICATIONS

President Tillman asked if there was any correspondence received.

Clerk Neulieb read the following correspondence that was received:

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on October 8, 2025, from Mayor Angie Nelson Deutch regarding the monthly September Foresters Report.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on October 8, 2025, from Nick Pollock, President of the Social Status of African American Males Commission, requesting an annual contribution from the Common Council.

RESOLUTIONS

Clerk Neulieb read the following resolution by title only.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 4977

APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE 2026 COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM WITH THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & SUPPORTING THE LOCAL MATCH FOR SAID GRANT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sec. 2-325 of the Michigan City Municipal Code, the Michigan City Common Council must pre-approve all grant applications requiring a local match; and

WHEREAS, the City of Michigan City, Indiana intends to submit a grant application seeking funding through the Indiana Department of Transportation for the Community Crossings Matching Grant Program 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Michigan City will be requesting up to \$1,000,000 in grant funds for various street paving projects that will require a dollar-for-dollar match; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sec. 2-325, the City Controller has provided the following information pertaining to the Grant:

1. **Name of grantor and grant title:** Indiana Department of Transportation – Community Crossings Matching Grant Program.
2. **Why it is beneficial to the City to apply for this grant:** This grant will allow the City to double the budget for street paving.
3. **The purpose of the grant and the proposed use of grant funds:** This grant will be used to pave streets in the worst condition as determined by the Engineer assisting the City based on the PASER report.
4. **The person who will be responsible for managing the grant for the City:** Mary-Lynn Wall, City Controller & Tamiko Smith, Assistant City Controller.
5. **All relevant time frames and schedule, including any deadlines for submitting the application and closing out the grant:**
 - a. The application process opens at 8:00 a.m. (ET), October 1, 2025.
 - b. The deadline to submit the application is 5:00 p.m. (ET), October 31, 2025.
6. **The amount of any required or proposed City monetary match or voluntary contribution and the proposed source for the matching funds and contributions:**
 - c. Cities with a population of greater than 10,000 will receive funds using a 50/50% match.
 - d. The max amount eligible to receive is \$1,000,000.
 - e. The matching funds are budgeted as follows: \$400,000 in the 2025 MVH Restricted budget and the Michigan City Redevelopment Commission approved \$600,000 from TIF to be utilized for engineer costs and local match.
7. **The description of the types and sources of any in-kind match or contribution:** NA
8. **Whether the Controller wishes to have a new, separate fund created for the grant:** No, the Controller does not wish to have a new, separate fund created for the Grant. A

separate grant fund has previously been established and this Grant will run through that existing fund.

WHEREAS, all relevant information required by Sec. 2-325 is attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A-Notice of Application for Grant**.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

1. The aforementioned "Whereas" sections are incorporated herein as if fully set forth herein.
2. The Michigan City Common Council approves the submission of the 2026 Community Crossings Matching Grant Application and supports and commits to funding the local match for said Grant.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect after passage by the Michigan City Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Tracie Tillman
/s/ Nancy Moldenhauer

President Tillman asked if any of the authors had anything to add at this time.

President Tillman stated this is a matching grant with the Indiana Department of Transportation allowing the city to receive double the funds to allow for street paving in our community; and that the streets that will be being paved is based on the "pacer scale"; that was done; advising the application submission deadline is October 31, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer stated that there has been over \$100,000 of funding not received annually; and that receiving more funding could be used to fix potholes and cracks throughout the city streets.

President Tillman asked if the public had any questions or comments.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, stated again that he would like to see the sidewalks installed from the Michigan City Highschool on Pahs Road, to the LaPorte County Career Center on Woodland Avenue.

Sal Dunlap, 729 E. Michigan Blvd., asked the Council to consider using crushed rubber mixed with asphalt to repair potholes; stating why it would be better to use this mixture on our city streets and would save money in the long run.

Ernie Holland, 302 Gladys Street, asked if the large pothole just outside of City Hall be filled; that he contacted the Street Department to get the pothole repaired but to date it hasn't been done.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, stated the city should apply for this grant to receive as much funding as we can.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, asked if any brick streets were repaired this year, that there is an ordinance that was adopted for repairs to brick streets of \$200,000 annually, asking if there needs to be a formal request form for brick streets to be repaired with these funds; that he made a formal request to the City Engineer regarding Charles Street with no response.

President Tillman asked if there were any other questions or comments from the public, there was no response.

President Tillman asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

100-443610-1000
100-443610-1000

10. Indicate the class of which each of the following is an example:
a. the number 10 is an example of a cardinal number

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE BY A CONTROLLING AUTHORITY

[illegible][illegible]

7. The magnitude of the α parameter is not statistically different from 0. This indicates that the estimated parameters are not statistically different from zero.

• **no, 100% of the respondents** said that the
community is not involved in the
management of the forest

and the number of days in the analysis is 10,000, then we would have

On 11/11/2011, the FBI received a letter from the Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General, regarding the FBI's handling of the 9/11 attacks. The letter stated that the FBI had not adequately investigated the attacks and that the FBI had not adequately protected the public from the attacks. The letter also stated that the FBI had not adequately coordinated with other law enforcement agencies in the investigation of the attacks. The FBI is currently reviewing the letter and will respond to it as soon as possible.

On January 10, 1980, [redacted] advised that [redacted] had been
[redacted] at [redacted] and [redacted] had been [redacted]
[redacted] [redacted] [redacted]

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LIBRARY

1. The first step is to identify the problem. In this case, the problem is that the company is not meeting its sales targets.

1. Elaboración de un plan de trabajo

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Wages are not paid until the end of the month. The company has a policy of not paying wages until the end of the month. The company has a policy of not paying wages until the end of the month.

1. The first step in the process of identifying a problem is to determine the scope of the problem. This involves identifying the specific area of concern and the individuals or groups affected by the problem. Once the scope of the problem is determined, the next step is to gather information about the problem. This can be done through a variety of methods, including interviews, surveys, and observation. The information gathered should be used to identify the causes of the problem and to determine the best course of action to address the problem. Finally, the last step in the process is to implement the solution and to evaluate the results. This involves monitoring the progress of the solution and making adjustments as needed to ensure that the problem is effectively addressed.

14-00000

There have been many cases of people who have been killed or injured by falling objects from the roof of a building. This is a serious safety hazard that can be prevented by proper maintenance and safety measures.

Discussion ensued between President Tillman and Council members Dabney, Lee, Przybylinski, and Moldenhauer regarding how the list of streets being proposed are selected, that the City Engineer oversees the pacer rating scale; there is a reason why after winter is over more streets need to be repaired, and to contact your councilperson regarding potholes or repairs needed to be addressed in your ward.

Councilman Bietry made a motion to approve the proposed resolution, second by Councilman Dr. Kora, the motion carried and was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Council members Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, Dabney, Kora, and Lee (8) **NAYS:** None (0)

ORDINANCES

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only.

AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY, LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA TO REZONE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED at 504 EASTWOOD ROAD FROM THE M2 (HEAVY INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT) ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION TO R1C (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

President Tillman asked if any of the author had anything to add at this time.

Councilman Dabney advised this is for a zoning change that has went before the Planning Commission to change the rezoning to residential; due to a house on this property that was built but was not re-zoned prior to the construction of it.

President Tillman asked the public had any questions or comments.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, questioned if this was for the new development proposed on 8th and Pine Street for affordable housing; stating that he is looking forward to the groundbreaking on this project.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, advised that he attended that Planning Commission meeting which did pass their request with a favorable review; advising the manufacturing zoning ordinance was adopted after this home was built, and that the owners plans are to develop a nature reserve on this property; asking for the Council's support.

Attorney Novak (present on Zoom) advised this property is located on Eastwood Road and is not related to any other sort of residential development; that the property owners who are environmentally inclined have no desire to use it for anything other than a nature reserve area; asking to down zone it from M2 to R1C would essentially make them be able to move forward.

Attorney Novak advised that Joe Brennan was present at the meeting for any questions the Council may have.

President Tillman asked if there were any other questions or comments from the public, there was no response.

President Tillman asked if the council had any questions or comments, there was no response; stating that the proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at our November 4th, 2025, Council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on second reading by title only.

RATIFYING AND REAFFIRMING CERTAIN FINDINGS, DETERMINATIONS AND DESIGNATIONS IN ORDINANCE NO. 4771 REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING OTHER ACTIONS WITH RESPECT THERETO

Introduced by: Tracie Tillman

President Tillman stated as the author she explained this proposed ordinance is ratifying and reaffirming the changes/scrivener errors from Lakefront LLC to MC Lakefront LLC when establishing and creating the Economic Improvement District (EID).

President Tillman stated that there were questions regarding the transfer of this property and that Randy Rempola, Redevelopment Attorney Allen Serinek and Skyler York Redevelopment Director are present to answer any questions the council may have.

Randy Rempola, Baker/Tilly LLD addressed the council regarding questions that were being asked regarding this proposed ordinance and the creation of this LLC: commenting on the creation of the "Economic Improvement District" (EID) which isn't in front of the Council this evening but a minor technical issue with the wording of the one LLC in the proposed ordinance is in front of the council this evening; that if these two (2) LLC's are for-profit or not-for-profit, explaining the procedure of an LLC, the petition to create the EID, that if there wasn't an Economic Improvement District (EID) that was created you wouldn't need a LLC; the property would be transferred to the developer and if there was a conflict of interest regarding the attorneys involved and using a LLC.

Councilman Dr. Kora thanked Mr. Rempola for the clarification that there is a lot of legal information; stating that the bottom line is what Mr. Rempola explained was that the city doesn't want to give our property/land to the developer until they had their financing in place.

President Tillman called a "Point of Order" that she didn't ask for public comments first.

President Tillman then asked If the public had any questions or comments.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, asked the public for transparency and for the record, whose name is on the LLC's and if Attorney Serinek is the only agent on this LLC.

President Tillman advised Mr. Przybylinski that this is public comment at this time, not Q & A.

Mr. Przybylinski stated that with the comments made this evening by Mr. Rempola the public deserves transparency regarding this matter.

Rodney McCormick, 617 Union Street, questioned why this land owned by the city was just given to the Redevelopment, that the citizens of Michigan city should have had an opportunity to bid on this property through the city procedures through ; stating that what is being proposed this evening was not a typographical error, that this LLC doesn't exist and is way to get around letting a citizen bid on city property.

President Tillman asked if there were any other public comments, there was no response.

President Tillman asked If the council had any questions or comments.

Discussion ensued between Attorney Rempola, Attorney Alan Sirinek, Redevelopment Attorney, Skyler York, Redevelopment Director, President Tillman, Council members Nelson, and Przybylinski, regarding the information that is currently on the Beacon Website regarding ownership; and that 60% of the parcels in the Economic Improvement District (EID) must be owned by for-profit entities; stating the transfer of the property from the City of Michigan City to the Redevelopment; advised that the proposed SOLA Development is not completely funded and the property went into two (2) separate LLC's to be able to return back to the Redevelopment Commission if funding is not in place by

the December 19, 2025 deadline and that if that should happen Redevelopment would start over issuing a new RFP.

President Tillman asked if the council had any other questions or comments, there was no response; stating that the proposed ordinance will be held over to third reading at our November 4, 2025, council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on second reading by title only.
AMENDING CERTAIN SUBSECTIONS IN SEC. 38-33 IN THE MICHIGAN CITY MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Introduced by: Don Przybylinski

President Tillman asked if the authors had anything to add at this time.

Councilman Przybylinski asked Clarence Hulse Economic Development Director to explain the amendments regarding the proposed ordinance.

Clarence Hulse stated the funding for this original program came from an incentive when the city offered to give Federal Mogul in 2009 so they wouldn't leave and move their facility to Mexico in the amount of \$600,000; in 2012 they decided to move and go to Mexico, so they didn't take the incentive of \$600,000 that the city offered; when he came to Michigan City and jointed the Economic Development Corporation the \$600,000 was sitting there, the Council wanted to put together a revenue loan program which was created in 2015 to help small businesses in our city. We had a few businesses that came forward, Regional Development Corporation located in Valparaiso, Indiana accepted applications.

President Tillman asked if the public had any questions or comments.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, stated that when Federal Mogul declined the Tax Abatement in 2020, the company was bringing in new employees from Mexico to provide them with training before the company left and moved there.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, stated the moving of funds was approved at a previous Revolving Loan Fund meeting prior to the legislation being brought to the council and that the Revolving Loan Fund is a program to help local small businesses as a loan not funds to go to park department; stating that the city is still paying on a bond for the Lafayette Barker Sewer Project to date that was never completed; stating that if any funds are being moved they should be used toward the completion of this sewer project or infrastructure within our city that is well overdue.

Ernie Hollian, 302 Gladys Street, stated he worked for a company located on Ohio Street that received money from the city to keep them from moving and that company closed and left all the equipment in their building.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, stated the funds being proposed this evening have not been distributed and are still in the Revolving Loan account.

President Tillman asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Discussion ensued between Clarence Hulse, Economic Development Director, and Councilmembers Nelson, Dr. Kora, Bietry, and Przybylinski, regarding funding of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), the process of the Tax Abatement incentives, the process of changing the objective of the Revolving Loan Fund sections by amending the original ordinance, and what the funds that are being transferred will be used for, annual CF-1 forms that are filed annually to the City Clerk's Office and the LaPorte County Assessor's Office and are reviewed by the Council's Tax Abatement Committee and then approved by the Council.

Councilman Dr. Kora questioned Attorney Snow regarding the proposed amended ordinance that is in front of the Council this evening; stating what the original purpose of the revolving loan fund was created for questioning what is being proposed now with the balance left in this account for something completely different legal; asking if he thinks this is the proper process to make this happen.

Attorney Snow advised that considering the amendments to this ordinance is going to alter the language in certain sections of the city code, yes, the process being done is correct that the council is the city legislative body and responsible for establishing city codes.

Councilman Przybylinski stated that we are amending the original ordinance that created the revolving loan in 2009; making a motion to suspend the rules to have 3rd reading this evening.

Attorney Snow advised Councilman Przybylinski that we are on second reading at this time.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer, stated this is not the correct process to disperse the funds, as the Revolving Loan Fund was set up to provide a loan for local businesses and that if changes need to be made the city council is the one who decides what processes and procedures are going to be followed; that these loans are of benefit to the city, she doesn't feel that this is the correct procedure to take and that people want to take this \$1 million and do something else with it, we need to think about dissolving the revolving loan fund by setting up new mechanism to get these monies out.

Councilwoman Lee advised the proposed ordinance is to be able to use the funds for additional purposes.

Councilman Dabney stated if the revolving loan fund was dissolved the monies he believes would have to go back to the Boyd Gaming (Riverboat) and believes these funds must be used for economic development; that several council members have questions, that we should schedule a meeting to review and discuss what is being proposed.

Councilman Bietry stated the proposed ordinance does not address the economic development or the all-inclusive park but does state the balance in the revolving loan fund will be allowed to use these funds for other additional purposes.

Councilman Przybylinski made a motion to have third reading this evening, second by Councilman Bietry, the motion carried to have third reading this evening and was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, and Dr. Kora, (4) **NAYS:** Council member Nelson, Dabney, Lee, and Moldenhauer (4).

NOTE: Council Attorney Snow stated the motion to break the procedural rule to have third reading requires 2/3 votes and that even having a tie breaker there is not a 2/3 vote; the motion failed to move to third reading.

President Tillman stated the motion failed to have third reading tonight; stating the proposed ordinance will be held over to third reading at our November 4, 2025, council meeting

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on third reading by title only.
ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATION AND TAX RATES

Introduced by: /s/Tracie Tillman

NOTE: ORDINANCE 4776 IS POSTED ON In.gov "GATEWAY" AND ALSO FILED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE IN FILE 0-206

President Tillman stated a Formal Public hearing was held on October 7, 2025, and was posted on in.gov Gateway; advising that this is the passing of appropriations and tax rates that must be filed annually to DLGF when the budget is adopted and submitted.

President Tillman asked if the public had any questions or comments.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, asked if there have been any labor negotiations meetings held with the police, fire or street departments; advising that if this hasn't happened this part of the Council's "Labor Relations" committee responsibility to schedule those.

President Tillman asked if there were any other public comments, there was no response.

President Tillman asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

President Tillman stated that the Council's "Labor Relations" negotiation committee didn't meet with fire, police or street departments, legal or either of the chiefs to move forward with their annual salaries.

Councilman Bietry made a motion to approve the proposed ordinance, second by Councilman Nelson, the motion carried, and the proposed ordinance was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, and Nelson (8) **NAYS:** None (0)

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on third reading by title only.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL
ORDINANCE NO. 4777

AN ORDINANCE SETTING SALARIES AND WAGES FOR APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, the Mayor must set the salaries and wages of appointed officials and employees of the City of Michigan City; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Michigan City must, pursuant to IC 36-4-7-3, set other said salaries and wages by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-4-7-3, the Common Council of the City of Michigan City may by ordinance reduce, but may not increase, any salaries and wages set by the Mayor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, LaPorte County, Indiana, that:

Section 1. The salary and wage ranges for appointed officials and employees for the year 2026 shall be as set forth as follows: (Positions covered by collective bargaining agreements are marked *)

(FT- means full-time; PT- means part-time)

	<u>Min.</u>	<u>Max.</u>		
	<u>Hourly</u>	<u>Hourly</u>	<u>Min. Salary</u>	<u>Max. Salary</u>
City Employees-Departments				

<u>Controller's Office:</u>			
Controller			\$75,019.07 \$81,403.67
Assistant Controller			\$68,080.80 \$73,874.91
2nd Assistant Controller			\$64,028.65 \$69,477.89
Payroll Administrator*	\$21.83	\$24.74	
Accounts Payable/Receivable Administrator	\$21.83	\$24.74	
Accounts Payable/Receivable Specialist*	\$19.68	\$22.30	
<u>Clerk's Office:</u>			
Deputy Clerk			\$55,136.64 \$58,656.00
<u>Mayor's Office:</u>			
City Administrator			\$58,947.08 \$63,963.85
Education & Workforce Development Director			\$66,061.32 \$71,683.56
Special Events Planner			\$58,947.08 \$73,000.00
Special Events Assistant Director	\$21.83	\$24.74	
Office Manager	\$21.82	\$24.74	
Undergraduate Municipal Intern	\$17.00	\$20.00	
Graduate Municipal Intern	\$19.00	\$22.00	
<u>Planning & Inspection:</u>			
Planning Director (Executive II)			\$73,320.00 \$79,560.00
Building Superintendent			\$67,000.00 \$72,000.00
Associate Planner			\$55,136.64 \$67,000.00
Code Enforcement Manager			\$57,930.62 \$62,860.89
Building Commissioner			\$57,930.62 \$62,860.89
Administrative Assistant II	\$18.70	\$21.20	
Building Inspector (FT/PT)	\$31.50	\$35.70	
Code Enforcement Inspector	\$23.55	\$26.69	
CDBG Housing Specialist (PT)	\$30.60	\$35.00	
Permit Specialist #1	\$21.15	\$23.97	
Permit Specialist #2	\$21.15	\$23.97	
<u>Human Resources:</u>			
Human Resource Director (Executive II)			\$79,900.00 \$86,700.00
Assistant Human Resource Director			\$64,028.65 \$69,477.89
Administrative Assistant III	\$19.68	\$22.30	
<u>Central Maintenance/Services:</u>			
Central Services Superintendent (Executive II)			\$71,447.52 \$77,528.16
Mechanic*	\$26.24	\$29.73	
Office Manager	\$21.83	\$24.74	
<u>City Hall:</u>			
Maintenance Foreman	\$19.27	\$21.84	
Custodian II (FT/PT)	\$17.43	\$19.66	
<u>Attorney:</u>			
Corporation Counsel			\$100,993.57 \$109,588.77
City Attorney			\$55,136.64 \$59,829.12
Office Manager	\$21.83	\$24.74	
<u>MC Transit:</u>			
MC Transit Director (Executive I)			\$66,061.32 \$71,683.56
Logistics Supervisor Transit	\$24.00	\$27.00	
Assistant Transit Director			\$55,136.64 \$59,829.12
Driver*	\$21.60	\$24.48	
Administrative Assistant II*	\$18.70	\$21.20	
Washer/Custodian*	\$17.43	\$19.66	
<u>Engineering:</u>			
City Engineer			\$122,200.00 \$132,600.00
<u>Fire Department:</u>			
Chief			\$87,335.36 \$94,768.16
Deputy Chief			\$79,072.31 \$85,801.87
Office Manager	\$21.83	\$24.74	

Seasonal Lifeguard	\$24.32	\$27.57		
Seasonal Assistant Head Lifeguard	\$25.31	\$28.68		
Seasonal Head Lifeguard	\$26.28	\$29.78		
Administrative Assistant I (part-time)	\$16.83	\$19.07		
<u>Police Department:</u>				
Chief			\$87,833.66	\$95,308.86
Deputy Chief			\$79,540.62	\$86,310.03
Office Manager	\$21.83	\$24.74		
Administrative Assistant II*	\$18.70	\$21.20		
Administrative Assistant III	\$19.68	\$22.30		
Maintenance Foreman*	\$19.30	\$21.84		
Custodian II*	\$17.34	\$19.66		
Animal Control Officer* (FT/PT)	\$19.41	\$23.00		
Social Worker			\$57,791.31	\$62,709.72
Crossing Guard	\$11.00	\$13.00		
<u>Vector Control:</u>				
Vector Control Officer			\$55,136.64	\$59,829.12
Administrative Assistant II	\$18.70	\$21.20		
Vector Control Assistant Officer	\$21.83	\$24.74		
Laborer	\$17.34	\$19.66		
Seasonal Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
<u>Street Department:</u>				
Street Department Director (Executive I)			\$66,061.32	\$71,683.56
Operator*	\$23.54	\$26.68		
Driver*	\$21.60	\$24.48		
<u>Aviation:</u>				
Airport Manager (Executive I)			\$66,061.32	\$71,683.56
Foreman Maintenance Supervisor	\$19.27	\$24.74		
Laborer (FT/PT)	\$17.34	\$19.66		
Seasonal Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
<u>Cemetery:</u>				
Cemetery Superintendent (Executive I)			\$66,061.32	\$71,683.56
Cemetery Assistant Superintendent			\$55,136.64	\$59,829.12
Administrative Assistant II	\$18.70	\$21.20		
Working Foreman	\$19.27	\$21.84		
Mechanic	\$19.27	\$21.84		
Laborer/Driver	\$17.34	\$19.66		
Temporary/Seasonal Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
<u>Park Administration:</u>				
Park Superintendent (Executive II)			\$71,447.90	\$77,528.57
Assistant Park Superintendent (Executive I)			\$66,745.88	\$72,426.39
Admin Director			\$52,000.00	\$59,465.90
Administrative Assistant II Payroll	\$18.70	\$21.20		
Administrative Assistant II Rec Program Coordinator	\$18.70	\$21.20		
Seasonal Parking Sticker Clerk	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Parking Attendant	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Assistant Parking Supervisor	\$16.76	\$18.00		
Seasonal Parking Supervisor	\$17.30	\$19.00		
<u>Park Recreation:</u>				
Seasonal Day Camp Director	\$18.38	\$19.00		
Seasonal Day Camp Leader	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Day Camp Supervisor	\$17.30	\$18.00		
Summer Intern	\$14.00	\$17.00		
<u>Park Zoo:</u>				
Zoo Director			\$59,963.30	\$65,066.55
Assistant Zoo Director	\$23.55	\$26.69		
Retail Manager	\$23.55	\$26.69		

Zookeeper I	\$20.61	\$23.36		
Craftsman	\$20.21	\$22.90		
Seasonal Admission Cashier I	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Zookeeper/Laborer I	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Zookeeper/Laborer II	\$16.76	\$17.50		
Seasonal Education Curator	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Guest Services Attendant	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Groundkeeper	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Train Attendant/Operator	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Aviary Attendant	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Animal Health Care Manager	\$20.00	\$20.40		
Seasonal Dietician	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Park Maintenance:				
Maintenance Director			\$57,930.62	\$65,066.55
Operations Foreman	\$22.74	\$25.78		
Administration Foreman	\$22.74	\$25.78		
Craftsman	\$20.21	\$22.90		
Laborer	\$19.27	\$21.84		
Seasonal Custodian Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal General Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Landscaping Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Patriot Park Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Park Senior Center:				
Senior Center Director			\$55,897.95	\$60,655.22
Administrative Assistant I (part-time)	\$18.51	\$19.07		
Golf:				
PGA Professional Director of Golf Operations			\$68,000.00	\$74,766.00
Greens Superintendent			\$57,930.62	\$67,500.00
Assistant Greens Superintendent	\$22.74	\$27.00		
Golf Laborer	\$19.27	\$21.84		
Seasonal Assistant Golf Manager	\$18.00	\$18.36		
Seasonal Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Shift Leader	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Clerk	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Cart Laborer	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Cook/Server	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Beverage Cart Operator	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Ranger/Starter	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Park Concessions:				
Seasonal Zoo Gift Shop Attendant/Office Assistant	\$14.00	\$17.00		
Seasonal Concession Attendant	\$14.00	\$17.00		

Section 2. The fringe benefit program provided by the City includes medical insurance, vacation pay, vacation bonus, participation in the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS), and sick leave, as defined in the City Employee Handbook for non-contract, full-time employees in the following departments: Mayor, Controller, Clerk, Engineer, Personnel, City Hall, Attorney, Planning & Inspection, Cemeteries, Police, Fire, Aviation, Human Rights, Central Services, Vector Control, Street, Transit, Central Maintenance, Park, Redevelopment and the Promise Scholarship Director. Also included in the fringe benefit program are the following: the City Engineer, who shall maintain a minimum of thirty (30) hours per week as well as serving on or attending the meetings of the Board of Public Works & Safety and Plan Commission; and the Corporation Counsel, who shall maintain thirty (30) hours per week, and the City Attorney, who shall maintain twenty (20) hours per week, representing City departments in grievances, participating in all contract negotiations, representing and

attending the meetings of the Board of Public Works & Safety, and prosecuting ordinance violations.

Section 3. For the Animal Control Officer, the fringe benefit program provided by the City includes certification pay at the rate of \$500 per year per certification with a maximum of three (3) certifications to be divided and included with the bi-weekly pay.

Section 4. For those employees employed with the City prior to January 1, 2026, the fringe benefit program is further defined as providing a longevity program for non-contract employees who have worked three (3) or more years in a full-time capacity, the financial increment shall be \$650 for each three (3) years of service to a maximum of \$5,200. For those employees employed with the City on and after January 1, 2026, the fringe benefit program providing a longevity program for non-contract employees who have worked three (3) or more years in full-time capacity, the financial increment shall be \$450.00 for each three (3) years of service to a maximum of \$3,600.00.

Section 5. Personnel who are subject to emergency calls outside of regular business hours will be provided with a City take-home vehicle. These include public safety personnel (Police and Fire) and one service employee per department per day when their service calls require tools that are carried in the vehicle (Animal Control, Vector Control, Parks & Recreation and Aviation).

Section 6. For Park Maintenance only, on-call pay shall be provided at an additional \$2.00 per hour as defined in a Park Resolution and approved by the Park Board.

Section 7. Except for salaries included in Section 9 below, all salaries are annual and shall be paid in equal amounts on a bi-weekly basis over the number of bi-weekly periods in the calendar year. Set salaries are in effect for all payrolls issued in the calendar year governed by this ordinance.

Section 8. All salaries and fringe benefits for union workers are subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations specified in the respective labor contracts for the year governed by this ordinance.

Section 9. Members of the following boards and commissions shall receive compensation in the amounts listed for that board or commission, payable the following month. Annual Per Diem are the maximum amounts to be paid for that position, and the columns below in this Section depict if that position is paid monthly or paid per meeting attended. Council Members and Department Heads who serve on these bodies shall not receive the per diem.

	<u>Annual Per Diem</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
Board of Public Works & Safety:		
Member	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 200.00
Police Civil Service Commission:		
Member	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 150.00
Fire Merit Commission:		
Member	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 150.00
Fire Pension Board:		
Secretary	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 200.00
Police Pension Board:		
Secretary	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 200.00
Human Rights Commission:		

Secretary	\$	1,800.00	\$ 150.00
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The following Board/Commission members must attend the meeting to receive compensation.

	<u>Annual Per Diem</u>	<u>Monthly Maximum /Meeting</u>
Board of Cemetery Trustees:		
Member	\$ 1,287.00	\$ 107.25
Licensing Board:		
Member	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00
Plan Commission:		
Member	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00
Board of Zoning Appeals:		
Member	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00
Human Rights Commission:		
Member	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00
Social Status of African American Males Commission:		
Member	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00
Commission for Women:		
Member	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00
Tree Board:		
Member	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00
Sustainability Commission:		
Member	\$ 600.00	\$ 50.00

Section 10. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect after passage by the Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

Introduced by: /s/Tracie Tillman

President Tillman advised that she had no comments at this time.

President Tillman asked if there were any public comments at this time

Chris Zerbis, President of the Michigan City Fire Department Local 475, 161 Concord Dr. presented the following statement: Reminded the city of their obligations that has been ignored; stating that per our Michigan City Fire Fighters contract a request to open negotiations by April 1 which was done on February 24, 2025, also per our contract the city was then required to schedule the first meeting by April 15, 2025 – didn’t happen; March 4, 2025 they were asked to wait for the passage of Indiana State Bill 1; understanding the importance of legislation and agreed in good faith to wait; eight (8) months later we still have had that first meeting; July 9, 2025 he submitted a letter to the City Clerk’s Office and was presented to the Council on the July 15, 2025 Council meeting; August 4, 2025 submitted another letter that was on the August 19, 2025 Council meeting agenda; on September 2, 2025 Counsel Attorney Harris; on September 18th our proposal was submitted and that same evening Attorney Harris said he’d be in touch to set meeting dates; he following up on October 9, 2025 and was told by the Counsel’s attorney to expect a response the next day; October 10, 2025 – no response; followed up on October 14, 2025 and since then have not heard from anyone, not a single date has been scheduled and never received a reply; stating that decisions being made at this meeting that affect our contract are being done and no talk to the firefighters or most other city union employees. City Ordinance Section 54-64 requires both the City and the bargaining agent to bargain in good faith within thirty (30) days after notice is given. Sec 54-68 requires a notice be served at least one hundred-twenty (120) days before the last day money can be appropriated, the firefighters did that. Section 54-81 states that negotiation shall continue for a period of sixty (60) days. Starting there are seventy-two (72) days left in this year.

Rodney McCormick, 617 Union Street, stated that there is a lack of transparency between the administration, the council, city residents and the city employees; they all need to be heard and treated fairly; that all city workers need to receive a fair salary, at the minimum they should at least be able have their voice heard, not someone making decisions for them, our city workers make our city what it is.

President Tillman asked if there were any other public comments, there was no response.

President Tillman asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilman Dabney stated due to the new bill being passed at state there was uncertainties of how this would impact the city budget, and that the negotiation process was held off until we knew for certain what we could offer; advising that unions were asked for your proposal, we received it, the committee reviewed the proposal and the Council Attorney sent them back to both the police and fire.

Chris Zibutis, MCFD Local 475 stated that they have not received any documents or proposals to date.

Councilman Dabney asked both the Michigan City Fire Department Union negotiating team and Michigan City Police Union negotiating team to meet on October 30, 2025

Councilman Przybylinski called a "Point of Order" that this discussion should not be held in a public setting.

President Tillman stated that if there is any other outburst from anyone, you will be asked to be removed from the Council Chambers; as this is not a conversation but an explanation of the negotiation process; that to the Council's Labor Relations Committee knowledge the city's proposal was done and that they have not received any response back in return.

Discussion ensued between President Tillman, Councilman Dabney, and MCFD Union Chri Zibutis, regarding negotiations with both police and fire moving forward.

Councilman Dabney stated that the attorneys decided today that a Labor Relations Committee meeting can be scheduled to be held on Thursday, October 30, 2025, in the EOC Room at City Hall with one being at 3:30 p.m. and the other at 4:30 p.m.

Marylynn Wall, City Controller advised President Tillman that if the 2026 budget is not adopted and approved by October 31, 2025, the city will convert to using the 2025 budget next year.

Marylynn Wall, City Controller also advised that the 2026 proposed salary ordinance on third and final reading tonight; does not include the police or fire that they have separate salary ordinances.

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to approve the proposed ordinance, second by Councilman Przybylinski, the motion carried, and the proposed ordinance was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Tillman, Bietry, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, and Przybylinski (7) **NAYS:** Nelson (1)

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on third reading by title only.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

ORDINANCE NO. 4778

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE MAYOR

WHEREAS, pursuant to I.C. 36-4-7.2, the Michigan City Common Council is required by Indiana law to set the annual compensation of all elected City officers; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has requested that her annual salary for 2026 remain the same from 2025¹, and the Common Council now desires to establish the salary for the Mayor for 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL, as follows:

Section 1. The Mayor of the City of Michigan City shall be paid an annual salary of \$93,280.00 (\$3,587.69 bi-weekly) from the General Fund beginning January 1, 2026. The General Fund is to be reimbursed \$10,000.00 from the Sanitary District Operating Fund and \$10,000.00 from the Department of Water Works to offset the salary of the Mayor.

Section 2. The Mayor will be paid her annual salary based on the number of pays in that year divided by the number of scheduled pays for other employees. Said pays are to be issued at the same time as other pays. If the Mayor leaves her position, prior to the expiration of her tenure, she will be required to repay the City for any prepaid salary. When the salary is not evenly divisible by the number of pays in the year, the first payroll will be adjusted with the remaining payrolls made at the bi-weekly rate.

Section 3. The fringe benefit program provided by the City for the Mayor includes medical insurance, vacation pay, vacation bonus, participation in the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS), and sick leave, as defined in the City Employee Handbook for non-contract, full-time employees. In addition, the Mayor shall participate in the longevity program provided to non-contract employees and shall receive a financial increment of \$650 for each three (3) years of continuous full-time service to a maximum of \$5,200.

This Ordinance to be effective upon passage by the Council, approval by the Mayor, any necessary publication, and any necessary approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Tracie Tillman, Member
Michigan City Common Council

President Tillman advised that the Mayor Angie requested not to receive the 2% raise and will be \$93,280.00 for 2026 and is the same as it was in 2025.

President Tillman asked if there were any questions or comments from the public, there was not response.

President Tillman asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Councilman Przybylinski made a motion to approve the proposed ordinance, second by Councilman Bietry, the motion carried and the ordinance was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Bietry, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson Przybylinski and Tillman (8) **NAYS:** Council members none (0).

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on third reading by title only.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

ORDINANCE NO. 4779

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE CITY CLERK

WHEREAS, pursuant to I.C. 36-4-7.2, the Michigan City Common Council is required by Indiana law to set the annual compensation of all elected City officers; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has declined a Two Percent (2%) increase from her 2025 salary, and the Common Council now desires to establish the salary of the City Clerk for 2026 at the same rate as 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL, as follows:

Section 1. The City Clerk of the City of Michigan City shall be paid an annual salary of \$76,252.73 from the General Fund beginning January 1, 2026. The General Fund is to be reimbursed \$1,000.00 from the Sanitary District Operating Fund to offset the salary of the City Clerk.

Section 2. The City Clerk will be paid her annual salary based on the number of pays in that year divided by the number of scheduled pays for other employees. Said pays are to be issued at the same time as other pays. If the City Clerk leaves her position, prior to the expiration of her tenure, she is required to repay the City for any prepaid salary. When the salary is not evenly divisible by the number of pays in the year, the first payroll will be adjusted with the remaining payrolls made at the bi-weekly rate.

Section 3. The fringe benefit program provided by the City for the City Clerk includes medical insurance, vacation pay, vacation bonus, participation in the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS), and sick leave, as defined in the City Employee Handbook for non-contract, full-time employees. In addition, the City Clerk shall participate in the longevity program provided to non-contract employees and shall receive a financial increment of \$650 for each three (3) years of continuous full-time service to a maximum of \$5,200.

This Ordinance to be effective upon passage by the Council, approval by the Mayor, any necessary publication, and any necessary approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

Introduced by: /s/ Tracie Tillman

President Tillman stated that the City Clerk also will not be taking the 2% for the 2026 that her annual salary will be the same as it was in 2025 - \$76,252.73.

President Tillman asked if the public had any comments at this time.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, commented the Clerk for a job well done; that the Clerk's main job is the keeper of the records which is all important documents thanking her.

President Tillman asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilman Przybylinski made a motion to approve the proposed ordinance, second by Councilman Dr. Kora, the motion carried, and the proposed ordinance was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Przybylinski, Tillman, and Bietry (7) **NAYS:** Council member Nelson (1)

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on second reading by title only.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

ORDINANCE NO. 4780

**AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARIES FOR
THE COMMON COUNCIL MEMBERS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to I.C. 36-4-7.2, the Michigan City Common Council is required by Indiana law to set the annual compensation of all elected City officers; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council now desires to set their annual compensation for 2026 with a Two Percent (2%) increase from 2025².

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL, as follows:

Section 1. Each member of the Common Council of the City of Michigan City shall be paid an annual salary of \$15,734.68 from the General Fund beginning January 1, 2026.

Section 2. Elected officials will be paid their annual salary based on the number of pays in that year divided by the number of scheduled pays for other employees. Said pays are to be issued at the same time as other pays. Elected officials leaving their position, prior to the expiration of their tenure, will be required to repay the City for any prepaid salary. When the salary is not evenly divisible by the number of pays in the year, the first payroll will be adjusted with the remaining payrolls made at the bi-weekly rate.

This Ordinance to be effective upon passage by the Council, approval by the Mayor, any necessary publication, and any necessary approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Tracie Tillman, Member
Michigan City Common Council

President Tillman stated that the Common Council’s annual compensation for 2026 is \$15,426.16 which is the same as 2025.

President Tillman asked if there were any comments from the public, there was no response.

President Tillman asked if there were any comments from the council.

Councilman Przybylinski made amotion to approve the proposed ordinance, second by Councilman Dabney, the motion carried and the ordinance was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry Dabney (8) **NAYS:** Council member (0)

NEW BUSINESS

President Tillman asked if there was any new business.

Clerk Neulieb advised there is no new business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Tillman asked if there was any unfinished business.

Clerk Neulieb advised there is no new business.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

President Tillman asked if there were any comments from the public at this time

The following residents addressed the council with their questions, comments, and concerns regarding homelessness and beggars along the Downtown Art District, and Franklin Square Monica O'Dell, Ernie Holland, Dee Haddad, Sal Dunlap, Amy Bowman, Allison Dent, Jesse Canda, Tommy Kulvak, Korbin Wagner, Courtney Fedel, Tom Dongan, and Matt Fidel.

Andy Skwait, 203 E. Harrison Street, addressed the council introducing them to Susan De Maio, Executive Director & Assistant Secretary and Aline Matheson, Director & Board President of the Baker Welfare Foundation.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, thanked the City Clerk Gale Neulieb for her dedication to the city; stating that the "Pacer Report" provides the streets rating that should receive paving; inviting the citizens to attend a Police Civil Service meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 11:00 a.m. to voice your concerns to the police regarding vacancy issues along Franklin Street.

Dominque Yankee, 904 Willow Spring Avenue, stated his concerns with the "Data Center", 402 Royal Road, regarding the recent IDEM report of violations.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, stated the homeliness is a real problem in our community, advising the council to pass legislation to help solve this issue and let Michigan City live up to its full potential; thanked President Tillman for following the council rules regarding public comment.

Rodney McCormick, 617 Union Street, stated that everyone deserves respect when speaking to the council; and that all citizens should be provided with the opportunity to purchase city owned property instead of giving it to high end developers with a tax abatement incentives as the city is in need of affordable housing, and sewer laterals that need to be addressed; asking how Attorney Jewel Harris can represent the City Council and the mayor as the council works for the people and when will the "Local Hiring Ordinance" be followed as new companies and developments are coming into the community.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

President Tillman asked if there were any comments from the Council at this time.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer, stated she was going to decline her budget increase at the October 21, 2025, meeting but not get the opportunity; and that the LaPorte County Herald Dispatch headline an article titled "City Council Seeks Salary Increase" and that is incorrect and has contacted the reporter and editor; advising that the council does not make much and to appeal to the younger generation as Councilman Coulter was advocating for an increase if they are interested in serving our community.

Councilman Dr. Kora thanked the citizens for stating their concerns on Franklin Street, and that a meeting will be set up with the council, administration, and the police to address the issue.

Councilman Przybylinski, thanked Andy Skwiat for bringing in members of the Barker Welfare Foundation; stated that the following locations along Franklin Street, that was brought to the council attention by Mr. Tom Dongan are cleaned up, as there are individuals destroying public property and it's out of control as there are standards that need to be upheld; advising that a workshop will be set up with business in the Downtown District to move forward with a solution; and thanked the councilmembers for providing dinner for the Michigan City Wolves boys football team.

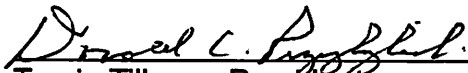
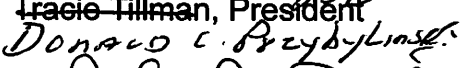
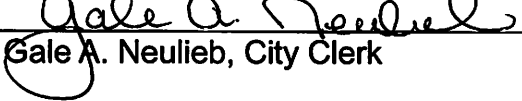
Councilman Dabney, stated he understand the Firefighter’s frustration, but negotiation could not be done ahead of time as the budget was not set and cannot offer a raise and take it back if the funds are not in place; advising that negotiations are going to happen that must be complete by the end of the year

President Tillman reminded the public of the “Michigan City Matters” Town Hall meeting located at the Michigan City Fire Training Department, 2510 E. Michigan Boulevard, on Thursday, October 30, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Councilman Bietry, second by Councilman Dr. Kora and there being no further business to transact, President Tillman declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** (approximately 9:45 p.m.)

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Michigan City Common Council meetings. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKjZJuM7nmc&list=PL8L8Y5g9S6bqw-rohSfvSUA8dwegrb6st>


Tracie Tillman, President


Gale A. Neulieb, City Clerk