

REGULAR IN PERSON COUNCIL “HYBRID/ZOOM” MEETING October 7, 2025

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in Regular session on Tuesday evening, October 7, 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 Vice President Bietry.

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

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

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER Tracie Tillman (1)

Vice President Bietry stated that President Tillman did indicate her 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

Vice President Bietry stated that the September 16, 2025, Council minutes will be ready for the October 21, 2025, Council meeting.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any standing committee reports.

Councilman Przybylinski, liaison to the Michigan City Public Arts Committee, stated the new mural designed by Flex Molindero, along the 900 block of Michigan Boulevard was celebrated by holding a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, commemorating the 60 (sixty) year partnership with Hitachi Global Airpower U.S and the City of Michigan City.

Councilman Przybylinski, liaison to the LaPorte County Solid Waste District, provided an update on the smolder fire held at the at the compost site in LaPorte.

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any other reports of standing committees, there was no response.

FINANCE REPORT

Vice President Bietry (Member) stated the Finance Committee did meet this evening October 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.; a quorum was present and the Michigan City Riverboat/Boyd Claim Docket for October 7, 2025, was as follows; Riverboat fund #2235 claims were \$37,799.86 paying LaPorte Chrysler Inc for September and October; Riverboat EFT fund #2235 was zero; Rainy Day fund #2236 claims were \$17,425.00 paying NWI Asphalt to resurface the City Hall south parking lot; and Boyd Development fund #2504 was zero (0) with the total claims being \$55,224.86.

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to approve the October 7, 2025, Riverboat/Boyd Development Claim Docket in the total amount of \$55,224.86 second by Councilman

Przybylinski, the motion carried and the October 7, 2025, Riverboat/Boyd Development Claim Docket in the total amount of \$55,224.86 was approved by a verbal vote 8-0.

Vice President Bietry advised the statement of the cash position for October 7, 2025, Riverboat Fund #2235 was \$5,105,702.49 and the Rainy-Day Fund #2236 was \$1,150,065.42 with the fiscal grand total ending balance on October 7, 2025, was \$6,255,767.91.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

Councilwoman Moldenhauer liaison to the Michigan City Sustainability Commission, advised the public that the Northwest Indiana Green Drinks will be meeting on Thursday, November 6th, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. and you can join on Save the Dune's Facebook Live, or a zoom link can be obtained em@savedunes.org; "Pottawatomie Indigenous lands in Chicago and Northwest Indiana", presented by Dr. John Lowe, Ohio State University.

Councilman Coulter stated the Historic Preservation Commission workshop scheduled for Saturday, October 11, 2025, has been canceled.

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any other reports from Boards and Commissions, there was no response.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL or SELECT COMMITTEES

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any reports from special or select committee, there was no response.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR OR OTHER CITY OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any reports from the mayor or other city officers and departments.

Chief Forker, MCPD, addressed the council providing them with the MCPD monthly September stats.

Mayor Angie presented a copy of the letter to the council sent by Phoenix Investors LLC., regarding an update to "Project Maize" and addressed the following:

- Provided an update on the recent ransomware attack on the city computers and that the IT Department is actively working to restore operations along with a forensic investigation to determine the full scope and are limited to any discussion but at this time are declining any negotiation for the demand in bitcoin; encouraging all city department to include IT when researching possible purchase of systems so that the city can all work and flow together.
- Thanked former Councilman Paul Przybylinski for asking questions regarding markings that are currently being done throughout the city for planting of new trees and stated that residents can opt out to not have new trees planted on their property, advising them to fill out their name and address on a card and drop it off to the Mayor's Office.
- The Michigan City Municipal Airport hosted the pilot trail for the "Dumpster Program" advising that Refuse Department is still picking up and to place your items on the curb and call it in for special pick up.
- Advised that an Executive Session was held with Phoenix Investors LLC., local union members and the mayor regarding their involvement and will be expanding the union involvement to a 45 mile radius asking the unions to provide the company with the names of contractors; stating that the following Unions are currently involved: Local 210 Plumbers, Local 531/669 (Fire Suppression System), Local 4 Bricklayers, Local 1165 Glaziers, Local 1485 Carpenters, Local

531 Electricians, Local 150 Operators (Concrete Crushing), Future Commitment: Local 20 Sheet Metal, Local 81 Laborers; advising that are committed to taking the Indiana Plan students as well as resident and training them on OJT.

- The 2026 Budget is straight forward with the 2% raises.

Councilman Przybylinski asked if the residents know that there is a potential for being hired on spot for "Project Maize".

Mayor Angie stated they have an on-site team that is willing to take Michigan City residents and train them on-site, advising they will provide her with information and a list of companies that will potentially hire the trained individual.

Mayor Angie stated previously she spoke of a potential "Gas Station" ordinance but MCPD Chief Forker has found some different ordinances that are better suited regarding "new senses" and will send the information to the council members for their thoughts and input on how to handle crime and shootings in our community.

Mayor Angie advised Councilman Dr. Kora that the IT Department is confident that they can recover information without having to pay the ransom requested.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer thanked Mayor Angie and her administration for a clear budget stating that the "per hour rates" are on the same page across the board.

Mayor Angie stated having a minimum and maximum help adds equity for positions.

Councilman Bietry stated he agrees with Mayor Angie regarding an ordinance for "new sense" and to locate hot spot areas around the city; asking how many people showed up for the "Indiana Plan" program.

Mayor Angie replied nine (9) people showed up after passing a drug test and that this program is for Michigan City residents only; advising that Work One will be providing the students with work boots; hoping to host another class in March of 2026 with the goal of 15 students and possibly offering this class to surrounding areas but nonresidents are ineligible to receive a stipend or work boots.

Councilman Bietry gave a shout out to the IKORCC Carpenters training facility in Merrillville, Indiana, offer a great way to get into the skilled trades.

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any other reports from departments, there was no response.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any comments from the public at this time.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, stated he does not support the thought of a "Gas Station" ordinance as it is discriminatory; the compost sight in LaPorte is re-open to take your yard waste and brush to; announced that American Legion Post 451 Commander Jason Lambert Novak will be hosting Wreaths Across America founded by the late Keith Harris, on December 13, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at Greenwood Cemetery placing wreaths on Veterans gravesites; and stated "Go Wolves".

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, asked if a vote was taken to move "Public Comments to the beginning of the agenda; advising that the Council's rules it states the council must follow these rules; that every meeting when moving "Public Comments" to the beginning of the agenda a vote needs to be taken; thanking the Public Works Director, Wendy Vachet, for her help him obtain information he requested and agreed that the city code needs to be updated to have a process against a city licensed contractor's regarding work finished but not done correctly at a residents property.

Ashley Williams, 401 Fir Street, commented on the council approving a million-dollar tax abatement for the Data Center and stated several concerns regarding "Project Maize" that was approved.

John Carrington, 140 Esther Street, stated he was disappointed regarding the resolution that was adopted at the last council meeting, that he feels the council granted/approved Phoenix/"end user" carte blanche; stating several of his concerns; also commented on the ordinance that is on first reading this evening due to a typo in the LLC document that was created for the Sola Project; that on the MCEDC webpage he noticed there are a lot of typo's, especially in the Project Maize document; asking if someone this evening could clarify who the principals are for these properties and is this property is actually selling for \$10.

Dominique Yankee, 904 Willow Spring Drive, stated his concerns regarding hundreds of loads of dirt that has been removed from 402 Royal Road for the last year, which contains heavy metals, petroleum, asbestos and PCB's and is a health risk to our entire community.

Tom Donegan, 205 E. 11th Street, commented on several concerns that are occurring on Franklin Street between 11th Street and Barker Avenue regarding trash, drugs, vagrants, people sleeping in doorways, crime and homelessness, inviting the Mayor and City Council members that he will be at the corner of Franklin and Warren Street between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 8, 2025, to come for a personal tour to see the issues and create a way to address the problems.

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

PETITIONS

Vice President Bietry asked Clerk Neulieb if there were any petitions.

Clerk Neulieb advised that there were no petitions received in the Clerk's Office.

COMMUNICATIONS

Vice President Bietry 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 September 29, 2025, from IDEM regarding the approval of a permit.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on September 24, 2025, from Claudia Marciniak regarding her concerns with the "Data Center".

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on September 24, 2025, from IDEM regarding the receipt of an Air Permit Application.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on September 23, 2025, from Ashley Williams regarding "Project Maize" community concerns.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on September 17, 2025, from Mayor Angie Nelson Deutch regarding Title VI Implementation Plan- 2025 Update

RESOLUTIONS

Vice President Bietry asked Clerk Neulieb if there were any resolution.

Clerk Neulieb advised that there were no resolutions this evening.

ORDINANCES

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first 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

Vice President Bietry state the author isn't here this evening making the following comments:

Councilman Bietry stated the proposed ordinance is for the "Sola Project" adjacent to City Hall correcting a scrivener's error in the documents provided to the council regarding this development and this will be removing Lakefront LLC to read MC Lakefront LLC.

Vice President Bietry asked If the public had any questions or comments.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, asked what the timeline is that the city will receive any tax money from this project.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, stated the company purchased the land for \$10.00 and the Economic Development Corporation will be receiving \$450,000.00 as a donation as part of their agreement.

Allen Sirinek, Attorney for Redevelopment, stated that The Redevelopment Commission purchased the property from the News Dispatch along with the old Police Station adjacent to City Hall and paid for the demolition of these buildings; advising to create a Economic Improvement District (EID) a petition has to be filed by a private owner, the Economic Development Corporation created two temporary private LLCs for this project, and that "SOLA" is contributing \$450,000 to the city for housing needs in Michigan City; advising that either "SOLA" could have their funding in place by December 10, 2025, and receive the parcels or if "SOLA" is not fully funded than the two (2) parcels will return ownership to the Redevelopment Commission; apologized for the scrivener's error.

Skyler York, Redevelopment Director, stated normally this would typically go through the developer however "SOLA" must have their financing in place as the LLCs created by the EDCMC to protect the city and Redevelopment Commission.

Councilman Nelson asked for clarification on who owns the properties as the LaPorte County Beacon states that the City of Michigan City owns these two parcels not the Redevelopment Commission.

Mr. Sirinek advised that there is a total of four (4) parcels on the proposed "SOLA" site with two (2) of them being owned by the Redevelopment Commission; advising that these two (2) parcels were transferred through a resolution which approved why they were being transferred.

Mr. York advised Councilman Nelson that if funding is not in place by December 19, 2025 with the Sola Developers, the two (2) LLC parcels will then be transferred back to the Redevelopment Commission; that when there is a new developer would have to come back to the council with the same process that is happening.

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

Vice President Bietry asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer commented on the mistake that took place in these documents was extremely significant, requesting that more care be done moving forward in preparing documents for this council; that she is in support of development in Michigan City and supports this project, but will be voting "Nay"; this mistake raised all kinds of questions with residents in our community about who is doing what, when and why; providing much clearer documents that will prevent these issues from happening.

Vice President Bietry asked if the council had any other questions or comments, there was no response; stating that the proposed ordinance will be held over to second reading at our October 21, 2025, council meeting.

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

Introduced by: Tracie Tillman

Vice President Bietry asked if any of the authors had anything to add at this time, no response.

Vice President Bietry advised that there will be a formal public hearing this evening (stating three time)" Is there anyone from the public that wish to speak", there was no response, and the formal public hearing was closed.

Vice President Bietry asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilman Dabney made a motion to not be able to make any amendments on third reading.

Councilman Bietry asked Attorney Snow if this motion should be made during third reading and if so, does it require 2/3 vote or anonymously.

Attorney Snow advised that the Council rules state that no ordinance can be amended until it is read twice and that no ordinance can be amended on third reading unless by unanimous consent.

Discussion ensued between Attorney Snow, and Council members Dabney, Bietry, and Przybylinski regarding how to move forward on the proposed ordinance if it moves to third reading, the timeframe of the deadline on this document, amendments that may be proposed on third reading how they would be voted on individually, and what the budgets due date was to file it and downloaded to Gateway.

Marylynn Wall, City Controller, advised the budget is due to the state and uploaded to Gateway by November 1, 2025, advising that this has been advertised that the 2026 proposed budget will be approved at the October 21, 2025, Council meeting.

Councilman Dabney made a motion to not have amendments on third reading on this proposed ordinance and the following proposed ordinances regarding the budget, second by Councilman Dr. Kora, the motion carried to not have amendments on third reading by the following vote: AYES: Council members Dabney, Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, and Coulter (7) NAYS: Council members Bietry (1)

Vice President Bietry stated that the proposed ordinance will be held over to third reading at our October 21, 2025, council meeting.

Note: Attorney Snow advised Vice Chair Bietry that each of the following proposed ordinances should have a motion and a vote not to have amendments on third reading for the record moving forward.

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

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

Introduced by: Tracie Tillman

Vice President Bietry stated the Councilwoman Tillman isn't present this evening for any comments.

Vice President Bietry asked if the public had any questions or comments.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, stated there have been several cuts in the 2026 budget including the Administrative Assistant from the Michigan City Fire Department who was doing all the secretary duties for the Fire Merit Commission; asking if there were any other ways the city could reduce the budget besides removing this position; that there are many board/commission members that are over paid for attending one meeting a month, that the Mayor should look into that.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, commented on the motion that was just made regarding not being able to make any amendments on third reading and that the intent on first reading on this proposed ordinance for Council members annual salary had a 2% increase that the Mayor proposed; questioning the procedure that is being proposed.

Discussion ensued between Vice President Bietry and Mr. P. Przybylinski; Councilwoman Moldenhauer called a "Point of Order".

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

Vice President Bietry asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilman Dabney made a motion to not be able to have amendments on third reading, second by Councilman Dr. Kora, the motion carried to not have amendments on third reading by the following vote: AYES: Council members Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Coulter, and Dabney (5) NAYS: Council members Nelson, Przybylinski, and Bietry (3)

Vice President Bietry stated that the proposed ordinance will be held over to third reading at our October 21, 2025, council meeting.

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

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE MAYOR (\$93,280.00)

Introduced by: Tracie Tillman

Vice President Bietry stated that President Tillman is not present to make comments.

Vice President Bietry asked if the public had any questions or comments.

Tommy Kulvik, 1316 Ohio Street, read the Indiana State Statue of the Mayor's responsibilities and duties.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, commented on Councilman Dabney's proposed motions; to not be able to have any amendments on third reading on any of the proposed ordinances regarding the 2026 budget; stating that there are council rules with objectives to be followed no amendments on third reading is not the correct thing to do now and is not giving transparency to the general public.

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

Vice President Bietry asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilman Dabney stated a budget workshop was held before this came to the council on first reading; with adequate time to bring forth any proposed amendments from first to second reading to the council for changes to be made.

Councilman Przybylinski commented on the first proposed ordinance motion made by Councilman Dabney to not be able to make amendments on third reading, that he voted "yes" and that he thought about what is being proposed and that the council members should not give up there right, to say okay, that I want to be able to make that amendment on third reading on this \$70 million budget.

Mary Lynn Wall, City Controller advised Councilwoman Lee that if the 2026 budget is not adopted and sent to the state by November 1, 2025; the city will revert and use what was adopted in 2025 budget.

Councilman Dabney advised that there was a workshop held where you had a chance to offer amendments and explained the procedures you must follow to be able to make amendments from the time the proposed ordinance is read on first reading until it adopted on third reading; making a motion to not be able to make amendments on third reading to this proposed ordinance.

The motion was second by Councilman Dr. Kora, the motion carried to not be able to have amendments on third reading by the following vote: AYES: Council members Lee, Moldenhauer, Coulter, Dabney and Kora (5) NAYS: Council members Nelson, Przybylinski, and Bietry (3)

Vice President Bietry stated that the proposed ordinance will be held over to third reading at our October 21, 2025, council meeting.

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

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE CITY CLERK (\$76,252.73)

Introduced by: Tracie Tillman

Vice President Bietry stated that President Tillman was not present to make any comments.

Vice President Bietry asked if the public had any questions or comments.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, read State Statue of responsibilities and duties of the City Clerk, thanking Clerk Neulieb for her hard work and that he feels she should take the 2% increase.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, stated he agrees with Mr. Kulavik and that amendments should be able to be made on third reading; that it wouldn't be a crisis to call a "Special" council meeting to adopt the budget.

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any other comments from the public.

Tamiko Smith, 115 Logan Street, stated that the councilmembers received their budget workbooks on September 11, 2025, and that previous councils have also had no amendments on third reading, as every line item is advertised on Gateway and once the council approves this budget changes have to be made in Gateway to be uploaded by

the deadline; and that having the motion to not have amendments on third reading allows the Controller's Office to get the final 2026 budget downloaded to Gateway and to the state.

Vice President Bietry asked if there were any other comments from the public, there was no response.

Vice President Bietry asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilwoman Lee wanted to remind the public that Mayor and the City Clerk did decline their 2% raise

Councilman Coulter stated at the first workshop the council received the Mayor's proposed 2026 budget; at the following council meeting on September 16, 2025 Mayor Angie did a presentation for the council regarding what was being proposed, then a Council Workshop was scheduled with all City Department Heads being present; and that he feels that this council should take the 2% raise that is being proposed so the people who will be replacing us will have competitive wages..

Councilman Przybylinski thanked the City Clerk for her dedication and love for the city, and that she deserves more than a 2% raise; thanked Councilman Coulter for providing the workshops that were scheduled to address the proposed 2026 budget, when received the budget, but the principal is still any council member should be able to make an amendment if they want on third reading.

Councilman Dabney made a motion to not to be able to have amendments on third reading, second by Councilman Coulter, the motion carried to not have amendments on third reading by the following vote: AYES: Council members Moldenhauer, Coulter, Dabney, Kora, and Lee (5) NAYS: Council members Nelson, Przybylinski, and Bietry (3)

Vice President Bietry stated that the proposed ordinance will be held over to third reading at our October 21, 2025, council meeting.

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

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARIES FOR THE COMMON COUNCIL MEMBERS (\$15,734.68)

Introduced by: Tracie Tillman

Vice President Bietry advised that President is not present to make any comments.

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to amend the 2% increase keeping the Council's salary the same as the previous year (2025) in the amount of \$15,426.16, second by Councilman Przybylinski

Vice President Bietry asked if the public had any questions or comments.

Tommy Kulvik, 1316 Ohio Street, advised that he still is waiting to hear what the three (3) top goals each council member wants to achieve as a council member; reminding everyone that was asked by Mayor Angie in January 2024.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, thanked the council for doing the right thing by not taking the 2% pay increase.

John Carington, 140 Esther Street, due to the increase of the cost of living he supports pay increases for our council and the administration as their positions require continuous dedication.

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

Vice President Bietry asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilman Coulter stated that the pay needs to be paid adequately, to encourage younger people to run for these positions, advising that currently the council would only make 19.78 an hour and by increasing the pay by 2% would make the hourly wage \$20.18.

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to amend the 2% increase, second by Councilman Przybylinski, the motion carried to not receive the 2% increase carried by the following vote: AYES: Council members Nelson, Przybylinski, Bietry, Dabney, Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer (7) NAYS: Council members Coulter (1).

Councilman Dabney made a motion to not have amendments on third reading, second by Councilman Dr. Kora, the motion carried to not have amendments on third reading by the following vote: AYES: Council members Coulter, Dabney, Kora, Lee and Moldenhauer (5) NAYS: Council members Przybylinski, Bietry, and Nelson (3)

Vice President Bietry stated that the proposed ordinance will be held over to third reading at our October 21, 2025, council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on second reading by title only.
CREATING SEC. 78-7 IN THE MICHIGAN CITY MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROHIBIT SMOKING WITHIN (20) TWENTY FEET FROM THE PUBLIC ENTRANCEWAYS OF MICHIGAN CITY GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

Introduced by: Don Przybylinski
 Vidya Kora
 Greg Coulter
 Tim Bietry

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

Councilman Coulter stated that Councilman Przybylinski had his light on first to go head and make his comments.

Councilman Przybylinski stated that this proposed ordinance is moving smoking from ten (10) to twenty (20) feet from the entranceway of any city entity or building; advising that this is being brought to council due to employee's request for their personal health.

Councilman Przybylinski made a motion to have third reading this evening, second by Councilman Nelson, the motion carried to have third reading this evening carried by the following vote: AYES: Council members Bietry, Dabney, Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, and Przybylinski (7) NAYS: Council members Coulter (1).

Vice President Bietry asked if any of the authors had any comments.

Councilman Coulter stated the best way to quit smoking is to remove it from their workplace; stating the national average/statistics regarding smoking rates in our country and Indiana; advising that in our budget presentation there was an increase of \$2000 for tobacco user in our city insurance policies; commenting on ways to encouraging current smokers to help quit smoking; stating that he is in the process of proposing an amendment but with the computer issue the city is having he was unable to receive those documents from the City Attorney; making a motion to table this so he can bring forward to the council these amendments.

Councilman Coulter stated that he wasn't sure how his motion will interact with the motion to have third reading this evening that was approved moving forward.

Attorney Snow stated that this proposed ordinance was voted on to have third reading this evening; advising that moving forward to third reading Councilman Coulter can make a motion to recommit the amendments that he would like to bring to the Council, not at this meeting; but at the next Council meeting on October 21, 2025; that he previously spoke with Councilman Coulter regarding the proposed amendments he is bringing to the council and they are substantial and would bring a new version to this ordinance.

Discussion ensued between Attorney Snow, Vice President Bietry and Council members Przybylinski, Coulter, Dr. Kora, regarding what the proposed amendments are that Councilman Coulter wants to propose, smoking and public health, reasons to recommit to come back with a different version of the proposed ordinance, and to move forward and have public comment first.

Vice President Bietry asked the public had any questions or comments.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, stated he does not feel like the city needs this ordinance and encouraged the council to work on other policies that need to be addressed first.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, stated he supports this ordinance, as nicotine is one of the worst addictions to have, asking to please have a public comment before any motion is adopted.

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

Vice President Bietry asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilman Dr. Kora stated that many of the health care facility are smoke free; and that there should be accommodations for employees who smoke that he would like to hear the amendment Councilman Coulter will be proposing to review and discuss his amendments.

Attorney Snow advised Vice President Bietry, Council members Przybylinski and Dr. Kora that the council took a vote to move to have third reading; a motion to recommit by the Council is stating the proposed ordinance will go back to the draft version (a committee or individual) to make the changes and due to the changes be proposed it will be presented as a new ordinance on first reading, if the amendment is minor it will fall back on the last reading held. NOTE: the proposed ordinance hasn't been read on third reading.

Vice President Bietry stated that he feels the council should make a motion to recommit the proposed ordinance prior to moving to third reading to be able to make any changes prior to bringing it back as a new ordinance on first reading.

Discussion ensued between Attorney Snow, Vice President Bietry, Przybylinski, and Dr. Kora regarding recommitting the proposed ordinance, tabling the ordinance or move on to third reading, did not instruct Clerk Neulieb to read the proposed ordinance on third reading yet.

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to table this proposed ordinance until the November 4, 2025, council meeting.

Councilman Przybylinski second the motion to TABLE this proposed ordinance for one (1) until the November 4, 2025 Council meeting and hold a public workshop prior to that meeting to discuss and review Councilman Coulter's proposed changes; the motion carried to TABLE this proposed ordinance for until the November 4, 2025 council meeting by the following vote: AYES: Council members Coulter, Dabney, Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, and Bietry (8) NAYS: Council members (0).

Councilman Coulter stated that he would schedule the workshop.

Vice President Bietry stated this proposed ordinance has been TABLED for one (1) month and that a workshop will be scheduled by Councilman Coulter.

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

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

Councilman Przybylinski read the following into record; Subsubsections (d), (e), and (f) shall be added to Subsection (3) and shall read as follows:

- d. Fund may be used to pay the City's annual contract with the Michigan City Economic Development Corporation.
- e. Fund may be used as a local match for park and recreational capital projects and/or beautification projects, which shall include but not be limited to the proposed destination playground project in Fedder's Alley
- f. Fund may be used as an incentive as a corporate match for businesses donating funding toward park and recreational capital and beautification projects, which shall include but not be limited to the proposed destination playground project in Fedder's Alley.

Vice President Bietry asked the public had any questions or comments.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, stated that all parks can use improvements but the Zilla Park/Marsh School's playground in the agreement between the city and the Michigan City Area School System, they are responsible to perpetuity and maintenance on any object that is there; asking that the language in this ordinance should be expanded to say all parks in the city of Michigan City to get donations for not just the proposed park for Fedder's Alley.

Mr. Przybylinski questioned if these monies have already been allocated out of the revolving loan fund to the Park and Recreation Department.

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

Vice President Bietry asked if anyone from the council had any comments.

Councilman Przybylinski advised that the proposed funds can be used as a local match to the park and Recreational Departments Capital Projects or to beautification projects for all playgrounds in Michigan City.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer stated that is confusing as the Revolving Loan Fund is to help small businesses borrow money for capital improvements for their properties; asking if the city is borrowing funds from itself.

Councilman Przybylinski explained the Revolving Loan Committee met and that he is the Council's Liaison and have no vote; but in attendance was Mayor Angie and Clarence Hulse representing the MCEDC; that they were advised that the balance in the Revolving Loan Fund balance was approximately \$1 million, discussion ensued a vote was taken and approved to take a total of \$400,000 (\$200,000 annually) to the Economic Development Corporations and \$300,000 towards the "Destination Playground" in Fedder's Alley; questioning is the city borrowing money to be able to do a Capital Project at Fedder's Alley

Councilman Przybylinski advised Councilman Nelson that the Michigan City Economic Development when passed will receive \$200,000 for two (2) consecutive years of a total of \$400,000.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer made a motion to TABLE the proposed ordinance until the October 21, 2025, council meeting; second by Councilman Nelson, the motion carried to TABLE this proposed ordinance until the October 21, 2025 Council meeting; carried by the following vote: AYES: Council members Dabney, Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, and Coulter (6) NAYS: Council members Przybylinski, and Bietry (2).

NEW BUSINESS

Vice President Bietry asked if there was any new business.

Clerk Neulieb advised there was no new business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Vice President Bietry asked if there was any unfinished business.

Clerk Neulieb advised there is no new business.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

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

Councilman Przybylinski stated his concerns regarding the panhandling that is taking place on the southside of Michigan City; advising that it is against the state and city law to on the median strip on a public highway asking for money; asking the public to please don't give them any money because encourages them to be out there.

Councilman Coulter congratulated State Representative Pat Boy for her dedication and hard work as a Michigan City Councilwoman for fourteen (14) years and our State Representee for seven (7) years; wishing her a happy retirement.

Councilwoman Lee thanked the Michigan City Police Department and the Michigan City Fire Department for their brave efforts on their rescue of a truck that went into the water by the pier on Trail Creek..

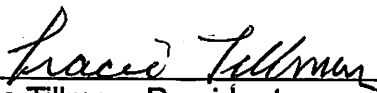
Councilman Bietry agreed with Councilwoman Lee thanking the Michigan City Fire Department for doing a great job on the rescue; thanked Mayor Angie and the City Controller for explaining the 2026 Budget; and thanked the City Clerk Gale Neulieb for doing a great job.

ADJOURNMENT

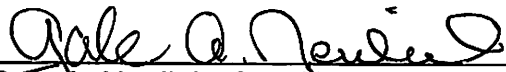
A motion by Councilman Bietry, second by Councilman Dr. Kora and there being no further business to transact, President Tillman declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** (approximately 8:45 p.m.)

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