

REGULAR IN PERSON COUNCIL “HYBRID/ZOOM” MEETING March 3, 2026

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in Regular session on Tuesday evening, March 3, 2026, 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.

President Tillman stated as members and president of the Michigan City Common Council we recognize that many in our communities have families and friends serving in the military here at home and abroad. With the United States involvements in the conflict, we understand the very real impact it can have on our families with deployment and extended assignments place, emotional and financial strains on households. There are many disruptions to employment, childcare, and daily routines. The uncertainty that comes with military services during times of conflict can also weigh heavily on loved ones waiting at home. We want our service members and their families to know that you are not alone. We extend our sincere thoughts and prayers to each of you during this time. Your sacrifice and commitment do not go unnoticed. If there is anything the Council or the mayor’s office can do to assist through local resources coordination of services or community, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here for you and stand firmly in support of our military families.

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

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS Tim Bietry, Greg Coulter, Bryant Dabney, Vidya Kora, Daisey Lee, Nancy Moldenhauer, Joseph Nelson, Don Przybylinski, and Tracie Tillman (9).

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER (0)

A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Tillman asked if there were any corrections, deletions, or additions to the Regular “Hybrid/Zoom” Council meeting minutes that was held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Councilman Bietry made a motion to approve the February 17, 2026, Regular Council (Hybrid/Zoom) meeting minutes, second by Councilman Dr. Kora; the motion carried and was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Nelson, Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, and Moldenhauer (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

President Tillman stated the February 17, 2026, minutes has been approved.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

FINANCE REPORT

Councilman Dabney stated the Finance Committee did meet this evening on March 3, 2026, and there was a quorum; stating the March 3, 2026: Riverboat fund #2235 was \$7053.93 paying LaPorte Chrysler Inc.; Riverboat EFT fund #2235 claims was zero (0); Rainy Day fund #2236 claims was \$32,100.00 paying Haas & Associates for the Millennium Plaza Demolition \$20,000.00 and \$12,100.00 for the Annexation Sanitary Extension; and Boyd Development fund #2504 was zero (0) with the total claims being \$39,153.93

Councilman Dabney advised the cash position for March 3, 2026, Riverboat Fund #2235 was \$4,276,057.43 Rainy-Day Fund #2236 was \$1,321,810.42 with the fiscal grand total ending balance was \$5,597,867.85.

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to approve the March 3, 2026, Riverboat/Boyd Development Claim Docket in the total amount of \$39,153.93, second by Councilman Bietry, the motion carried and the March 3, 2026, Riverboat/Boyd Development Claim Docket in the total amount of \$39,153.93 was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, and Nelson (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

President Tillman stated the March 3, 2026, Riverboat/Boyd Development Claim Docket have been approved.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

Tommy Kulavik 1316 Ohio Street stated that he sits on the LaPorte County Alcohol and Beverage Commissions representing the City of Michigan City.

Councilman Dabney, liaison to the Alco Board, stated that Alco just posted their 5,000th meeting on the Access LaPorte County/ YouTube page; and will provide a report at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer, advised that the Northwest Indiana Green Drinks will be meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2026, 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; "Gardening for Biodiversity: Basics and Beyond of Planting for Pollinators", presented by Leslie Shad and Kathy Sipple.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer invited the public to attend the following events: Spring Recycling Workshop with Sasha G. Burns, on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 5:30 located in the EOC Room; the 5th Annual Earth Month Extravaganza on Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 12:00 p.m.– 3:00 p.m. located at the Michigan City Senior Center with many activities for the public at free of charge; and on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at the Michigan City Senior Center a Workshop will take place on how to plant a native garden; advised that the Sustainability Commission will provide their annual report to the Council at the April 7, 2026 Council meeting.

Councilman Dr. Kora stated he attended his first Economic Development Corporation meeting and received updates on all the Economic Development activities, the housing development that is happening in our community and a presentation by Chris Johnson Superintendent of the Water Department.

Councilman Przybylinski liaison of the LaPorte County Solid Waste District Board announced that Clay Turner, Director of Waste Management will be retiring at the end of May 2026; advising that if anyone is interested in this position to contact him that he has who to contact regarding this position.

Councilman Przybylinski liaison to the Human Rights Commission, recognized the following winners of the Black History Essay Contest thanking Marty Corley for chairing

the Black History month events and the Human Rights Commission for their hard work and dedication.

4th Grade

DeAnna Taylor- 1st place (Edgewood School)

Aubrey Nelson- 2nd place (Edgewood School)

Jariah Coleman- 3rd place (Edgewood School)

7th Grade

Sharlottee Russell- 1st place (Krueger Middle School)

Chase Robers- 2nd place (Barker Middle School)

Mariyha Spears- 3rd place (Barker Middle School)

11th Grade

Sophia Vaughn- 1st place (Marquette High School)

President Tillman asked if there were any other Board and Commission reports, there was no response.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL or SELECT COMMITTEES

President Tillman asked if there were any reports from Special or Select Committee reports, 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.

MCPD Chief Forker presented their monthly February 2026 stats and overtime amount.

Chief Forker advised Councilman Bietry that the state laws have changed regarding expungement through the prosecutor's office and are all back dated records that were dropped/dismissed during this timeframe and had to be corrected due to this change.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer thanked Chief Forker for presenting visual documents that make it clearer to understand his stats reports; stating that she noted that the two shots detected with her Ward being the lowest the last three months and hopes that it will show zero (0) shots fired in her Ward 6 in the upcoming reports.

MCFD Chief Bear Taylor presented their January 2026 monthly stats and overtime amount.

Chief Taylor reported that there is a higher rate of firefighters getting cancer with and that they follow the NFPA guidelines but the toxins that cause cancer get in their gear and they also touch their environments surrounding them; providing stats from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health NIOSH study from volumes 98 published in 2010 and volume 132 from 2023; and screening statics of early cancer detections; and on December 19, 2025 the Federal Government signed into law the "Falling Heros Act" to honor our fallen heroes.

Discussion ensued between Chief Taylor and Council members Dr. Kora, Lee and Moldenhauer regarding the facts and statistics of cancer rating among firefighters, having a cancer screening done for our local firefighters, working with State Representative Randy Novak to cover any additional cost for screenings; and information on PFAS free gear for firefighters.

Mayor Angie Nelson Deutch addressed the council regarding the following:

- Gave her condolences to the families of those who passed serving our county in our recent Military actions.

- Advised that State Representative Randy Novack was supposed to be present this evening to present a proclamation that the City of Michigan City is 190 years old but was unable to attend.
- Suggested that the Council's Public Health and Safety committee hold a workshop with State Representative Randy Novak to review the data on firefighter screening and gear they wear.
- Congratulated the Black History Month Essay winners.
- Stated that in the 2025 Budget only \$2 Million was used from the \$5 Million that was available as funds were only transferred as needed again moving forward in 2026; commenting the proposed additional appropriation this evening in the amount of \$300,000 that Shong Smith, Street Department Director, will be entering into a contract agreement moving forward to save the city money regarding the purchase of road salt..
- Commented on the "Safe Streets" build/planning grant that we received \$100,000 from our first grant and just received \$250,000 on this second grant with the total of \$350,000.00 that will be used to move forward on a plan for Michigan Boulevard from U.S Highway 94 to U.S. Highway 12.(that Michigan Boulevard was not included in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan at all)
- Advised that she submitted a \$2.5 million grant before she left last week and this grant is attached to the proposed resolution that will be creating a corridor plan for the entire Michigan Boulevard from I-94 all the way down to Hwy.12 (\$500,000 will be coming from the Redevelopment Commission).
- Advised the proposed additional appropriation for \$1.1 million dollars is for the purchase of radios for the MCPD and MCFD and is requirement that must be done.
- Commented on a grant, she is trying to receive four (4) electric vehicles for our city in the amount of \$50,000 for the MCPD that her and Chief Forker are working on..
- Addressed the Council regarding the proposed ordinance on the agenda this evening in the amount of \$500,000 to buy out MCPD vehicle leases plus four (4) additional new vehicles.
- Addressed the proposed additional appropriation on the agenda this evening in the amount of \$600,000 so the Park Department can move forward and go out for bids in April for the Fedders Alley Destination Playground; advising that we are still asking for donations and may not even need these funds, but in order to start this project the full amount has to be in our account.
- Stated that on Friday, March 13, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the EOC Room, City Hall she invited anyone interested in learning more about the "Destination Playground", or if you would like to contribute toward this project.

President Tillman asked if there were any questions or comments for Mayor Angie, there was no response.

PETITIONS

President Tillman asked Clerk Neulieb if there were any petitions.

Clerk Neulieb advised that there were no petitions this evening.

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 February 24, 2026, from Attorney Barry McDonnell scheduling the formal public hearing regarding the Petition for Development Standard Variance located at 107 Nevada Avenue.

The Clerk's Office was advised by Mayor Angie on February 18, 2026, to share the following correspondence with the Council: **NIPSCO to Host Community Customer**

Care Centers Across Northwest Indiana Customers invited to learn about billing, financial assistance, energy efficiency, and investments NIPSCO is making to ensure safe and reliable service.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on February 18, 2026, from Indiana Department of Revenue regarding the Municipal Wheel Tax Disbursements for February 2026.

RESOLUTIONS

Clerk Neulieb read the following resolution by title only.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 4993

APPROVING SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FOR THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE BETTER UTILIZING INVESTMENTS TO LEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT (BUILD) GRANT PROGRAM & 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 BUILD grant application seeking funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation from the BUILD Grant Program FY 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Michigan City will be requesting up to \$2.5 Million Dollars in BUILD grant funds for the planning and engineering of the Michigan Boulevard Corridor Project and the City will be required to have a \$500,000.00 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:** U.S. Department of Transportation – BUILD Grant Program.
2. **Why it is beneficial to the City to apply for this grant:** This grant will allow the City to fund the planning and the preliminary engineering to revise, reconstruct, and enhance Michigan Boulevard.
3. **The purpose of the grant and the proposed use of grant funds:** This grant will be used for the planning and preliminary engineering for the Michigan Boulevard Corridor Project.
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 is currently closed.
 - b. The deadline to submit the application was February 25, 2026, and the City submitted the grant prior to the deadline.
6. **The amount of any required or proposed City monetary match or voluntary contribution and the proposed source for the matching funds and contributions:**
 - a. The maximum amount of match required from the City is:\$500,000.00.

- b. The matching funds are budgeted as follows: The Michigan City Redevelopment Commission will provide the match of \$500,000.00 from TIF.
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.

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

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 BUILD 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, President
Michigan City Common Council
/s/Dr. Vidya Kora, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/Don Przybylinski, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/Nancy Moldenhauer, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/Greg Coulter, Member
Michigan City Common Council

Note: Exhibit "A" is attached to Council Resolution No. 4993 in the Clerk's Office in file CR-115

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

President Tillman stated that she is in full support of this resolution due to that she represents the 5th Ward, which is the east side of Michigan City and the corridor where this build grant program will be utilized; advising by being able to do this matching grant, this is also going to help in the vital routes for commerce, residents, visitors, and will enhance safety, improve traffic flow and strengthen economic development opportunities; asking her fellow council members to support this proposed resolution.

Councilman Dr. Kora stated in addition to what President Tillman and Mayor Angie has stated, that with the new housing developments that are happening in our city this will be an important artery bringing traffic into our community and believes we have a good redevelopment plan; Stating that it is a \$2.5 million dollar grant with the \$500,000 grant match will be coming from the Redevelopment Commission

President Tillman asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Mayor Angie stated that she forgot to mention that part of the Redevelopment Commissions annual plan was to put money in their budget for city grant matches for

2026 and that there is also the Eastside TIF with Michigan Boulevard being a part of that TIF area since 2023.

Mayor Angie stated that at the end of 2025 the city received a \$5.8 million of permit fees from the Data Center project and that the Planning Department brought in \$1 million in permit fees outside from the Data Center (March – December timeframe); Also advising that the city will start receiving \$8 million for the next four (4) years from Gary (Casino); asking the council to support this.

President Tillman asked if there were any other public questions or comments.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, questioned how much the city plans on spending on the Michigan Boulevard project since the city is responsible for the entire stretch of the boulevard to I-94 that this is a resolution and will be voted on this evening, and the public would like to know; asking how much is the Redevelopment Commission funds going to be used toward this project..

Mayor Angie advised Mr. Przybylinski that with federal dollars, you have to have the planning grant first before you can do an implementation, and where we reside in our poverty rate, CCMG and CDBG our percentage could be much lower; explaining we have to get the planning grant first before we can even apply for an implementation grant with that it would be \$20 million dollars; stating that former Councilman P. Przybylinski is correct when it is all said and done it will be a \$20+ something million dollar project; stating that the city will have to do it in smaller bite-size projects but we still have to have the plan first before we can apply for those grant dollars.

Mayor Angie advised that "Safe Streets" is a bit different, those funds can be used anywhere in the city; misaligned intersections, ADA, inventory, where there are high accident rates, sidewalks and is comprehensive and that there will be a lot of workshops for public input sessions for our community.

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

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

Councilman Przybylinski asked to be added as a co-sponsor advising that it has been at least sixteen (16) years since the last renovation project of Michigan Boulevard; stating several unsafe areas along that street along with the infrastructure also needs to be addressed.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer asked to be added as a co-sponsor and didn't know that Michigan Boulevard extended all the way to I-94 which part of that is in the 6th Ward and is why she would like to be a sponsor.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer reported that the concrete barriers at the corner of Hwy 12 Second Street and Michigan Boulevard need to be replaced from being ran into; that also being the liaison of the Sustainability Commission she requested that drain rain gardens be considered that a lot of the runoff from streets could be gathered in those areas and then dissipate gradually and a lot of the water won't be going into the city sewer system.

Councilman Coulter asked to be a co-sponsor.

Councilman Dabney asked to be a co-sponsor as well.

Councilman Dabney made a motion to approve the proposed resolutions, second by Councilman Bietry, the motion carried and the resolution was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Tillman, Bietry, Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson and Przybylinski (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

The Clerk read the following proposed resolution by title only **RECOGNIZING AND HONORING “CELEBRATING NAOMI ANDERSON DAY” ON MARCH 1ST ANNUALLY AND IN PERPETUITY**

Introduced by: Nancy Moldenhauer

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

Councilwoman Moldenhauer read the following proposed resolution in its entirety.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 4994

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING “CELEBRATING NAOMI ANDERSON DAY” ON MARCH 1ST ANNUALLY AND IN PERPETUITY

WHEREAS, Naomi Bowman Talbert Anderson was born in Michigan City, Indiana, on March 1, 1843, to free blacks, Elijah and Guilley Ann Bowman; and

WHEREAS, Naomi Anderson was initially barred from attending the segregated public school until the school read her poetry and then she was admitted to public school in Michigan City, Indiana, which was the only formal education she received; and

WHEREAS, at age 26, Naomi Anderson spoke at the first Women's Rights Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, becoming a public figure known throughout the country as a controversial and fiery speaker; and

WHEREAS, Naomi Anderson's writings were published in hundreds of newspapers throughout the United States, and she spoke to tens of thousands of people during her lifetime, advocating for human rights, women's right to vote, unions, orphans, temperance, and for “A Solution to the Race Problem;” and

WHEREAS, with great courage, Naomi Anderson was known throughout the country for her eloquence, moral force, and life of activism, while fighting the dual oppression for being both a person of color and female; and

WHEREAS, in the year 2020, the Michigan City Mainstreet Association and Celebrating Naomi Anderson Project Team received an Indiana Humanities and Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs “Preserving Women’s Legacy” grant for recognizing Naomi Anderson with a sculpture designed by artist Bernard Williams honoring her life which has been installed in Charles R. Westcott Park at US 35 and US 12 in Michigan City, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, a young member of the Boys & Girls Club of LaPorte County in Michigan City suggested a special day be designated to honor our hometown heroine while listening to a presentation about Naomi Anderson by Carnessa Carnes, Bonnie Schaaf, and Cheryl Chapman; and

WHEREAS, a book entitled *Turn It Around: Freedom Bound* for pre-school children, authored by storyteller Cheryl Chapman and illustrated by teacher Dionte Garner, was published and presented to attendees at Paladin Head Start and Imagination Station; and

WHEREAS, another book entitled *Turn It Around: The Life and Words of Naomi Anderson*, for elementary children written by Cheryl Chapman and illustrated by the third-

grade students at Pine Magnet School for the Fine & Performing Arts under the direction of art teacher Holly Beadles, was showcased by them via a multi-media performance choreographed by Melli Hoppe; and

WHEREAS, a theater work, entitled *Sister Suffragists*, uplifted Naomi Anderson—with lyrical poetry, live music, and shadow puppetry—premiered at Tarkington Stage in Carmel, Indiana was authored and performed by Ming Joi Washington, a poet, curator, and critic; and

WHEREAS, a documentary film titled *Discovering Naomi Anderson*, features sculptor Bernard Williams getting to know Naomi Anderson and follows the process he used to create the sculpture, was written and directed by Rana Segal, an award-winning documentarian; and

WHEREAS, due to circumstances of history, Naomi Anderson has not received the national recognition which she so richly deserves although she was a dynamic force, leaving an indelible mark on American history well beyond 1899, the year she passed on, leaving it to her hometown to honor this daughter of Michigan City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana honors the indelible mark on American history made by Michigan City native Naomi Anderson by naming March 1st annually, in perpetuity, “Celebrating Naomi Anderson Day” in Michigan City, Indiana.

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

INTRODUCED BY: /s/Nancy Moldenhauer, Member
Michigan City Common Council

President Tillman asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, wished everyone a “Happy Women’s History Month” and it also interacts as March 1st is also a Pfc. Danny Bruce day in Michigan City; that on March 1, 1969, Pfc. Bruce a brave young 118-year-old Marine paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving his country during the Vietnam War; wished Mayor Angie a Happy Birthday.

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

Councilman Coulter commented on the Naomi Anderson Sculpture that he visited today; asking the Main Street Association with their funds to repair and he appreciates the work of that committee and the Main Street Association by getting that historical legacy placed there.

Councilman Dabney made a motion to adopt the proposed resolution, Councilman Przybylinski second the motion, the motion carried and was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Bietry, Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski and Tillman (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

ORDINANCES

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

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROAD SALT FOR THE STREET DEPARTMENT

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney
Dr. Vidya Kora

(DCEREAUSE 1101.000 Unappropriated balance \$300,000.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT# 1101.105.422.024 \$300,000.00 Operating Supplies- Salt)

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

Councilman Dabney stated that the mayor spoke about this earlier regarding purchasing more road salt due to the harsh winter our city has had so far; advising that with this appropriation this money will make sure we will have enough salt for the rest of this year

President Tillman asked if there any questions or comments from the public.

Shong Smith, Street Department Director, addressed the Council regarding the harsh winter we have had, the amount of salt the city has had to use and why the salt prices have gone up; that the city is going to do a quantity purchasing agreement with surrounding communities, INDOT and QPA; advising we all enter the same pool in hopes of getting lower prices for salt moving forward.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer thanked Mr. Smith and his crews for the excellent removal of snow this year; stating she is in full support of this additional appropriation.

Mr. Smith advised Councilman Nelson stated that we could use sand but that is hard on the city drains/sewers, there is a liquid salt which is basically the same but the rock salt that we use crystalizes on the pavement and then goes off to the edge of the road.

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

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

Councilman Przybylinski asked to be added a co-sponsor due to him being the chair of the Streets and Alleys Committee.

President Tillman asked if there was any other council members that would like to be added to the proposed ordinance, there was no response; stating that the proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at our March 17, 2026, Council meeting agenda.

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

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DESTINATION PLAYGROUND IN FEDDER'S ALLEY

Introduced by: Don Przybylinski

(DECREASE 2235.000 Unappropriated balance \$600,000.00 INCREASE: ACCOUNT# 2235.502.444.050 \$600,000.00 Cap Outlay-Imp Other than Bldg. Other)

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

Councilman Przybylinski stated that the "Destination Playground" is a project that has been seven (7) years in the making; first introduced by Mayor Meer, then worked through Mayor Parry and now Mayor Angie; commenting on the avenues and hard work they have done to get where they are today and that this project is not only being supported by some local entities, but also U.S. Congressman Mervan; introducing Park Superintendent Shannon Eason.

Shannon Eason Park Superintendent thanked Councilman Przybylinski and Mayor Angie for their introduction, asking to do their three (3) minute video that's an immersive video into this project; advising that this will be the first all inclusive playground and fitness park in our region with this video giving you a total walkthrough; adding the reason for the proposed additional appropriation is that they want to go out for bid on

this project in April of this year and don't want to jeopardize our 1.5 million dollars in grant funding and that we will actively fundraise.

Ms. Eason commented on a couple of her favorite features; explaining one being the tower that has wheelchair accessible to a second story and the other being the dual zip line that has an adaptive chair, that if a child with mobility issues they will be able to go on this and race their sibling or their friend; asking for the council's support on the additional appropriation.

President Tillman asked if any of the council members had any questions for Ms. Eason; there was no response.

President Tillman asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, questioned whether there are funds set aside for future maintenance and upkeep this park will need after it is completed; stating vandalism that has happened at many parks in our community and also at our Michigan City golf course.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street stated that he agrees with points Mr. Kulavik brought up regarding the maintenance on this facility and insurance costs, especially regarding the zip line.

Mr. Przybylinski addressed the Council regarding parking at "Fedders Alley" and the beach area, noting that for years the area was restricted to Michigan City residents and that this policy had been enforced. He expressed several concerns about the development of a "Destination Park" in an area that the Park Board had previously approved for Michigan City residents and their families to park and access the beach.

President Tillman advised Mr. Przybylinski that his time was up for further comments.

Kathy Stransky, Barker Avenue, stated that she is a lifelong resident of Michigan City and has visited Washington Park and Fedders Alley numerous times over the years. She stated that many of the people using the park area out of towners expressing concern regarding the limited space available to Michigan City residents and families. Ms. Stransky advised that she is very disappointed with what is occurring and questioned why we keep trying to amend and make things bigger and better for other people.

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 question or comments.

Councilman Przybylinski stated that the park equipment that is at Fedders Alley at the present time is over seventy (70) years old and is probably safe; advising not according to ASHA regulations or ADA and it is time to move forward stating several reasons why the "Destination Park" should be placed there and will be an asset to our community and Washington Park, that he supports the additional appropriation and is excited about getting this project moving forward.

Councilman Dabney advised that he doesn't remember a "Michigan City Residents Only" sign at the entrance of Fedder's Alley and if there was a sign, he was sure the Park Department would have that document/information; stating several concerns if that would happen, with one of them being the loss of parking revenue.

Councilman Dr. Kora thank Ms. Eason for her video that this is going to be a family friendly facility and will promote physical and mental health with it being a good thing for our community.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer advising as being a retired teacher and serving on the Michigan City Human Rights Commission she has realized the importance of inclusion; that this serves every single resident in Michigan City and is something we can be very proud of, supporting this one hundred (100%) percent.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer asked to be added as a co-sponsor.

Councilman Bietry stated several reasons why he will be supporting this additional appropriation: asking to also be added as a co-sponsor.

Ms. Eason explained to Councilwoman Lee the weight limit on the zip line, swings and tower will accompany adults and that the restrooms do have changing areas for all ages visiting the park

President Tillman asked if there were any other questions or comments from the council, there was no response; stating that this ordinance will be held over until the March 17, 2026, Council meeting.

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

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF RADIOS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT AND FIRE DEPARTMENT

Introduced by: Daisy Lee
Dr. Vidya Kora

(DECREASE 2235.000 Unappropriated balance \$1,100,000.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT# 2235.202.445.050 - \$1,100,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment)

President Tillman asked if there were any comments from the authors

Councilwoman Lee stated that this proposed additional appropriation is to purchase new radios for the MCFD and MCPD; asking MCFD Chief Taylor to explain what is being proposed; that her understanding is that the radios they currently have are old technology, that they stopped making those models, parts aren't available, so there is no choice but to move forward.

MCFD Chief Taylor explained the MCPD Asst. Chief Shiparski helped initiate and facilitate the proposed agreement; that the reason the updating their radios and need to be replaced is due the significant advancement in technology since the purchase of the radios we are using at the present time.

MCPD Chief Forker advised that this purchase wasn't in our 2026 budge as a capital purchase, that working with Motorola to secure this pricing the city needed to move forward with the agreement by Mach 17, 2026 to receive this deal, which with the trade-in radios and the discount our saving will be approximately \$170,000.

Chief Forker advised Councilman Dr. Kora that the radios we are using now were purchased in 2015; stating at that time the county received a grant to purchase radios for the entire LaPorte County.

Chief Fork advised Councilwoman Lee that the proposed agreement with Motorola was approved by the Board of Public Works at their meeting yesterday March 2, 2026, pending the Council's approval of this additional appropriation this evening.

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

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

Chief Forker addressed Councilman Nelson questions that they did explore other vendors besides Motorola, but they didn't have a comparative model that would match the function of even what they are using at the present time; and also that there are ninety (90) radios for the MCPD and fifty-five (55) radios are for the MCFD and this a three (3) year lease agreement with the option to buy.

Asst. Chief Shiparski explained Councilman Nelson and the council in more detail about the make and model of the Motorola radios, that this will have a seven (7) year warranty that we will have the ability to get them serviced at a minimal to no cost to the city, we are receiving \$700 back for each radio we trade in that will help toward the purchase of additional equipment, holsters, charging devices needed and also explained how the lease route will work for the next three (3) year agreement.

Councilman Dabney thanked Chief Shiparski for working and getting this deal, congratulating him that this is very beneficial to the city; advising that this money will be encumbered and will be locked up to be used for these radios.

Chief Shiparski addressed Councilman Dr. Kora's that these radios are a lease to own, that at the end of the three (3) year lease the city will own them and the lifespan would be like the radios we have now - eleven (11) years.

Councilman Bietry commented on an incident that occurred at our high school where the radios had to be on the same frequency to be able to talk to each other

President Tillman asked if the Council had any questions or comments, there was no response; stating that this proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at the March 17, 2026, Council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only.
APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLES, INCLUDING THE BUY-OUT OF LEASED VEHICLES, FOR THE MICHIGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Introduced by: Daisy Lee
 Dr. Vidya

(DECREASE 2235.000 Unappropriated balance \$500,000.00 INCREASE
ACCOUNT# 2235.202.445.020 \$500,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment Motor Vehicle)

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

Councilman Dr. Kora stated the decision was made when looking at the finances that purchasing vehicles is financially beneficial compared to leasing vehicles and is why some of these vehicles are being purchased; along with purchasing four (4) new.

Asst. Chief Shiparski addressed the council advising several reasons why the city is purchasing the last of the leased vehicles and four (4) new vehicles; that moving forward the MCPD will be doing a regular rotation of vehicles when purchasing them for the department

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

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

Chief Shiparski advised Councilman Nelson that this buyout will end in November of 2026, that this buyout won't happen until then.

President Tillman asked if there were any other comments from the Council, there was no response; stating that this proposed ordinance will be held over until our next council meeting on March 17, 2026.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on second reading by title only.
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA TO FUND ITS "TAXABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE NOTE, SERIES 2026" AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS IN RESPECT THERETO

Introduced by: Tracie Tillman
Dr. Vidya Kora
Don Przybylinski

President Tillman advised that the proposed ordinance is in regard to constructing a certain economic development for the facilities consisting of the constructing a new public roadway and utilities to serve the "Tailwind Business Park"

President Tillman asked Skylar York, Redevelopment Director to share any comments; asking if any of the other authors had any comments before Mr. York addresses the council, there was no response.

Skylar York, Redevelopment Director stated that he spoke in detail at the last council meeting on February 17th regarding the proposed development that this area is directly south of the AMC Theater where the roads dead end into thirty (30) acres of land and the public roadway will go through this parcel; advising they will be constructing a new public roadway and utilities necessary to serve the Tailwinds Business Park, including lighting, signage, landscaping, storm/sanitary/ water extension, together with all necessary appurtenances, related improvements and equipment; advising that this has to go through all of its entitlements, meaning subdivision, zoning code review, all those things, development plan review, and the site plan review. Mr. York stated that there will be a new road built there, which is the piece that the Redevelopment Commission will be participating in the construction of that road along with the City Engineer, explaining that this would be approximately one and half (1 ½) years before it will be completed.

President Tillman asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, asked to have this road named after a person stating an example like "John Pugh" who was the City Planner for years, a historical figure from the city's past.

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

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

Mr. York advised Councilman Przybylinski that the developer will be installing streets along this public right-of-way that will have curbs and sidewalks and certain guidelines at intersections that must be met.

Matt Rossman representing XLRP, LLC (developer) addressed Councilman Nelson's question regarding once this project has approved to move forward what type of business/developments they are looking to attract.

Mr. York advised Councilman Dr. Kora reiterated that this proposed road will be owned by the city, and our goal is to connect Cleveland Avenue to Hwy. 421 so our community will start using Cleveland Avenue when traveling through our community and hope to see more development.

Councilman Bietry stated that he stated that our February 17th council meeting he asked to be added as a co-sponsor but doesn't see his name on the ordinance, which isn't

important; advising that this is an exciting development due to this being in his Ward and that he lives on Cleveland Avenue and has watched this stretch of road for many years and now it is actually happening; making a motion to suspend the rules and have third reading this evening, second by Councilman Dabney, the motion carried and was approved to have third reading this evening by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, Tillman, and Bietry (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

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

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

ORDINANCE NO. 4793

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA TO FUND ITS "TAXABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE NOTE, SERIES 2026" AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS IN RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 36-7-11.9 and 12 (collectively, "Act") declares that the financing and refinancing of economic development facilities constitutes a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, the City is authorized to make loans for the purpose of financing, reimbursing or refinancing all or a portion of the costs of acquisition, construction, renovation, installation and equipping of economic development facilities in order to foster diversification of economic development and creation or retention of opportunities for gainful employment in or near the City; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that it is in the best interests of the City to further develop the Tailwinds Business Park; and

WHEREAS, to further that goal, the City and the Commission intend to provide the hereinafter defined Borrower a forgivable loan ("Loan") and pursuant to the hereinafter defined Loan Agreement ("Loan Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, XLRP, LLC, an Indiana limited liability company duly organized and authorized to do business in the State of Indiana ("Borrower"), has informed the City that it will be constructing certain economic development facilities consisting of the construction of a new public roadway and utilities necessary to serve the Tailwinds Business Park, including lighting, signage, landscaping, storm/sanitary/water extensions, together with all necessary appurtenances, related improvements and equipment (collectively, "Project")and

WHEREAS, the Project will be located in or physically connected to the Consolidated Economic Development Area ("Area") and Southside Allocation Area (collectively, "Area") as

previously established by the Michigan City Redevelopment Commission ("Redevelopment Commission"); and

WHEREAS, the Michigan City Economic Development Commission ("Commission") has rendered its Project Report regarding the Series 2026 Note from the City to the Borrower to finance all or a portion of the Project, and the Project Report will also be submitted to the Michigan City Plan Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a public hearing on January 22, 2026 and adopted Resolution #01-2026 and a Project Report, which said Resolution and Project Report are attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A** and **Exhibit B** respectively, finding that the financing of all or a portion of the Project complies with the purposes and provisions of IC 36-7-11.9 and -12 and that such financing will be of benefit to the health and welfare of the City and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has heretofore recommended the adoption of this form of Ordinance by this Council, has considered the issue of adverse competitive effect and has approved the forms of and has transmitted for approval by the Council the Loan Agreement between the City and the Borrower (including the form of the Series 2026 Note), which are attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit C**; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with the Act, the City desires to provide funds necessary to finance a portion of the Project by issuing and funding the Series 2026 Note; and

WHEREAS, the City intends to fund the Series 2026 Note and make a loan consistent with the terms of this Ordinance and pursuant to the Loan Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Series 2026 Note will be funded with TIF Revenues, on a junior and subordinate basis to the Outstanding Obligations (each as defined in the hereinafter defined Financing Documents) and the loan of the proceeds of the Series 2026 Note to the Borrower; and

WHEREAS, no member of the Council has any pecuniary interest in any employment, financing agreement or other contract made under the provisions of the Act and related to the Series 2026 Note authorized herein, which pecuniary interest has not been fully disclosed to the Council and no such member has voted on any such matter, all in accordance with the provisions of Indiana Code 36-7-12-16; and

WHEREAS, there has been submitted to the Commission for its approval forms of the Series 2026 Notes and the Loan Agreement (collectively, "Financing Documents") and a form of

this proposed Ordinance, which were incorporated by reference in the Commission's Resolution #: 01-2026, adopted on January 22, 2026, (see **Exhibit A**); and

WHEREAS, prior to the issuance of the Series 2026 Note, the Redevelopment Commission will pledge TIF Revenues, junior and subordinate to the Outstanding Obligations, in one or more installments, to the funding of the Series 2026 Note, pursuant to the Loan Agreement and as approved by the Redevelopment Commission on January 12, 2026 by virtue of Resolution #: 01-26, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit D**); and

WHEREAS, based upon the resolution adopted by the Commission pertaining to the Projects, the Council hereby finds and determines that the financing approved by the Commission for the Project, will be of benefit to the health and general welfare of the citizens of the City, complies with the provisions of the Act and the amount necessary to finance all or a portion of the costs of the Project which will require the issuance and delivery of the Series 2026 Note.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council for the City of Michigan City, Indiana as follows: It is hereby found, determined, ratified and confirmed that the financing of all or a portion of the Project, the funding of the Series 2026 Note, with TIF Revenues, junior and subordinate to the Outstanding Obligations, and the loan of the proceeds of Series 2026 Note to the Borrower complies with the purposes and provisions of IC 36-7-11.9 and -12 (collectively, "Act") and: (i) will result in the diversification of industry, the creation of business opportunities and the creation of opportunities for gainful employment within the jurisdiction of the City, (ii) will serve a public purpose, and will be of benefit to the health and general welfare of the City, (iii) complies with the purposes and provisions of the Act and it is in the public interest that the City take such lawful actions as determined to be necessary or desirable to encourage the diversification of industry, the creation or retention of business opportunities, and the creation or retention of opportunities for gainful employment within the jurisdiction of the City, and (iv) will not have a material adverse competitive effect on any similar facilities already constructed or operating in or near the City. The substantially final forms of the Financing Documents shall be incorporated herein by reference and kept on file by the Clerk. In accordance with the provisions of IC 36-1-5-4, two (2) copies of the Financing Documents are on file in the office of the Clerk for public inspection. The City shall fund the Series 2026 Note with TIF Revenues, junior and subordinate to the Outstanding Obligations and make the loan to the Borrower in the maximum amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000), payable in one or more installments, with

a maximum term not to exceed five (5) years from the date of issuance unless forgiven as provided in the Loan Agreement. The Series 2026 Note may accrue interest at a rate not to exceed 12%. The Series 2026 Note is to be repaid from and secured by payments received from the Borrower. The Series 2026 Note shall never constitute a general obligation of, an indebtedness of, or charge against the general credit of the City. The Series 2026 Note shall not be subject to optional redemption prior to maturity. The Mayor and the Clerk are authorized and directed to execute the Financing Documents, such other documents approved or authorized herein and any other document which may be necessary, appropriate or desirable to consummate the transactions contemplated by the Financing Documents and this Ordinance, and their execution is hereby confirmed on behalf of the City. The use of electronic signatures by the Mayor and Clerk are authorized and affirmed with full valid legal effect and enforceability. The signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk on the Series 2026 Note which may be necessary or desirable to consummate the transactions are hereby authorized, and their execution is hereby confirmed on behalf of the City. The signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk on the Series 2026 Note, may be facsimile signatures. The Mayor and the Clerk are authorized to arrange for the delivery of such Series 2026 Note to the Borrower, payment for which will be made in the manner set forth in the Financing Documents. The Mayor and the Clerk may, by their execution of the Financing Documents requiring their signatures and imprinting of their facsimile or electronic signatures thereon, approve any and all such changes therein and also in those Financing Documents which do not require the signature of the Mayor and the Clerk without further approval of this Council or the Commission if such changes do not affect terms set forth in Sections 27(a)(1) through and including (a)(10) of the Act. The provisions of this Ordinance and the Financing Documents shall each constitute a contract binding between the City and the Borrower, and after the issuance of the Series 2026 Note, this Ordinance shall not be repealed or amended in any respect which would adversely affect the rights of such holder so long as the Series 2026 Note remains unpaid. The Mayor and the Clerk, or any other officer having responsibility with respect to the issuance and the funding of the Series 2026 Note, are authorized and directed, alone or in conjunction with any of the foregoing, or with any other officer, employee, consultant or agent of the City, to deliver a certificate for inclusion in the transcript of proceedings for the Series 2026 Note, setting forth the facts, estimates and circumstances and reasonable expectations pertaining to the use of the proceeds of the Series 2026 Note, as of each funding date thereof. No recourse under or upon any obligation, covenant,

acceptance or agreement contained in this Ordinance, the Financing Documents or under any judgment obtained against the City, including without limitation the Commission or Redevelopment Commission, or by the enforcement of any assessment or by any legal or equitable proceeding by virtue of any constitution or statute or otherwise, or under any circumstances, under or independent of the Financing Agreement, shall be had against any member, director, or officer or attorney, as such, past, present, or future, of the City, including without limitation the Commission or Redevelopment Commission, either directly or through the City, or otherwise, for the payment for or to the City of any sum that may remain due and unpaid by the City upon the Series 2026 Note. Any and all personal liability of every nature, whether at common law or in equity, or by statute or by constitution or otherwise, of any such member, director, or officer or attorney, as such, to respond by reason of any act or omission on his or her part or otherwise for, directly or indirectly, the payment for or to the City or any receiver thereof, or for or to any owner or holder of any sum that may remain due and unpaid upon the Series 2026 Note, hereby secured shall be expressly waived and released as a condition of and consideration for the execution and delivery of the Financing Documents and the issuance and funding of the Series 2026 Note. If any section, paragraph or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. All ordinances, resolutions and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed. It is hereby determined that all formal actions of the Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were taken in one or more open meetings of the Council, that all deliberations of the Council and of its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action, were in meetings open to the public, and that all such meetings were convened, held and conducted in compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Indiana Code 5-14-1.5, as amended. The Mayor and the Clerk and any other officer of the City are hereby authorized and directed, in the name and on behalf of the City, to execute and deliver such further documents and to take such further actions as such person deems necessary or desirable to effect the purposes of this Ordinance, and any such documents heretofore executed and delivered and any such actions heretofore taken, be, and hereby are, ratified and approved. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after passage by the Michigan City Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Tracie Tillman,

s/ Vidya Kora, Member

/s/ Don Przybylinski, Member

NOTE: EXHIBITS “A,B,C,D” are attached to Ordinance No. 4793 in the Clerk’s Office in file 0-209.

President Tillman asked if the authors had anything to add, there was no response.

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

President Tillman asked if there were any comments or questions 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 Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, and Coulter (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

Mr. York thanked the Council, stating that this will finally allow a road project that has been on the City’s calendar for years to move forward and that it will only cost a fraction of what it would have cost the City if it had been required to fund the project on its own.

NEW BUSINESS

President Tillman asked if there was any new business.

Clerk Neulieb advised that there was no new business this evening.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Tillman asked if there was any unfinished business.

NOMINATIONS: Clerk Neulieb stated the council has one (1) appointment to the Community Enrichment Corporation board – **Incumbent** Jason Kirby with his term expiring March 31, 2026.

Clerk Neulieb read the following applications that were received in the Clerk’s office for the Community Enrichment Corporation board appointment:

- **Jason Kirby**
- **Sheryl Krachinski**
- **Violet Worth**
- **Lisa Jackson**
- **Dannie Armstrong Jr.**
- **Kevin Neisel**

President Tillman asked (repeating three times) “Are there any nomination for the one (1) appointment to the Enrichment Corporation Board”.

Councilman Przybylinski nominated Jason Kirby.
Councilman Dabney nominated Violet Worth.

President Tillman asked, (repeating three times) “Is there any other nomination at this time for the one (1) appointment to the Enrichment Corporation board”, there was no response and nomination were closed.

President Tillman stated the two (2) nomination for this appointment are Jason Kirby and Violet Worth; advising that the vote will take place at the March 17, 2026 Council meeting.

FYI: Clerk Neulieb advised that the council has one (1) appointment to the Michigan City Social Status of African American Males Commission representing the following and expired February 15, 2026

Michigan City Area Schools – Dwayne Hurt (2-year term)

Clerk Neulieb advised her office had not received a letter from the MCAS board.

VOTE: President Tillman advised that the council has one (1) appointment to the Michigan City Tree Board representing a Neighborhood Association – Incumbent Laura Henderson (Elston Grove Neighborhood Association) Term expires February 15, 2026.

President Tillman asked if the Clerk received any representative from a Neighborhood Association.

Clerk Neulieb advised that the Council received a letter from the Eastport Neighborhood Association appointing Wendy Willis as their representative to the Tree Board 2026 and it was the only application received.

President Tillman asked for a motion; Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to accept the Eastport Neighborhood Association representative to the Tree board – Wendy Willis, Councilwoman Lee second the motion; the motion carried and Ms. Willis was appointed to the Tree board by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, Coulter, and Dabney (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

President Tillman congratulated Wendy Willis to her appointment to the Tree Board.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

Ernie Hollihan, 302 Gladys Street, addressed the council and stated that prior to tonight's meeting he was turned down when attempting to speak with the council representative of Ward 6. He explained that at a previous meeting the public had been asked not to approach council members before or after meetings because they are preparing for the meeting or have documents to review and sign afterwards.

Mr. Hollihan stated that he believed his questions was important and that he has attempted to contact the Councilwoman Moldenhauer twice by leaving messages but has not received a response; advising that his concern is regarding the data center letting them place a fence next to their property on Royal Road.

Amy Losinski, 104 Mayfield Drive, addressed the council regarding Freedom of Information (FOIA) requests she has turned in and the timeframe it took to receive an answer letting her know they didn't have anything regarding what she requested; advising she had filed a formal complaint with the state to get an answer.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, advised that he watched the MCAS meeting and that Marty Corley will be representing the school board serving the Michigan City Social Status of African Males board and congratulated the new head football coach of Michigan City High School; asking to take the fencing and banners where the Sola project was going to be.

Paul Przybylinski 1716 Washington Street, commented about why he brought up the issue regarding Fedders Alley; questioning why the Park Department board doesn't

make the vote and make it formal taking this area away from us; stated that he was disappointed that no one on this council made any comment regarding the use of our fiscal mechanisms to keep from having a water increase by using the TIF District to create help pay for their resent pump station project.

Mr. Przybylinski commented on the statement that Councilman Dabney made earlier regarding racism or divisive for our community, being inappropriate.

Jason Kirby, 1600 Columbia thanked the City Clerk's office for all the help the last few months answering all his questions, emails, and telephone calls regarding his re-appointment to the Enrichment Corporation; also thanking Councilman Przybylinski for nominating him as a possibility of being appointed again to this board that he enjoyed serving his first term.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

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

Councilman Dabney responded to the comments Mr. P. Przybylinski earlier regarding Fedder's Alley being only for Michigan City residents.

Councilman Dabney commended all our departments, especially the Street Department that has been helping me fill holes over the Eastport area.

Councilman Przybylinski addressed the Council regarding who owns Royal Road; stating that he spoke with City Attorney LaPaich and that the City owns the right-of-way of Royal Road and that the fence Mr. Hollihan is talking about he is not sure if it is on a city easement and will be checking on what the status is tomorrow.

Councilman Przybylinski attended the dinner they did for the Michigan City High School basketball; advising that they were very appreciative thanking everyone that participated in donating to this dinner.

Councilman Przybylinski commented on the rate increase that is happening by NIPSCO comfort meeting they did for residents; advising where people need help paying their bills that for veterans, they can get assistance and for senior citizens they also can get assistance; stating the qualifications and to contact him for further information.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer thanked Laura Henderson, who served for many years on the Michigan City Tree Board as their secretary and the Michigan City Sustainability Commission.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer addressed the situation on Royal Road where Phoenix Development is working on the Data Center; advising that Royal Road is owned to the center of that road by Phoenix Development, stating that she has seen the survey and that they are in the process of transferring that to the city of Michigan City, that when that area was incorporated into Michigan City, nobody thought it was going to turn into a subdivision, so easements were never established.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer commented on Mr. Hollihan's complaint that she will contact him tomorrow and that she didn't receive a message.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer reminded everyone that President Tillman did setup guidelines for the beginning of our meeting, that we need that time to be able to communicate with each other and get all of documents in order before we go into our meeting.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer commented on the NIPSCO rate increases and wanted to remind people that Washington Township Trustee does have emergency funds, advising that she has attended several of the past public hearings regarding rate increases; thanking everyone who attends our council meetings and express whatever your opinions are.

Councilman Przybylinski stated that he isn't wanting to start a debate, but according to our City Attorney, she has taken the position that Royal Road belongs to the city of Michigan City and did not say she was any negotiations.

President Tillman asked if the council had any other comments, there was no response.

ADJOURNMENT

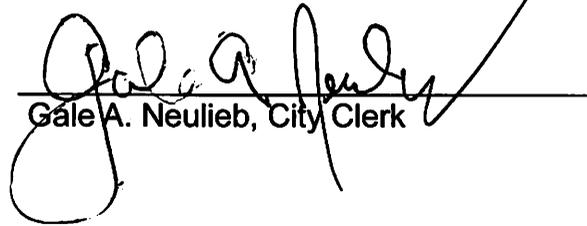
A motion by Councilman Dr. Kora, second by Councilwoman Nelson and there being no further business to transact, President Tillman declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** (approximately 9:16 p.m.)

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:

Michigan City Common Council March 3, 2026



Tracie Tillman, President



Gale A. Neulieb, City Clerk