

REGULAR IN PERSON COUNCIL**“HYBRID/ZOOM” MEETING
September 15, 2026**

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in Regular session on Tuesday evening, September 15, 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.

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, Joseph Nelson, Don Przybylinski, and Tracie Tillman (9).

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS (0)

A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT

ALSO, PRESENT: Council Attorney Nick Snow, 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, September 1, 2026.

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to approve the Regular “Hybrid/Zoom” Council meeting minutes that was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, second by Councilman Bietry, the motion carried and were 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)

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

FINANCE REPORT

Councilman Dabney, Chair of the Council's Finance Committee read the following September 15, 2026, minutes for the records.

September 15, 2026, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

The Finance Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Bryant Dabney at 6:03 p.m. to review and approve claims since the last meeting. Committee member Councilman Dr. Kora, Councilman Bietry, and Councilman Dabney were present. City Controller Tamiko Smith and Assistant City Controller Ann Shaffer were also present.

Claims reviewed were **\$2,596,000.00** from the Riverboat Fund, **\$0.00** from the Boyd Development fund, and **\$0.00** from the Rainy-Day Fund, for a total claim docket of **\$2,596,000.00**. There were no further questions about the claims docket. Councilman Dr. Kora asked about the claims on the docket. City Controller Tamiko Smith answered said questions stating that these transfers all come from the riverboat fund. Councilman Dr. Kora moved to recommend approval of the docket, and with a second from Councilman Bietry, the motion was

approved unanimously. Finally, on a motion by Councilman Dr. Kora and a second by Councilman Bietry the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

The details of claims are as follows:

From the Riverboat Fund:

\$418,000.00 - Cemetery Operating Fund

\$578,000.00 – Park Operating Fund

\$1,600,000.00 – Motor Vehicle Operating Fund

Total Riverboat Fund Claims \$2,596,000.00

From the Boyd Development Fund: \$0.00

From the Rainy-Day Fund: \$0.00

TOTAL CLAIM DOCKET - \$2,596,000.00

September 15, 2026, Riverboat & Rainy-Day Fund – Statement of Cash Position:

Riverboat Fund - \$6,035,494.53

Rainy Day Fund - \$1,099,894.46

TOTAL - \$7,135,388.99

Signature: *Bryant Dabney*

Date: September 15, 2026

Bryant Dabney, MBA
Finance Committee Chair

Councilman Bietry made a motion to approve the September 15, 2026, Claim Docket in the amount of \$2,596,000.00, second by Councilman Dr. Kora, the motion carried and was approved 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 called a "Point of Order" as she did not complete the approval of the September 15, 2026, claims docket ; and that the report from the "Planning and Zoning" committee would be under reports from boards and commissions.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

Councilman Dabney read the following Planning and Zoning Committee meeting minutes into record.

This planning committee meeting focused on refining the proposed data center development moratorium ordinance. The committee reached a consensus on removing the "indefinite" status of the moratorium but deferred more complex technical amendments to allow for coordination with the planning department and city attorneys.

Key Decisions & Insights

- **Removal of "Indefinite" Status:** The committee unanimously approved a motion to remove the word "indefinite" from the ordinance title and body. The moratorium will now be tied to a specific timeframe, likely starting once the Google facility on Royal Road begins operations.
- **Deferral of Technical Amendments:** Detailed proposals regarding Section 6 (environmental standards, public workshops, and reporting requirements) were put

on hold. The chair, Councilman Dabney, emphasized the need for these to be reviewed by the planning department and legal counsel to ensure they are defensible and technically sound.

- **Operational Data Requirement:** There is strong interest in extending the moratorium until at least one year after the current Google data center is operational. This is intended to provide “apples to apples” data on water usage, noise, and power consumption specific to Michigan City rather than relying on external case studies.
- **Procedural Guardrails:** The chair advised against adding major amendments during the third reading to avoid catching the public off guard. If significant changes are introduced late, the ordinance will likely be tabled to allow for public consideration.

Nuance & Friction

- **Public Comment Restrictions:** The chair clarified that this committee meeting was for member discussion only, not a public workshop. Public comment is reserved for the full council meeting on September 15th.
- **Complexity vs. Speed:** While there is a shared desire to move quickly to protect residents, there is tension between passing a “simple stop” (moratorium) and codifying detailed zoning updates within the same document.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer, liaison to the Sustainability Commission, invited the public to attend the following events; Northwest Indiana Green Drinks scheduled for Thursday, October 1, 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; with the topic: “Northwest Indiana Solar Co-Op Launch” presented by Erin Charpentie, Solar United Neighbors Indiana; also the Sustainability Commission workshop “Solar Smart, Do Your Part!” , on Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m., located in the EOC room; Beach cleanup takes place on Monday mornings at 8:30 a.m. with the last cleanup on September 28, 2026; and the annual “Fall Festival” will take place at Walker Street Park Community Gardens on Saturday, October 24, 2026 from 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Councilman Dabney stated that during the “Planning and Zoning” committee meeting there was a motion to remove the word indefinite out of the title and body for the proposed data center moratorium and that the council would need to take a vote for the removal from the proposed ordinance as it currently reads indefinite temporary; making a motion to remove the word indefinite from the proposed ordinance.

Councilman Przybylinski called a “Point of Order” stating that the vote should take place within discussion of the proposed ordinance.

President Tillman stated that the council is not entertaining a motion at this time regarding the recommendation from the “Planning and Zoning” committee, and that the discussion will take place under the proposed ordinance.

Blake Schiebor, Veterans Commission, invited the public to attend the Veterans Commission meeting that will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. located in the EOC room; thanked City Clerk Neulieb and Councilman Bietry for their help with scheduling the meeting.

Councilwoman Lee, liaison to the Fire Merit Commission, stated that on September 19, 2026, the Fire Merit Commission will hold the firefighters promotional testing.

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

MCFD Chief Taylor presented his stats from the month of August.

Chief Taylor advised President Tillman that he will email the August stats to the council.

Chief Taylor and Captain Stahoviak, presented the Life Saving Award to Rich Cains, for his heroic effort that rescued his neighbor from a house fire that took place on August 10, 2026, at 216 Williams Street.

Mayor Angie presented the "2027 Proposed Budget".

NOTE: 2027 Proposed Budget presentation is filed in the Clerk's office in 2026 Council matters.

Mayor Angie advised Councilman Dr. Kora that this is a new fund for the Building Department that is not detailed but is including in this year budget in line item 2260 but the revenue collected will have to be centered around permit fees; and that the General Fund is projected to be \$19 million in the cash reserves.

Mayor Angie advised Councilman Przybylinski that the restrictions that are in place is strictly on the Building Department not the funds that are collected, as the legislatures are making the funds received from the permits be used for increasing housing in our community, and that any employee who deals with the collection of permit fees will be required to document all information.

President Tillman asked if there were any other reports from the mayor or other city officers and departments, 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 were any communications received.

Clerk Neulieb read the following communications:

Notice of Decision – Approval Effective immediately was received in the Clerk's Office on August 28, 2026, from Indiana Department of Environmental Management for 110 Menke Road

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office On September 1, 2026, from Douglas Manley, Michigan City regarding procedural defect notices and memorandum for compliance to the City Clerk.

Correspondence was received from the following residents regarding their concerns about the Data Center Moratorium Ordinance on first reading at the September 1, 2026, Council meeting:

Cavin McNulty, Ashley Williams, Karen Black, Pamela Holman, Brian Niksa, E. Hernandez, Michael Walker, Dana Nelson, and Claudia Marciniak.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on September 1, 2026, from David Biela regarding the filing of a formal citizen report to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and IDEM.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on September 8, 2026, from Ashley Williams regarding the Data Center Moratorium Ordinance referring to the Planning and Zoning Committee

Notice of Public Hearing was received in the Clerk's Office on September 9, 2026, from Danielle Reardon who filed a petition and will be held on October 13, 2026, at the Michigan City Board of Zoning Appeals meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

Clerk Neulieb advised that there are no resolutions this evening.

ORDINANCES

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

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATION AND TAX RATES

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

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

Councilman Dabney advised this is the beginning of the 2027 proposed budget that will be setting salaries as labor negotiations are still in progress.

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

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

Councilman Dabney advised that there will be amendments by substation on second reading regarding pay rates and a new position, as those amendments cannot happen on first reading.

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 on second reading at the October 6th, 2026, council meeting.

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

AN ORDINANCE SETTING SALARIES AND WAGES FOR APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2027

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

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

Councilman Dabney stated that the next few ordinances will be setting the salaries for employees, and elected officials.

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

President Tillman asked if there was any comments from the council, there was no response; stating that this proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at the October 6th, 2026, council meeting.

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

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE MAYOR

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

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

Councilman Dabney stated that there will be future discussions on second reading.

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

President Tillman asked if there was any comments from the council, there was no response; stating that this proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at the October 6th, 2026, council meeting.

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

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE CITY CLERK

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

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

Councilman Dabney stated that there will be a 3.5% salary increase for employees but there is discussion that some employees have chosen to decline their raises and further discussion regarding the numbers will take place during second reading.

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

President Tillman asked if there was any comments from the council, there was no response; stating that this proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at the October 6th, 2026, council meeting.

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

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARIES FOR THE COMMON COUNCIL MEMBERS

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

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

Councilman Dabney stated that he will be meeting with City Controller Smith to set up the proposed 2027 budget hearing schedule and that will be provided to the public.

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

Paul Przybylinski 1716 Washington Street, requested that the council allow the public to have input and receive information from the budget hearings.

President Tillman asked if there was any comments from the council, there was no response; stating that this proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at the October 6th, 2026, council meeting.

Clerk Neulieb read the following proposed ordinance on second reading by titled only.

ESTABLISHING AN INDEFINITE TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON NEW DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED APPROVALS WITHIN THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA, AND DIRECTING A REVIEW OF THE MICHIGAN CITY COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE BY THE PLANNING COMMISSON OF MICHIGAN CITY, FOR PURPOSES OF DEFINING AND REGULATING DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by: Nancy Moldenhauer
Joe Nelson
Daisy Lee
Greg Coulter
Vidya Kora
Don Przybylinski
Bryant Dabney

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

Councilwoman Moldenhauer made a motion to TABLE this proposed ordinance indefinitely, asking Attorney Snow to address this matter.

Attorney Snow stated that after this proposed ordinance was brought to the council on first reading there was a significant amount of questions and input from council members, a meeting with the City Council member and legal representation took place with the Planning Department and their legal counsel; advising that the Planning Commission and Department should have the direct role in the formation of any legislation that could change the planning and zoning code; recommending that we table this proposed ordinance and allow the council "Planning and Zoning" committee and the Planning Commission to develop a resolution that would be directed to the Planning Department to look into the county terms and consider their formation and any amendments related to the comprehensive zoning ordinance to follow proper procedures.

second by Councilwoman Lee; the motion carried to TABLE the proposed ordinance indefinitely by the following vote: AYES: Council members Lee, Moldenhauer, Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, Coulter, Dabney, and Dr. Kora (8) NAYS: Council members Nelson (1)

Clerk Neulieb read the following proposed ordinance on second reading by title only.
AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF A PORTION OF AN ALLEYWAY IN THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY LOCATED BETWEEN LOTS 1 & 2 IN BLOCK 2, AND LOTS 11 & 12 IN BLOCK 2 OF EARL'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY

Introduced by: Don Przybylinski

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

Councilman Przybylinski advised this proposed ordinance is for the Skwiat Post as the proposed ordinance is to vacate a portion of the alley to the sidewalk along Washington Street and 100 feet to the east, there will not be any issues for any emergency vehicles, and Attorney Chris Willoughby is present to answer any questions the Council may have.

Attorney, Chris Willoughby – Attorney Braje, Nelson and Janes, 126 E. 5th Street, representing Frank & Edward Skwiat American Legion Post 451 stated that this proposed alley vacation would allow the Skwiat Post to make improvements that would maximum the use of their building; advised that one (1) change has been made to

reflect the City Engineer's request and that it has been submitted with the amended proposed ordinance to include a cross- access through the parking lot, with traffic entering from the south side of the building and continuing along the rear of the building rather than traveling directly onto Washington Street, advising that certified mail has been sent to neighboring properties and a notice of public hearing has been published; asked if the council would suspend the rules and have third reading this evening.

President Tillman stated this proposed ordinance has been advertised in the Hearld Dispatch on September 2, 2026, and that a formal public hearing will be held tonight September 15, 2026.

President Tillman opened the formal public hearing, asking (repeating three times)" If there was anyone from the public that would like to speak on this proposed ordinance", there was no response and the formal public hearing was closed.

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

Councilman Przybylinski stated that the Skwiat Post has been working with the city and would like to get their deck built, made a motion to have third reading.

Clerk Neulieb called a "Point Of Order" to have the amendment accepted before moving to third reading.

Attorney Willoughby stated the changes reflect the recommendations from the City Engineer regarding the cross-access through their parking lot.

Councilman Przybylinski withdrew his motion to have third reading.

Councilman Przybylinski made a motion to approve the amendment that was submitted by the City Engineer, second by Councilwoman Moldenhauer; the motion carried and was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, and Lee (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

Councilman Przybylinski asked to suspend the rules, making a motion to have second and third reading this evening, the motion was second by Councilwoman Moldenhauer; the motion carried and was approved to have third reading this evening by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Nelson, Przybylinski, Tillman, Bietry, Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, and Moldenhauer (9) **NAYS:** Council members None (0)

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

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

Ordinance No. 4812

AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF AN ALLEYWAY IN THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY LOCATED BETWEEN LOTS 1 & 2 IN BLOCK 2, and LOTS 11 & 12 IN BLOCK 2 OF EARL'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY

WHEREAS, Frank & Edward Skwiat American Legion Post 451, ("Petitioner") is the owner of certain real estate located within the City of Michigan City, Indiana, commonly known as 121 Skwiat Legion Ave., Michigan City, Indiana, (Parcel No: 46-01-32-291-004.000-002), and 1101 Washington Street, Michigan City, Indiana (Parcel No: 46-01-32-291-001.000-022),

(the “Property”), more particularly described as:

*Lots 1 and 2 in Block 2, and Lots 11 and 12 in Block 2, all in Earl’s Addition
to the City of Michigan City, LaPorte County, Indiana;*

WHEREAS, Petitioner has petitioned the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana for the vacation of a portion the alleyway that is located between Lots 1 & 2 in Block 1 and Lots 11 & 12 in Block 2 of Earl’s Addition to the City of Michigan City, all of which surrounds the subject alleyway to the North and South and is owned by Petitioner;

WHEREAS, Petitioner was not required to mail notice of the consideration of its Petition before the Common Council of the City of Michigan City because Petitioner owns the property abutting the portion of the alleyway to be vacated;

WHEREAS, the Clerk for the City of Michigan City has caused notice of the consideration of the Petition before the Common Council of the City of Michigan City for the vacation to be published on the 2nd day of September, 2026, in the LaPorte County Herald Dispatch, a newspaper of general circulation in LaPorte County, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Michigan City after conducting a public hearing on the 15th day of September, 2026, regarding the subject Petition and considering input from the City’s Department Heads, the Common Council of the City of Michigan City now finds that it is in the best interests of the City of Michigan City and its citizens that the herein described portion of the public road should be vacated; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, now finds that the requested vacation will not:

- A. hinder the growth or orderly development of Michigan City, Indiana or the neighborhood in which it is located or to which it is contiguous;
 - B. make access to the lands of any property owners within Michigan City, Indiana by means of public way difficult or inconvenience;
 - C. hinder the public’s access to a church, school, or other public building or place;
- and
- D. hinder the use of a public way by a neighborhood in which it is located or to which it is contiguous; and

WHEREAS, Petitioner will, if necessary, grant appropriate utility easements acceptable to the City of Michigan City, for the use and benefit of the Michigan City Sanitary District and the Department of Water Works for the City of Michigan City, for any existing facilities that

may be located in the portion of the road that is to be vacated,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the Michigan City Common Council as follows:

1. The aforementioned “WHEREAS” clauses are set forth above as if fully incorporated in this

Section.

2. The portion of the alleyway located between Petitioner’s parcels to the North and South,

which more specifically described as:

part of a 15 foot wide alley lying between Lots 1 & 2 and Lots 11 & 12 Block 2 Earls Addition to

Michigan City as recorded in Plat Book 1 page 235 in the Office of the La Porte County

Recorder,

is now vacated and, pursuant to law, shall vest in Petitioner as the sole owner.

3. Notwithstanding the vacation of said portion of the subject road, any public utility presently

occupying or using all or any part of said street shall not be deprived of said use unless and until said utility waives said rights by filing its written consent to this vacation proceedings or by executing and recording its waiver of said use.

4. This vacation shall be conditioned upon and requires the following actions by Petitioner:

- A. Petitioner shall provide an easement for a cross-access lane from the vacated portion of the

alley North to May Avenue and through Petitioner’s existing parking lot, which is intended to and shall keep access to the remaining alley open from the East through Petitioner’s parking lot crossing to/from May Ave; and

- B. Petitioner shall change its parking layout to allow one (1) of the two (2) existing parking

bays to exit to May Avenue to the North given that the existing parking bays are both currently striped for Southward movements with exit(s) toward Washington Street by way of the existing alley prior to vacation.

5. This Ordinance to be effective upon passage by the Michigan City Common Council, approval

by the Mayor, any necessary publication, any necessary recording, and any necessary approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

6. The Clerk of the Michigan City Common Council shall furnish a certified copy of this Ordinance to the LaPorte County Recorder and the LaPorte County Auditor in order that same may be placed of record in the records of the Recorder's Office.

This Ordinance to be effective upon passage by the Council and approval by the Mayor.

Introduced by: Don Przybylinski

President Tillman asked if any of the authors had anything to add at this time, there was no response.

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

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, stated that he supports this ordinance for the Skwiat Post and thanked City Clerk Neulieb for reminding the council to hold a vote to approval .

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, stated he supports this vacation for the Skwiat Post and sating his concerns with vacant building around the post.

President Tillman asked if there were any questions or comments at this time, there was no response.

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

Councilman Przybylinski made a motion to approve the proposed ordinance, second by Councilwoman Moldenhauer, the motion carried and the ordinance 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)

Clerk Neulieb read the following proposed ordinance on second reading by title only.
**APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE
 RAINY DAY FUND FOR LIMITED USE OF THE FLOCK CAMERA SYSTEM FOR
 THE MICHIGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Introduced by: Bryant Dabney
 Don Przybylinski
 Dr. Kora
 Greg Coulter**

President Tillman asked if any of the authors had anything to add at this time, there was no response.

MCPD Chief Forker provided an update on the recent audits that took place within the department and how the searches are established as improper; advised that policies have been updated to move along with future technology, including audits and data retention, along with accountability; asking the council to review the policies and safe guards and reach out with any concerns or questions.

MCPD Assistant Chief Shiparski, presented Michigan City Safe City Initiative

NOTE: Michigan City Safe City Initiative presentation is filed in the Clerk's office in 2026 Council matters.

President Tillman stated this was advertised in the Herald Dispatch on September 4, 2026, formal public hearing will be held on September 15, 2026, and was downloaded to Gateway on August 30, 2026

President Tillman opened the formal public hearing, asking (repeating three times)" If there was anyone from the public that would like to speak on this proposed ordinance"

Johannes Poulard, 205 Shadow Trail, stated that he started a Facebook group called "DE- flock Michigan City" stating his concerns about the misuse of the Flock cameras and his 4th amendments rights.

Jason Straton, 902 Pine Street, stated he agreed with Mr. Poulard and asked the council to consider how these effects the public and their 4th amendment rights.

Suraja Rahim, 5130 Cameron North, LaPorte, stated her concerns with the Flock system, questioning if this is another form of racial profiling, by surveillance at the police digression, asking the council to make sure racial accountable is included in the safeguards.

Patricia Boy, 218 Southwood Drive, asked what will happen with the data after thirty (30) days if the quarterly report is not complete.

Ris Twigg, 417 Belden Street, stated that she is strongly against the Flock cameras as this is the largest surveillance system in our country; stating her concerns about the misuse of Flock and ALPR's ; asking the council to establish a civilian review board that consist of community members so that investigation of any police actions or current internal investigations could be revied.

Ernie Hollihan, 302 Gladys Street, stated that he supports the Flock System as it helps solves crimes quickly and keeps are neighborhoods safer.

Tiffany Taylor, 701 E. 11th Street, stated reasons she is against the Flock system; asking the council to discontinue the current contract and encouraging more police presence in our community.

Amy Losinski, 104 Mayfeild Drive, asked the council to cancel the current Flock contract with no expansion of cameras; stated her concerns with the updated policies and procedures and she feels the dollar amount requested should be used for other city departments.

Marisa Chaples. 229 Southwood Drive, stated her concerns with the misuses of the Flock system; asking the council to discontinue the current Flock contract.

Eleanor Charlton, 122 N. Calumet Ave., stated that a review of policies and procedures along with internal audits should be carried out by an outside auditor; asking them to make sure that the safeguards are put in place.

John Carrington, 140 Esther Street, thanked the police chiefs for their presentation that cleared up some concerns for the public, questioned how searches are documented without a case number and are they considered exception searches during the quarterly audit; suggested to include a racial and demographic component to the audit for transparency for public review; asked what legal distinction explains why the name of the officer can not be released to the public regarding the misuse of the Flock system; asked why the data center moratorium has been paused to review safeguards, but that Flock is being pushed through with safeguards not in place that are still be reviewed.

Anatasia Gumms, 222 Springland Ave., stated her concerns for privacy asking the council to resend the current Flock contract.

Christopher Willoughby, 126 E. 5th Street, stated he supports the Police Department for their transparency to answer the questions and concerns from the council and public and are willing to continue making improvements to this proposed ordinance.

Valrie Pendergrass, 305 Decatur Street, stated her concerns with mass surveillance and privacy.

Ron Miller, 3033 Woodrow Ave., thanked the Police Department, that when a misuse of the Flock system accord it was handled quickly and appropriately; and that many of our surrounding area that are canceling their contracts with Flock is simply because there budget no longer allows for this system.

Jody Slabough, 222 W. 9th Street, stated that he supports the police and the Flock system but he has concerns when it comes to ICE and immigration informants.

Savannah Lyles, 7676 Meer Road, stated her concerns with data sharing with ICE, asked to the council to consider our immigrant families that will be effected.

President Tillman stated the formal public hearing was closed.

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

Councilman Przybylinski thanked Assistant Chief Shiparski for the detailed report and transparency asking if a report can be sent to the council regarding the number of crimes that has been solved since the Flock System has been in place; questioning if the Police Department already has a drone and what the position of the proposed zoom pan tilt cameras would be.

Assistant Chief Shiparski advised Councilman Przybylinski that he will send the council a report, but that there is a monthly average between twenty (20) to thirty (30) crimes solved since the Flock system has been installed; and that currently the department does has a COA drone that has been FAA approved that is used by the detective bureau or for special events in our community, but the proposed drone is considered a first responder that is tied into 911 and once a call is classified into the system the emergency response drone will immediately notify the polite and then will be sent to the exact location to have eyes on the scene and assess the incident; advised the proposed pan-tilt zoom cameras will be position at a three hundred (300) degree angle.

Councilman Przybylinski asked Attorney Snow since the procedures and policies was sent to the council members this afternoon if this proposed ordinance could be tabled on second reading so that all members can review and address any questions or concerns to Chief Shiparski and Attorney LaPaich by Friday, September 18, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. so by the next council meeting everything will have been addressed and in order to move forward.

Attorney Snow advised Councilman Prybylinski you can table this proposed ordinance on second reading tonight before it would reach third reading.

President Tillman advised that discussion and or debate can still take place and then Councilman Przybylinski can make his motion.

Discussion ensued between Assistant Chief Shiparski, President Tillman, Council Members Dr. Kora, Moldenhauer, Lee, Dabney, Coulter and Nelson thanking Assistant Chief Shiparski for responding to the council members concerns regarding civil liberties, accountability for officers, and privacy concerns for our residents; advised that with the removal of twenty (20) zoom tilt cameras from the original request the department added a mobile trailer to be station during special events or heavily crowded areas for public safety which made the additional appropriation the same amount; stating that the

Uptown Art District business owners do not want the cameras installed; questioning if independent cameras can monitor and record the South Shore Train Station and Washington Park so that the data and images will remain within the city for protection of our residents and not shared with ICE or border patrol; stating that a contact needs to be made with our state legislators to reverse the requirement of sharing of our personal information as it is against our freedom and rights; questioning if this expansion of Flock is needed for our community as there are other city departments that are in need of equipment and vehicles; advised that even though the law states we have to assist ICE our department does not have to share access to everything within or database, the Chief of Police would be notified first and then an officer would then run the search; asked if other vendors have been explored before signing another contract with Flock; advised that all system have moved to cloud based sharing as it would not be cost effective for the city to provide a server large enough to hold all the information and data collected and that after thirty (30) days any information that was collected by Flock is completely deleted from the system; asked for the council to receive a notification by email if ICE has received any information from the department; advised that any misuse of the Flock system by an officer is a personnel matter and currently the officer who has misused the system has resigned and is still under an internal review that is entitled to due process and will be handled by the Indiana State Police; stated that the policies regarding Flock should be put into the ordinance; feels it a great idea to create a civilian committee for a public review; advised that the Police Civil Service Commission is elected individuals and are oversight for the Police Department including the discipline process; advised that the data collected for the audit report is retained and is separate from the ALPR and that Red Flags are in place if an officer does a suspicious search that will notify the administration and would freeze the officer access but that the department also has an audit running during each search to account the usage of searches for each officer over a thirty day period of time; advised with the renewal of contract would cost \$425,000.00; and that members of the public can file a freedom of information request and if it in line with the state requirements it will be honored.

Councilman Przybylinski made a motion to TABLE this ordinance on second reading until the October 6, 2026, meeting; seconded by Councilwoman Moldenhauer, the motion carried and the proposed ordinance was TABLED by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Tillman, Bietry, Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, and Przybylinski (9) **NAYS:** Council members (0)

President Tillman advised this has been tabled on second reading until the October 6, 2026, Council meeting.

President Tillman called for a three (3) minute recess coming back at 9:28 p.m. approved by a vote of 9-0.

President Tillman called the meeting back to order.

President Tillman advised Councilman Bietry has an excused absence for the remainder of the council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

President Tillman stated Mayor Angie is requesting the advice and consent of the members of the Michigan City Common Council regarding her new appointment of Mathew Fennell to the Michigan City Historic Commission, term begins 3/15/2026 and expires 3/15/2029 (replacing Larry Zimmer).

Councilman Dr. Kora made a motion to approve Mayor Angie's advice and consent request for her new appointment of Matthew Fennell to the Michigan City Historic Preservation Commission with his term beginning immediately and expires March 15, 2029, second by Councilman Coulter.

Councilman Coulter, liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission, advised the commission is in full support of this nomination.

The motion carried and was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Coulter, Dabney, Dr. Kora, Lee, Moldenhauer, Nelson, Przybylinski, and Tillman,(8)
NAYS: Council member None (0).

President Tillman congratulated Matthew Fennell on his appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Tillman asked if there was any unfinished business

Clerk Neulieb stated there was no unfinished business.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

Ernie Hollihan, 302 Gladys Street, stated that he does not agree with the prosecuting attorney regarding the shooting of the LaPorte County officer, wished his grandson good luck at his soccer game.

Paul Przybylinski, 1716 Washington Street, asked the council to pass a resolution requesting that the prosecuting attorney to let this man stand trial for attempted murder of an LaPorte County Officer; remembering those who lost their lives during the 9/11 attack, and thanked the City Clerk for her call of "Point of Order".

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, stated that the LaPorte County Solid Waste District will host their 7 to 1 picked up on Saturday, September 19, 2026, from 8:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.; thanked Councilman Nelson for hosting third ward dumpster days.

Sharja Rahem, 5130 Cemeron North, LaPorte, stated her concerns with the data center and the long-term health effects it will have on the future generations.

Amy Losinski, 104 Mayfield Drive, stated that there are several items that are not being followed by Municode in our city and that in Section 30.09 and IC 36-7-4-602 that the legislative body may amend or repeal the text regarding zoning and then the Plan Commission will conduct a formal public hearing, stating her concerns with Phoenix Construction at the Google data center located at 402 Royal Road.

Stephan Coyle, 1612 Maple Street, stated his concerns with the Flock camera system, asking the council to stop the current contract and not move forward with the expansion.

John Carrington, 140 Esther Street, asked why the data center moratorium is being slowed down to have everything in order but the Flock expansion is being rushed and with the safe guard not in place; and that the Google data center has moved the gates away from the roadway; asking for the legal counsel to provide the requirement with the legal authority of disclosure regarding giving your personal address when speaking at the meeting, as there has been several individuals who give their business address or even rental properties; questing why the officer identity has not been released to the public that violated the Flock and that when citizens get arrested their mugshots are on display, how is this providing transparency to the public.

Ashley Williams, 321 Fir Street, asked why the Flock had a formal public hearing before it was tabled but the data center moratorium was tabled indefinitely before the public had input; as there is plans to look into M3 zoning, asking what the council next steps are for future development regarding data centers.

Johannes Poulard, 205 Shadow Trail, stated his concerns with the Flock Camera System and that mass surveillance is against his 4th amendment rights.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

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

Councilman Nelson stated the dumpster day for the third ward residence is September 24, 2026 – October 1, 2026, with the first four days starting at 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. after that the time will be posted daily online for the public; advised that pickups is available and on October 1, 2026, this will be open to the entire community.

Councilman Przybylinski stated he would like to memorialize the 2,977 citizens that lost their life on September 11, 2001; recognized Mr. Cain for life saving award by rescuing his neighbor.

Councilwoman Moldenhauer thanked Councilman Przybylinski for assisting Commander Socrates Gray for assisting the Skwiat Post upon referral for the vacation of the alley to build their outdoor deck , recognized Gray for improvements at the Psot under his leadership, and invited the public to eat at their food venue.

Councilman Dabney gave a shoutout to Jamie Huss and the Michigan City Zoo staff, that during the switch of superintendents there was a lot of work to be done to bring the zoo up to code and it took hard work and dedication to make it happen, as the zoo attracts a lot of people.

Councilman Dr. Kora second what Councilman Dabney said and that him and his grandkids enjoy the zoo.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Councilman Przybylinski, second by Councilman Dr. Kora and there being no further business to transact, Councilman Przybylinski declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** (approximately 10:05 p.m.)

Michigan City Common Council September 15, 2026


Tracie Tillman, President


Gale A. Neulieb, City Clerk