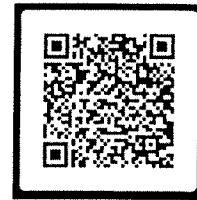


MINUTES
MUNCIE COMMON COUNCIL
300 NORTH HIGH STREET
MUNCIE, INDIANA 47305



NOVEMBER 3, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING: 6:45 P.M., 1ST Floor City Hall Auditorium.

ORD. 35-25 AN ORDINANCE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS (MUNCIE POLICE DEPARTMENT).

Rick Yencer raised several points regarding taxes and government spending. He pointed out that property taxes paid this year cover the previous year's taxes, and predicted that tax relief and cuts would not take effect until 2027. He had heard rumors about potentially raising income taxes earlier or setting the property tax cap up to 4%. He expressed surprise that the City had suddenly found almost a million in cash for public safety following recent budget meetings. While acknowledging the Police Department's needs, he stressed that the needs of citizens who have been denied benefits, care, and help due to the federal shutdown must also be considered. He questioned the wisdom of local government spending money before the status of the federal government's services for the people was settled, given that the funds are our taxes and also noted that people are paying more taxes due to rising property values.

Chris Deegan, Deputy Police Chief, confirmed that Ordinance 35-25 requests additional appropriations covering pension and capital purchases intended for the following year. He explained that the funding source was cash available in the Department's fund, which had been discussed during budget hearings.

ORD. 36-25 AN ORDINANCE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS (FIRE DEPARTMENT – EMS).

Dan Burford, Fire Chief, requested additional appropriations from Fund 104. These funds are sought to cover overtime costs for the remainder of the year and to purchase another ambulance. A motion was made by Basham and seconded by Powell to Adjourn the Public Hearing. **PUBLIC HEARING MEETING ADJOURNED.**

REGULAR MEETING: 7:00 P.M., 1ST Floor City Hall Auditorium.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by members of Boy Scout Troop #22 sponsored by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church.

INVOCATION: Delivered by Father David Hellman, St. Lawrence Parish followed by a Moment of Silence to honor the memory of Mary Stilts.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION: Councilperson Powell thanked former Councilperson Doug Marshall for the idea of starting every meeting by highlighting good things and people in the community. The recipient of tonight's award for the month of November was Rick Ziggler. Mr. Ziggler, a Muncie native and Muncie Northside graduate, serves as President of the Ziggler Foundation, which was established by his parents, Sherman and Marjorie Ziggler, in 1934. The Foundation supports community beautification, festivals, celebrations, and cultural events. Rick and his wife, Jean, spearheaded the Memory Spiral, an 800-foot nature walk located in Heekin Park that highlights South Muncie history. They received the Mayor's Art Award in the Art Leader category in 2023. Jean Ziggler designed the public sculpture installation of the White River. Rick Ziggler founded the Muncie Three Trails Music Series in 2013 to share his passion for music, which just celebrated its 12th year. The series is named after the Cardinal Greenway Trail, the White River Trail, and the

Arts and Cultural Trail. The concerts are completely free for attendees and use no tax money. In accepting the award, Rick Ziggler expressed appreciation for the recognition of the Muncie Memory Spiral, the Muncie Three Trails Series, and the endeavors of the Ziggler Foundation, as well as thanking supporting foundations, businesses, and his parents.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT ABSENT

Dale Basham (At-Large 1)	X
Ro Selvey (At-Large 2)	X
William McIntosh (At-Large 3)	X
Jeff Green (District #1)	X
Nora Powell (District #2)	X
Brandon Garrett (District #3)	X
Sara Gullion (District #4)	X
Jerry Dishman (District #5)	X
Harold Mason (District #6)	X
Dan Gibson (Legal Counsel)	X

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A motion was made by McIntosh and seconded by Green to Adopt the Minutes from the October 6, 2025 Regular Meeting and October 16, 2025 Reconvened Meeting. An all-in-favor vote showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. MINUTES APPROVED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TABLED ITEMS

Councilperson Green advised that Tabled Ordinance 29-25 would not be pulled off the table tonight.

YOUTH CENTER COMMITTEE

Councilperson McIntosh reported that they have contacted the five Neighborhood Associations regarding selecting their representatives for the Youth Center Committee (Resolution 15-25) and are waiting on responses to schedule a meeting. Blaine and Industry still need to be reached but there has been communication with Southside, Morningside, and South Central.

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK UPDATE

C.S. Hendershot, Director of Fundraising and Development at Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana, updated the Council on SNAP benefits, noting that approximately 14,000 individuals in Delaware County receive these benefits. Federal officials announced that SNAP would resume this month, but at half the usual amount and with expected delays. Second Harvest is responding by waiving delivery fees for partners, increasing mobile distributions, and sourcing local donations. It was emphasized that the charitable food network cannot fill this gap alone, as SNAP provided approximately nine meals for every one meal Second Harvest provides.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

BEECH GROVE CEMETERY

Troy Watters, Superintendent of Beech Grove Cemetery, reported two vacancies (one resignation, one death) to the Beech Grove Cemetery Board of Directors. He stated that appointments should be advertised.

Legal Counsel Dan Gibson confirmed that state code does not require political balance for this board. The only two stipulations for eligibility are being a Beech Grove Cemetery lot owner and living in Delaware County. Interested individuals were invited to send a letter of intent to councilmembers.

ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED:

ORD. 33-25 AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PART OF AN ALLEY LOCATED IN BLOCK 15 OF T.H. KIRBY'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA.

A motion was made by Basham and seconded by Powell to Adopt. Questions called. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. ADOPTED.

NEW ORDINANCES:

ORD. 34-25 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF MUNCIE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE FROM THE SPLIT ZONE OF THE R-3 RESIDENCE AND R-4 RESIDENCE ZONE TO THE R-3 RESIDENCE ZONE ON PREMISES LOCATED AT 100 N. HODSON AVE.

A motion was made by Basham and seconded by Green to Introduce.

Maureen Walby, representing the property owner, explained that because the property was split-zoned, half of the property and house were inadvertently sold at a tax sale. The Zoning Board has already approved the change. Questions called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

ORD. 35-25 AN ORDINANCE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS (MUNCIE POLICE DEPARTMENT).

A motion was made by Gullion and seconded by Selvey to Introduce.

Chris Deegan, Deputy Police Chief, stated MPD intends to purchase four hybrid Ford police vehicles. The funds requested are available within the Police Department's existing Public Safety LIT (Fund #106) and do not require money from the General Fund. This is a request to move existing funds into necessary line items. Questions called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

ORD. 36-25 AN ORDINANCE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS (FIRE DEPARTMENT – EMS).

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Basham to Introduce.

Dan Burford, Fire Chief, requested the \$260,000 for overtime, noting that the Department is currently running about \$400,000 under last year's overtime expenditure. The current amount for 2025 is \$830,000 mostly due to improved staffing levels. He also requested \$329,521.29 for vehicles, specifically one additional ambulance (\$267,946) and Power Load and Power Cot systems (\$61,575). The power systems are necessary to reduce lifting injuries among personnel. The ambulance will help replenish the aging reserve fleet. Questions called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

ORD. 37-25 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES FOR ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2026.

A motion was made by Selvey and seconded by Basham to Introduce.

Kristopher Bilbrey inquired whether this ordinance and the following salary ordinances (38-25 and 39-25) related to previous discussion from the budget process regarding payment issues. Councilperson Powell replied no and confirmed these ordinances being introduced tonight are all for 2026 and their purpose is to set the maximum salaries for every employee, specifically elected officials in the case of ord. 37-25. Craig Wright, City Controller, confirmed.

Cameron Grubbs followed-up asking how the City plans to prevent future instances of paying employees above the maximum salary allowed by City ordinance, a problem that was stated previously occurred. Powell stated that four positions (Animal Shelter, Communications Director, Human Rights Director and EMS Director) had been paid above the established maximum salary ordinance. Clearly, paying

more than the maximum salary ordinance constitutes violating a city ordinance. The proper procedure for setting a higher salary is for the Administration to come before Council and have the salary ordinance officially amended. As a Council, they can try to ensure good communication with Mr. Wright to stay on top of the issue and verify that the City adheres to the established salary maximums. The ordinance specifies the maximum amount that the elected officials can be paid, not their actual fixed salary. Questions called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

ORD. 38-25 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 16-25 FIXING THE MAXIMUM SALARIES OF EACH AND EVERY APPOINTED OFFICER, EMPLOYEE, DEPUTY, ASSISTANT, DEPARTMENTAL AND INSTITUTIONAL HEAD OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA, INCLUDED HEREIN FOR THE YEAR 2026.

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Garrett to Introduce.

Craig Wright, City Controller, addressed the Council regarding the ordinance and stated it sets the maximum salaries for City personnel. He confirmed that clean-up language was included in the ordinance.

Councilperson Powell inquired whether the salary figures in this ordinance were the same as the amounts appropriated into the corresponding line items in the recently adopted budget. Mr. Wright confirmed that the salary figures should align with the adopted budget. Questions called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

ORD. 39-25 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE MAXIMUM SALARIES OF EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE MUNCIE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2026.

A motion was made by Gullion and seconded by Green to Introduce.

Dan Burford, Fire Chief, explained this is a salary ordinance that reflects the raises that were put into the 2026 budget. Questions called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

ORD. 40-25 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE AMENDING SECTION 32.39 OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE CODE OF ORDINANCES – PREREQUISITES TO ACTION AN ORDINANCE, RESOLUTION.

A motion was made by McIntosh and seconded by Powell to Introduce.

Dan Gibson, Council Attorney, explained that while the ordinance reorganized the section, the only substantive portion added was the filing requirement. The change mandated that for an ordinance or resolution to be properly filed, it must be filed in person or by mail by the councilperson that signed it, or by the legal counsel (City Council Attorney or City Attorney) who signed off on the form.

Cameron Grubbs noted that the resolution was introduced because of problems in the past meeting. He referenced an incident where someone in the Mayor's Office refiled a resolution previously signed by Councilperson Basham without re-requesting his signature or authorization. Grubbs praised the Council for taking steps to remedy the situation but asked if the ordinance could be amended to require supporting documents to be filed a set number of days before the Council receives them.

Councilperson Selvey confirmed that ordinances must be filed 14 days before the meeting, and the Council receives them at least seven days ahead.

Councilperson Powell confirmed that the purpose of ord. 40-25 was to ensure that unauthorized situation, like the one involving Councilperson Basham's resolution, could not happen again. She stressed that the measure was meant to ensure that the signature affixed to a document is used with the knowledge and consent of the sponsoring councilperson.

Kristopher Bilbrey acknowledged the measure was a good step forward. However, he criticized the Council for not being proactive enough and demanded that the Council use its investigatory powers (reading City Code Sec. 32.08) to formally investigate and understand why the unauthorized filing happened in the first place, rather than just preventing future incidents.

Mayor Dan Ridenour addressed the controversy stating he asked his employee to contact the Clerk's Office, which started the process leading to the unauthorized restamping of the previous document. He took full responsibility for asking his employee to initiate the action. He explained that his Office was instructed by Council Legal Counsel to restamp the existing signed document, but acknowledged that the critical step of obtaining renewed authorization from the sponsoring councilperson was missed.

Powell clarified that the incident involved the Administration deciding to resubmit a withdrawn resolution using the signature page from a previous resolution without Councilperson Basham's knowledge or consent. She emphasized that the ordinance was necessary because the Council could no longer assume that a signature was being used with authority.

Selvey discussed the electronic filing provision and requested input from the Clerk's Office. Lacey Jones, City Council Secretary, discussed concerns raised by the City Clerk, Belinda Munson, regarding the electronic filing practice. She noted the Clerk is not in favor because electronic filing could potentially lead to further problems, especially if sent in on the file deadline. City Hall closes at 4:00 p.m. so if a document is filed electronically after that timeframe but still on the deadline date, it will not be seen until the next business day. If there were issues on the filing (for example any typos, corrected language or a revised signature page) then the ordinance/resolution will need amended at the meeting since the deadline came and went before the document was revised. Dan Gibson, Council Attorney, confirmed that electronic filing is allowed by state law (up to midnight) as nothing in the Council rules prohibits it. He noted that flexibility helps councilmembers who work full-time jobs get their ordinances filed on deadline.

Wayne Scaife questioned why the disputed resolution was even read at the previous meeting if the author had withdrawn it, suggesting the author should have stopped the reading when it was noticed it was on the agenda. McIntosh responded that the item appeared on the agenda under a new/different number making it difficult to catch. President Mason, in Basham's defense, advised he mentioned he didn't sign it after it was read aloud.

Selvey commented that mistakes can happen. They need to be diligent and prepared in the material they are discussing ahead of time. Having good communication helps, instead of putting the blame elsewhere. We are all adults and need to be prepared. She isn't blaming anyone here and understands that things happen. It is no one's fault. Powell agrees with the fact they all need to read their materials prior to the meeting but assured it appeared like it was fine and signed appropriately. There was no way she could have known that it was not filed by the sponsoring councilperson and instead filed by the Mayor's Executive Assistant. Gullion, on the other hand, is pointing fingers directly blaming the Mayor's Office for the procedural failure and can appreciate this ordinance helping address that. Powell agreed.

Lynn Thornburg noted that even if the ordinance was filed in a timely manner, 14 days ahead, there was still sufficient time for the Administration to reach out to Councilperson Basham to confirm if the filing was authorized. She recalled being at the previous months meeting and observed the surprised reaction on Basham's face which appeared as if he didn't do it. This reinforces the core issue that his consent or knowledge was lacking despite the timely filing. In conclusion, this incident (where the Administration proceeded without the sponsoring Council verification) should be taken into consideration as rules are changed or enforced. Questions called. A vote by acclamation showed 4 yeas (Powell, Gullion, McIntosh, Mason), 5 nays (Selvey, Garrett, Basham, Dishman, Green). DENIED.

Powell made the comment that five out of nine councilmembers just voted down something intended to provide verification and transparency. She noted the five members who voted "no" were essentially saying, "I am not for transparency and I'm not for following the rules."

Councilperson Garrett (who voted "no") immediately defended his vote, arguing that he was not against transparency. Instead, he said his vote was to ensure that councilmembers hold themselves individually accountable. If a sponsor lets an unauthorized ordinance or resolution be brought up, that failure

is on them. Powell countered that Garrett's rationale was equivalent to blaming Councilperson Basham, as the other eight councilmembers had no way of knowing his signature was used without his consent. Attorney Gibson advised to continue the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

RES. 18-25 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA, RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF CIVILITY, CONDEMNING HATEFUL RHETORIC AND PROMOTING UNITY IN COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP.

A motion was made by Selvey and seconded by Garrett to Adopt.

J.R. Jameson spoke in support of the resolution, emphasizing the need for political leaders to set an example of decency. He noted that we live in a time that feels pretty unempathetic, where hateful rhetoric is prevalent at both the national and local levels. He cited a 2025 Brookings Institute report stating that over 75% of Americans believe heated political language increased the likelihood of political violence and gave examples of recent political violence, including the assassinations of Democratic Minnesota State Representative Alyssa Hortman, her husband, and their dog in June 2025, and right-wing podcaster Charlie Kirk in September 2025. He explained how he shared his concerns with Councilperson Selvey which lead to the resolution, and expressed hope that Muncie leaders could be a beacon of hope. Drawing on the concept of mirror neurons and empathy, he argues that this resolution could guide citizens to see humanity in each other. He concluded by urging the Council to adopt the resolution as a small step toward decency.

Councilperson Powell requested Councilperson Selvey clarify the definition of hateful or rhetoric speech within the resolution and questioned how the measure would be enforced, noting that she supported civility but sought clarity on its practical application. Dan Gibson, Council Attorney, clarified that the resolution is largely symbolic and is not intended for enforcement. It functions as a commitment by the Council not to engage in such conduct and a commitment to consider an individual's propensity for hateful or divisive rhetoric when making board appointments.

Cameron Grubbs agrees with the intent but expressed concern that the language used, specifically divisive and hateful rhetoric, was too vague. He worried that the lack of concrete definition could lead to councilmembers being branded as hypocrites if they express beliefs (such as supporting human rights, Palestine, LGBTQ+ issues) that others might deem divisive or against the fabric of our society. Selvey understood and believes it to be a judgement call. She also clarified that having differing opinions is not divisive, but using derogatory terms or stereotypes against populations is.

Councilperson Gullion read the resolutions specific definition of hateful rhetoric which is, "speech that expresses hate or encourages violence toward individual groups based on characteristics such as race, religion, gender or sexual orientation or based on affiliation with certain groups or organizations." Gullion reiterated that the resolution is not law, but a fairly specific standard to be considered during the appointment process. Questions called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

RES. 19-25 A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA REPLATING TO THE FINANCING OF A FIRE STATION PROJECT AND APPROVING A FORM OF TAXPAYER PETITION IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

A motion was made by Green and seconded by Dishman to Adopt.

Dennis Otten, Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, authored the resolution which relates to the financing of a new fire station project for Fire Station #5. He stressed that this a preliminary financing resolution and just the first step in a multi-step process. The financing requires using the Muncie EDIT Building Corporation due to the size of the project and City debt limits. The bonds issued would construct the station, which is then leased back to the City and the property becomes the City's once the bonds are paid off. Payments for the lease rentals will come from the Local Income Tax (EDIT funds). A property tax backup will be used solely for credit support to secure a better interest rate, but it is not intended to be implemented. The process requires

a taxpayer petition signed by at least 50 City taxpayers. He advised the City to secure 70 to 75 signatures to account for signers who may not be certified taxpayers (renters or those living outside the City). The resolution tonight only approves the form of the petition and authorizes its circulation. If adopted, the next steps include gathering signatures and appraisals, drafting an ordinance to approve the petition, advertising a public hearing (required by statute) before Council, and finally, adopting the ordinances for the financing which may involve setting a maximum term (potentially 20 years) and a maximum cost not to exceed \$11,500,000. He expected to return before the Council at least two more times after the initial adoption for these subsequent steps.

Councilperson Gullion requests a thorough, step-by-step description of the financing process, including the timeline so that both the Council and the public understood exactly what they were voting on at each stage. Mr. Otten confirms he may be back as soon as the next Council meeting.

Councilperson Basham sought confirmation that the resolution only authorizes the process to begin and that the Council would have multiple chances for discussion and questions along the way. Mr. Otten confirms.

Councilperson Powell supported the project, confirming that she and Councilperson Gullion toured the facility in February and agreed this it beyond its expiration date. She asked Chief Burford to confirm that the new station would be capable of housing the aerial truck. She then directed a question to the Mayor, asking if discussions had occurred with Ball State University or Ball Hospital about offsetting some of the financial expense, given the vital services the station provides to them and Ball State's investments in The Village.

Mayor Ridenour responded that the Administration has had multiple conversations with Ball State and/or the hospital regarding offsetting costs, and he believes an agreement is very close.

Dan Burford, Fire Chief, provided details on the facility and project cost. He confirmed the aerial truck will absolutely be moved to the new location. Fire Station #5 was built in the mid-1960s so the station has significant issues, including asbestos-wrapped pipes in the plumbing chase. He confirmed that the higher expense compared to the MLK Fire Station is due to the necessity of demolishing an existing station, relocating personnel and apparatus temporarily (possibly through as agreement with Ball Hospital), and building a vertically oriented station because the site is landlocked. He confirmed that the \$11.5 million is the maximum project amount. He also noted that the MLK Fire Station project is currently within budget, and any leftover bond funds must be utilized for fire station repairs or improvements, such as providing separated living spaces for female staff.

Basham mentions the feasibility study that was done in 2021 that can be found on the Fire Departments website which really details the upgrade needs for this fire station.

Jason Chaffin, President Local #1348, spoke in support of the resolution, emphasizing the critical need for replacement. He recounted that just hours before the previous month's Council meeting, the station's bathroom floor drain backed up, flooding the area with sewage and water due to old, broken pipes beneath the concrete, necessitating emergency plumbing crews. He emphasized that the new station would greatly improve the quality of live for the community and firefighters.

Powell asked for confirmation that the project utilizes a Build, Operate, Transfer (BOT) model which locks in the price. Specifically, she asked if the City would only be responsible for the \$11.5 million budget even if volatile construction costs caused the final project expense to exceed that amount.

Greg Martz, GM Development, confirmed Powell's understanding and stated that the \$11.5 million budget is guaranteed, and the developer would assume costs if they exceeded that amount. Questions called. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Kristopher Bilbrey criticized the councilmembers who voted no on ordinance 40-25, stating they were not providing their best service to the City. He called the vote down a failure to put a necessary safety feature in place and stated that there were no excuses for the “no” vote. He criticized Councilperson Basham for his silence following the procedural failure to his resolution and questioned why Basham did not immediately contact the Administration after receiving the packet to ask why his name was signed on something he didn’t authorize. Bilbrey noted that other than acting shocked at the previous meeting, Basham had been quiet despite citizens wanting to hear his thoughts.

Ellen Whitehead addressed the philosophy underpinning the “no” votes on ordinance 40-25. She noted that the main rationale heard from those who voted “no” was the belief that it should be each councilperson’s individual responsibility to perform due diligence. She contrasted the rationale with the fundamental function of the Council, which is to enact systems and policies to guide the actions and behaviors of others in the City. She argued that the Council demonstrated a lack of willingness to set clear standards for its own behavior despite evidence that relying on personal responsibility was insufficient. She specifically expressed disappointment in the five councilmembers who voted against ordinance 40-25.

Wayne Scaife raised three points concerning parliamentary procedure and City Hall logistics. He cited Robert’s Rule #61, stating that a non-member (referencing the Deputy Controller and his actions from the previous meeting) has no right to shout “Point of Order” to stop a citizen’s question. This action was the job of councilmembers. He then cited Robert’s Rule #57, which states that no member can speak a second time on the same question as long as a member who has not spoken desires the floor. He claimed that this rule is frequently violated by the Council. He criticized councilmembers for the practice of calling questions, which he deemed not fitting for this setting because it prevents voters from giving input on the measures being decided. He argued that there should never be anymore calling questions on anything, as voters have the right to input. He asked if the Mayor or City Council could address the issue of empty, designated parking spaces outside City Hall that remain unused after 4:00 PM, forcing citizens attending meetings to park on or across the street.

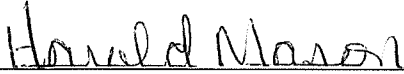
Cameron Grubbs focused on transparency, civility, and accountability. He inquired whether video or audio documentation existed for the previous Council meeting, apart from the single, patched audio file that had been uploaded. Amber Green, Communications Director, stated that due to a system reboot, no full video exists. The stream did not have audio so only the patched audio was available. Grubbs then expressed hope that the Mayor and his Administration would also adhere to the principle of civility (resolution 18-25), noting he had dealt with staff responses that were certainly not appropriate. He criticized Councilperson Garrett for voting “no” on ordinance 40-25, stating that voting against ensuring the sponsoring councilperson must submit a resolution is not transparency and is not right. He emphasized that sharing information and ensuring proper procedure build a better City.

Councilperson Garrett defended his “no” vote on ordinance 40-25 stating his vote was not against transparency or rules. His rationale was that it upheld the individual responsibility of the sponsoring member (like Basham) to read the material, be aware of what is filed, and speak up if a measure is improperly filed. He clarified that his vote was based on doing the job he was elected to do.

Councilperson Powell addressed the concern about calling questions. She noted that if it is called, a councilperson has the ability to appeal and they can take a vote. If the vote passes then it allows for public comment.

ADJOURNED:

A motion was made by McIntosh and seconded by Gullion to Adjourn. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas, 0 nays. ADJOURNED.



Harold D. Mason, President of the
Muncie Common Council



Belinda Munson, Muncie City Clerk
of the Muncie Common Council

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