



# MADISON *Indiana*

## Common Council Minutes

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 5:30 PM

**MEETING PLACE:** City Hall, 101 W. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250

The Common Council of the City of Madison, Indiana met in regular session at 5:30 P.M. at City Hall, 101 W. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250.

Mayor Bob Courtney opened the meeting with the Lord's Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Present:** Thevenow, Schafer, Krebs, Dattilo, Storm, and Bartlett were present (6-1). Wilber was absent.

**Minutes:** Bartlett moved to approve the March 4, 2025, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Krebs. All in favor, motion carried (6-0).

**Presentation of petitions, memorials, remonstrances, introduction of motion & guests:** None.

**Resolutions or bills: Ordinance 2025-4: Vacant and Abandoned Structures:** *Establishes a registration and maintenance standard for vacant and abandoned structures.* Duey O'Neal, Code Enforcement Officer, provided an overview of the ordinance and its key components. The full presentation is available for viewing on the City of Madison's YouTube Channel. The Mayor and Duey were available to address and answer the councilmembers' questions and concerns.

Councilmember Thevenow requested clarification on certain aspects of the ordinance and was asked to submit his proposed amendments in writing at the next council meeting.

**Public Comment re. Ordinance 2025-4:** Madison residents Debbie Beemon, Matt Chandler, Lisa Ferguson, John DeLuca, and Angie Williams spoke in support of the ordinance. Ken McWilliams, Valecia Crisafulli, and Robert Loughton also expressed their support and shared their insights and perspectives on the ordinance.

**Ordinance 2025-5: Repeal and Replace Section 70.04 Code Regarding Golf Cart Regulations:** *Updates ordinance to clarify definitions and where golf carts, LSVs, and ORVs are allowed.* Councilmember Schafer, who is also sponsoring the ordinance, gave a brief overview of the definitions and proposed updates of this ordinance.

**Public Comment re. Ordinance 2025-5:** Debbie Anderson and Lisa Ferguson walked the council through the convenience and the process she followed to legally drive her LSV around the downtown area, including registering it with the BMV. Jim Pruett, Chairman of the Riverfront Development Committee and organizer of the Golf Cart Poker Run, gave a summary of his event, expressing that, when given the one-day exemption from BPW, the event has never been informed of any issue from the off-road vehicles or golf carts.

**Reports, recommendations, and other business from standing/select committees of City Council:** None.

**Report of city officials: Fire Chief Bill DeVries:** Chief DeVries provided the council with an update on recent activities within the volunteer fire departments. His overview covered department training, callout data, newly filled command staff, and specialist positions, as well as community and business outreach efforts. He also addressed and answered all questions from council members. The full presentation is available for review on the City of Madison YouTube channel.

**Mindy McGee (Mayor's Office) and Christian Hanson (Parks):** Chris Hale, Director of Streets, Facilities & Solid Waste, is currently attending Road School to receive specialized training and certification in preparation for assuming ADA and ERC responsibilities. Once certified, he will become the primary contact for road projects and coordination with INDOT. Mindy McGee provided the council with a brief overview of CCMG projects and upcoming Main Street road improvements, highlighting that the city was awarded a \$1.5 million grant. With the city's matching funds, this will result in a total investment of \$3 million in infrastructure improvements. The council was also introduced to Christian Hanson, the newly appointed Superintendent of Grounds. Christian previously served as the Superintendent of Grounds for the golf course, but his role has now expanded to oversee all city parks. He will lead three dedicated crews focused on improving and maintaining public green spaces. Mindy and Christian also shared their plans for renovating flowerbeds along Main Street, emphasizing the positive impact these enhancements will have on the community. The full overview is available for review on the City of Madison YouTube channel.

**Bills on second reading:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

**Public comment (per sign-up sheet):** Champ Claussen, 722 W 3<sup>rd</sup> St., spoke in support of Ordinance 2025-4 regarding vacant and abandoned structures.

**Mayor's comments:** Zaxby's restaurant will be coming to Madison at Sunrise Crossing. The community is invited to a groundbreaking on March 24, 2025, at 11:30 AM for the Residences at Sunrise Crossing. The city is continuing to work on state legislation on the bills that are going through the session this year on property tax reform and its impacts.


The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, April 8, 2025, @ 5:30 pm.

**Adjourn:** Krebs moved to adjourn, seconded by Thevenow. All in favor (6-0).

Attested:

  
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Mayor

  
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President Pro Tempore

  
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Shirley Rynearson, Clerk-Treasurer

