



# MADISON *Indiana*

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## Common Council Minutes

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, July 22, 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, Krebs, Dattilo, and Bartlett were present. Schafer attended the meeting via Microsoft Teams. Wilber and Storm were absent (5-2).

**Minutes:** Bartlett moved to approve the June 17, 2025, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Dattilo. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

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

**Reports, recommendations, and other business from standing/select committees of City Council: Finance Committee – Presentation of 2025 Legislative Overview: Reedy Financial:**

Gary Smith from Reedy Financial Group, the city's financial advisor, gave a presentation regarding some of the key changes and an overview of the new 2025 legislation. The full presentation, including a slideshow, is available on the City of Madison's YouTube channel.

**Report of city officials: Streets, Facilities, & Solid Waste – Chris Hale and Mindy McGee:** Chris Hale gave a presentation over the city's street inventory, including more data and analytics. The full presentation, including a slideshow, is available on the City of Madison's YouTube channel.

**Riverfront District Liquor License Renewal: Vintage Lanes – Emily McKinney:** The City Council was presented with Vintage Lane's annual liquor license renewal request and supporting documentation. These materials have been reviewed by both the Economic and Redevelopment Department and the Mayor's Office. Based on their review, the City recommends that the Council approve the renewal of Vintage Lane's liquor license. **Motion:** Bartlett moved to approve the annual liquor license renewal for Vintage Lanes, seconded by Thevenow. **Roll Call Vote:** Thevenow – Y, Krebs – Y, Dattilo – Y, Bartlett – Y, Schafer – Y. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

**Resolutions or Bills: Resolution 2025-11C: Amending Riverfront District Liquor Licenses**

**Sponsor Carla Krebs** (*Increases number of licenses from 10-12 and creates a small cultural experience venue option*): In 2022, the City adopted its current set of guidelines through this program. While there is ongoing interest in the Cultural Experience Venue category, all three available licenses under that category have already been issued. To address continued demand, the City is proposing the creation of a new category—Small Experience Venue—which would apply to venues with a maximum capacity of 75 people. The existing category would be reclassified as Large Experience Venue, maintaining its minimum capacity of 125 people. This adjustment would allow the City to issue two additional licenses. The proposed amendment to the current resolution increases the total number of licenses from 10 to 12.

**Motion:** Thevenow moved to amend Resolution 2025-11C to combine on exhibit B sections 6 and 7 and remove the minimum and maximum performance capacities, seconded by Krebs. This motion would remove any minimum/maximum criteria for the cultural experience venue and would go from 3 licenses to 5.

**Motion:** Thevenow moved to approve Resolution 2025-11C, seconded by Bartlett. **Roll Call Vote:** Thevenow – Y, Krebs – Y, Dattilo – Y, Bartlett – Y, Schafer – Y. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

**Ordinance 2025-11: Municipal Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Sponsor Jim Bartlett** (*Establishes a vehicle surtax and wheel tax to fund road capital improvement plan*): Ordinance moves on to second reading.

Councilmember Bartlett requested clarification on whether golf carts with state-issued license plates would be subject to the proposed wheel tax. While additional research is needed on this specific scenario, City Attorney Joe Jenner advised that receiving a state plate would likely make the vehicle subject to the tax. Councilmember Thevenow noted that, although council may be reluctant to impose a wheel tax, it appears to be necessary given the potential financial loss to the city.

**Public Comment re. Ordinance 2025-11:** During the public comment period for Ordinance 2025-11, several residents shared concerns and questions regarding the proposed wheel tax. Robert Lofton, 313 Hendricks Street, expressed opposition to imposing the tax on city residents and asked who would be responsible for collecting it; the answer is the BMV. Shelly Murphy-Smith, 418 East Second Street, inquired whether city residents would be required to pay duplicate wheel taxes if the county also imposes one? The answer to that question is “yes”. Rainy Wilson, of Wilson Avenue, suggested the city consider reinstating parking meters for residents and tourists using public parking to generate revenue. Rick Ruess, 1876 Michigan Road, asked when the proposed ordinance would need to be passed and when it would take effect? It would need to be passed August 31, 2025, and would take effect January 2026. He also requested clarification on whether the ordinance was grouped with the vehicle surtax, which it is.

**Ordinance 2025-12: Rezoning of 3515+ Michigan Hill Sponsors J. Storm, P. Thevenow** (Rezones a parcel from Residential Mobile Home (RMH) to High Density Residential (R32): Ordinance moves on to second reading. Councilmember Thevenow clarified that this went before the Plan Commission, and they gave no recommendation on the rezoning for Council to consider, which allows for more public comment from neighboring residents. Ordinance moves on to second reading.

**Public Comment re. Ordinance 2025-12:** During the public comment period for Ordinance 2025-12, Mr. Pettit, the developer of the proposed duplexes, addressed the Council to clarify the total number of duplexes planned and provided a general overview of his intentions regarding the trees that border neighboring properties. Shirley Bean, 3430 N. Quail, expressed concerns about the proposed access road running through the neighborhood rather than connecting directly to Michigan Road. She also raised issues related to flooding and drainage in both the neighborhood and the area where the duplexes are proposed. Dwayne May, 3285 N. Audubon Park, echoed concerns on drainage and flooding.

**Bills on second reading:** None.

**Miscellaneous:** None.

**Public comment (per sign-up sheet):** Keith Schmidt, 203 Westwood Lane, voiced concerns about the road conditions between Green Road, Lanier Drive, and Cragmont Street.

**Mayor's comments:** During the next meeting, there will be more education shared regarding 2024 and 2025 policy priorities, food and beverage tax, and capital planning. As of right now, there is a possibility for the Plan Commission meeting on August 6, 2025, to be livestreamed. That meeting will be hosted at Ivy Tech.

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

**Adjourn:** Krebs moved to adjourn, seconded by Thevenow. All in favor (5-0).

Attested:



Mayor



President Pro Tempore



Shirley Rynearson, Clerk-Treasurer

