



# MADISON *Indiana*

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## Common Council Minutes

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, September 2, 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, Schafer, Storm, Wilber, and Bartlett were present. Schafer and Storm were present, but late. (7-0).

**Minutes:** Wilber moved to approve the August 19, 2025, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Krebs. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

**Presentation of petitions, memorials, remonstrances, introduction of motion & guests: Proclamation for National Recovery Month – Michelle Jones, Recovery Café Executive Director:** Mayor Bob Courtney presented a proclamation recognizing September as National Recovery Month in the City of Madison. He emphasized the importance of treatment, recovery, and community support in helping individuals overcome substance use and mental health challenges. Highlighting this year's theme, "Recovery is REAL (Restoring Every Aspect of Life)," he noted that recovery allows individuals to live healthy, fulfilling lives. Mayor Courtney acknowledged the critical role of connection, resilience, and local organizations such as Centerstone, LifeSpring Health Systems, Ruth Haven, Jefferson House, and the Recovery Café of Madison, along with financial supporters including the Bethany Legacy Foundation and the Community Foundation of Madison and Jefferson County. He called upon citizens to support and guide those in need toward available treatment and recovery resources, reaffirming that hope and recovery are possible. Michelle Jones, Recovery Café Executive Director, spoke on the programs and assistance offered by the Recovery Café and thanked the Mayor for presenting the proclamation.

**Resolutions or Bills: Ordinance 2025-15: Establishing the Parks Donation Fund – Sponsor Krebs:** *Formally documents the existing Parks Donation Fund.* Councilmember Krebs clarified that the city already had an existing fund that dated back to approximately 2009, but this ordinance helps address where the money in the fund can be spent, and if ever closed, where the money would go. **Motion:** Krebs moved to suspend the rules and move to a second reading, seconded by Bartlett. **Roll Call Vote:** Thevenow – Y, Krebs – Y, Dattilo – Y, Bartlett – Y, Wilber – Y. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

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

**Report of city officials: ADA Transition Plan – Chris Hale, Director of Streets, Facilities, & Solid Waste:** ADA Coordinator Chris Hale reported that he is responsible for updating and maintaining the City's ADA plan, a requirement tied to the city's receipt of INDOT Federal Highway funds. To assist with this process, the city contracted HWC to help develop and propose the plan. The draft plan will be available for public review and comment over the next two weeks, with a hard copy at City Hall and an online version on the City of Madison website. Craig Ludeman of HWC attended the meeting to answer questions and commended Mayor Courtney and the administration for their proactive efforts in addressing ADA concerns, such as the sidewalk rating process, noting that few communities are as advanced as Madison in this area. Craig also outlined the process, which

includes developing a sidewalk asset management plan and conducting a self-evaluation of all city public facilities, sidewalks, and right-of-way areas to identify opportunities for improved accessibility

**Bills on second reading: Ordinance 2025-15: Establishing the Parks Donation Fund – Sponsor Krebs: Motion:** Krebs moved to approve Ordinance 2025-15, seconded by Bartlett. Mayor Courtney briefed Councilmembers Schafer and Storm on the ordinance and the discussion that had already taken place prior to their arrival. Since they joined the meeting late, he informed them they could either abstain from voting or choose to participate in the vote. **Roll Call Vote:** Thevenow – Y, Krebs – Y, Dattilo – Y, Schafer – Y, Storm – Y, Bartlett – Y, Wilber – Y. All in favor, ordinance passes (7-0).

**Public Comment re. Ordinance 2025-15:** Sandy Palmer, 105 East Third Street, asked the council how much money was currently in the fund that has been in place since 2009, and whether any of it had been spent. Councilmember Krebs responded that no funds had been used but noted that some recent donations had been received.

**Clerk-Treasurer Update:** There were some adjustments and reductions to the budget, and the city would like to postpone the public hearing of the first reading and second reading, and adoption of the budget. The public hearing will be posted to Gateway. The public hearing and first reading will be on Tuesday, October 7, 2025. The second reading and possible adoption would be on Tuesday, October 21, 2025.

**Public comment (per sign-up sheet):** Debbie Beemon, 709 Walnut Street, expressed her appreciation and trust in the mayor and all council members, noting that while she may not always agree with them, she values their service. She also encouraged anyone making disrespectful comments online—or those who know someone who is—to stop and instead address concerns directly in a respectful manner.

**Mayor's comments:** This weekend, the Unbroken Circle event will be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, September 16, 2025, @ 5:30 pm.

**Adjourn:** Krebs moved to adjourn, seconded by Thevenow. All in favor (7-0).

Attested:



Mayor



President Pro Tempore



Shirley Rynearson, Clerk-Treasurer

