

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON MINUTES



TO THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH BEND:

THE SUB-COMMITTEE HAS INSPECTED THE MINUTES OF THE

DATE: 01-05-2026


MEETING OF THE COUNCIL AND FOUND THEM TO BE CORRECT.

THEREFORE, WE RECOMMEND THE SAME BE APPROVED:


TROY WARNER

SHERRY BOLDEN-SIMPSON

APPROVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL ON: 01-12-2026

ATTEST:


BIANCA L. TIRADO, CITY CLERK

Be it remembered that the Common Council of the City of South Bend, Indiana, met in-person and via Microsoft Teams app on Monday, January 5, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. Council President Canneth Lee called the meeting to order.

Please note the attached link for the meeting recording:
<https://docs.southbendin.gov/WebLink/browse.aspx?dbid=0&mediaid=389496>

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Canneth Lee	1 st District
Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers	2 nd District
Sharon L. McBride	3 rd District
Troy Warner	4 th District
Sheila Niezgodski	6 th District
Rachel Tomas Morgan	At-Large
Karen L. White	At-Large

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT

Sherry Bolden-Simpson	5 th District
Dr. Oliver Davis	At-Large

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bianca L. Tirado	City Clerk
Jasmine Jackson	Chief Deputy Clerk
Matthew Neal	Director of Policy
Veronica Pitt-Payne	Director of Special Projects
Lari’onna Green	Communications and Marketing Specialist
Bob Palmer	Council Attorney

Council President Lee made a motion to resolve from the Presidency and turn the meeting over to the City Clerk, Bianca L. Tirado, to begin the process of electing officers of the South Bend Common Council.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR 2026

Clerk Tirado opened the nominations for the office of Council President.

Councilmember Troy Warner nominated Councilmember Canneth Lee for the office of the President. Councilmember Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers seconded the nomination.

Councilmember Sharon McBride – <i>Canneth Lee</i>
Councilmember Canneth Lee – <i>Canneth Lee</i>
Councilmember Troy Warner– <i>Canneth Lee</i>
Councilmember Dr. Oliver Davis – <i>Absent</i>
Councilmember Rachel Tomas Morgan – <i>Canneth Lee</i>
Councilmember Sheila Niezgodski – <i>Canneth Lee</i>
Councilmember Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers – <i>Canneth Lee</i>
Councilmember Sherry Bolden-Simpson – <i>Absent</i>
Councilmember Karen L. White – <i>Canneth Lee</i>

Councilmember Lee was elected as Council President by a roll call vote majority of seven (7) Councilmembers with two (2) Councilmembers absent.

Clerk Tirado turned the meeting over to Council President Lee to complete the process of electing officers of the South Bend Common Council.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT FOR 2026

Council President Lee opened the nominations for the office of Council Vice-President.

Councilmember Gooden-Rodgers nominated Councilmember Sheila Niezgodski for the office of Vice-President. Councilmember Rachel Tomas Morgan seconded the nomination.

Councilmember Sharon McBride – <i>Sheila Niezgodski</i>
Councilmember Canneth Lee – <i>Sheila Niezgodski</i>
Councilmember Troy Warner– <i>Sheila Niezgodski</i>
Councilmember Dr. Oliver Davis – <i>Absent</i>
Councilmember Rachel Tomas Morgan – <i>Sheila Niezgodski</i>
Councilmember Sheila Niezgodski – <i>Sheila Niezgodski</i>
Councilmember Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers – <i>Sheila Niezgodski</i>
Councilmember Sherry Bolden-Simpson – <i>Absent</i>
Councilmember Karen L. White – <i>Sheila Niezgodski</i>

Councilmember Niezgodski was elected as Council Vice President by a roll call vote majority of seven (7) Councilmembers with two (2) Councilmembers absent.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR 2026

Council President Lee opened the nominations for the office of Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.

Council Vice President Niezgodski nominated Councilmember Warner for the office of Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole. Councilmember Gooden-Rodgers seconded the nomination.

Councilmember Sharon McBride – <i>Troy Warner</i>
Councilmember Canneth Lee – <i>Troy Warner</i>
Councilmember Troy Warner– <i>Troy Warner</i>
Councilmember Dr. Oliver Davis – <i>Absent</i>
Councilmember Rachel Tomas Morgan – <i>Troy Warner</i>
Councilmember Sheila Niezgodski – <i>Troy Warner</i>
Councilmember Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers – <i>Troy Warner</i>
Councilmember Sherry Bolden-Simpson – <i>Absent</i>
Councilmember Karen L. White – <i>Troy Warner</i>

Councilmember Warner was elected as Chairperson of the Committee of the by a roll call vote majority of seven (7) Councilmembers with two (2) Councilmembers absent.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL ATTORNEY FOR 2026

Council President Lee nominated Attorney Bob Palmer for Council Attorney.

Councilmember Sharon McBride – <i>Attorney Bob Palmer</i>
Councilmember Canneth Lee – <i>Attorney Bob Palmer</i>
Councilmember Troy Warner– <i>Attorney Bob Palmer</i>
Councilmember Dr. Oliver Davis – <i>Absent</i>
Councilmember Rachel Tomas Morgan – <i>Attorney Bob Palmer</i>
Councilmember Sheila Niezgodski – <i>Attorney Bob Palmer</i>
Councilmember Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers – <i>Attorney Bob Palmer</i>
Councilmember Sherry Bolden-Simpson – <i>Absent</i>
Councilmember Karen L. White – <i>Attorney Bob Palmer</i>

Attorney Bob Palmer was appointed as Council Attorney by a roll call vote majority of seven (7) Councilmembers with two (2) Councilmembers absent.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Council President Lee adjourned the Council Organizational meeting at 6:07 P.M.