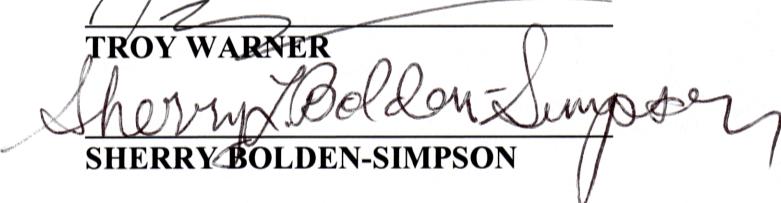


REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON MINUTES

**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.

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|---|
| 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 Niezgodska for the office of Vice-President. Councilmember Rachel Tomas Morgan seconded the nomination.

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

Councilmember Niezgodska 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 Niezgodska nominated Councilmember Warner for the office of Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole. Councilmember Gooden-Rodgers seconded the nomination.

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| 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 Niezgodska – <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.

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| 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 Niezgodska – <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.