



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

BIANCA L. TIRADO, CITY CLERK

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

FEBRUARY 23, 2026, 5:35 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Sherry Bolden-Simpson, Karen L. White,
Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers

Committee Members Absent:

Alice Pickens, Sheila Niezgodski

Other Council Present:

Dr. Oliver Davis, Troy Warner, Rachel
Tomas Morgan

Others Present:

Bianca L. Tirado, Matthew Neal, Jasmine
Jackson, Veronica Pitt-Payne, Bob Palmer

Presenters:

Canneth Lee

Agenda:

Bill No. 26-07 - Resolution Appointing
Marla Godette to a Two-Year Term as a
Member of the Community Police Review
Board

Members marked with an asterisk (*) are in virtual attendance.

Please note the attached link for the meeting recording:

<https://docs.southbendin.gov/WebLink/browse.aspx?dbid=0,0,0,0,0&mediaid=405101>

Committee Chair Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers called to order the Community Relations Committee meeting at 5:35 P.M.

Bill No. 26-07 - Resolution Appointing Marla Godette to a Two-Year Term as a Member of the Community Police Review Board

Council President Canneth Lee presented the bill. He said the bill asks the Council to approve a new appointee to the Community Police Review Board (CPRB).

Committee Chair Gooden-Rodgers held the public hearing, and nobody spoke.

Committee Member Sherry Bolden-Simpson asked if the new appointee would serve a full two (2)-year term or finish the remainder of the previous appointee's term.

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Jasmine Jackson
CHIEF DEPUTY CITY CLERK / CHIEF OF STAFF

Matthew Neal
DEPUTY CITY CLERK / DIRECTOR OF POLICY

Veronica Pitt-Payne
DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROJECTS

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Council President Lee confirmed that she would serve a full two (2) years.

Committee Chair Gooden-Rodgers asked Council Attorney Bob Palmer for further clarification.

Attorney Palmer clarified that the original term was three (3) years, and the new appointee will serve for the remaining two (2) years of the term.

Committee Member Bolden-Simpson moved to send Bill No. 26-07 to the Full Council with a favorable recommendation, which was seconded by Committee Vice Chair Karen L White White and carried by a vote of three (3) ayes with one (1) Committee Member and one (1) Citizen Member absent.

Committee Chair Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers – <i>Aye</i>	Committee Vice Chair Karen L. White – <i>Aye</i>
Committee Member Sheila Niezgodski – <i>Absent</i>	Committee Member Sherry Bolden-Simpson – <i>Aye</i>
Citizen Member Alice Pickens – <i>Absent</i>	

With no further business, Committee Chair Gooden-Rodgers adjourned the Community Relations Committee meeting at 5:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers, Committee Chair