

The Common Council of the City of Connersville held their regular meeting on Monday, April 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Councilwoman Sharon McQueen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mal Gibson offered an invocation before the start of the meeting.

Mayor Chad Frank presided and called the meeting to order with Councilwoman Sharon McQueen, Councilwoman Jenny Barrett, Councilman Tommy Lee Williams Jr., Councilwoman Diana Phillips, Councilman Brian Robb, Councilman Bill Gray, and Councilman Jabin Collins were present. Attorney Geoff Wesling was also present.

Councilwoman McQueen made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2025, regular meeting; Councilman Williams Jr. seconded the motion. All Council members voted "yes."

Clerk Treasurer Rosemary Brown requested approval of **Pending Ordinance 3987**, an ordinance creating funds the Utilities Trust Indiana accounts. Councilwoman Phillips made the motion to approve **Pending Ordinance 3987**, on first reading, Councilman Gray seconded the motion. All Council members voted "yes".

Councilwoman McQueen made the motion to suspend the Rules **Pending Ordinance 3987**; and move on to Third and Final Reading; Councilwoman Barrett seconded the motion. All Council members voted "yes."

Councilwoman McQueen made the motion to approve **Pending Ordinance 3987**; on Third and Final Reading; Councilwoman Barrett seconded the motion. All Council members voted "yes".

Mayor Chad Frank requested approval of **Resolution 2025-19**, a resolution allowing the Utilities to pay project expense with a Bond. Councilwoman Barrett made the motion to approve **Resolutions 2025-19**, Councilwoman Phillips seconded the motion. All Council members voted "yes",

Mayor Chad Frank opened the floor for the public's opinion regarding Fluoride.

Utility/Street Director Jeremy Wilson, read highlights of several articles regarding Fluoride in the water. The Utilities doesn't treat the water with fluoride, they just add it. The current level is 7 parts per million. EPA says that we need to reassess the fluoride. Is there a safe level verses a toxic level. One dose is not the same for everyone. The risk involves children's health.

John Roberts has been a dentist for 43 years. He remembers the head start exams before we had fluoride, there probably only 4 kids without decay. After fluoride, there were only 4 kids with the decay. There are studies out there about India and China, with other factors involved. Fluoride in the water is very important to the teeth development.

Jill Burns, a Richmond dentist, first practiced in Philippines, they had large amount of decay due to no fluoride. There are studies that prove fluoride is safe.

Doug Bush, Deputy Director of Indiana Dental Association, was here 28 years ago when we were discussing adding fluoride to the water. He explained that even different parts of Indiana have fluoride naturally in the water, and some have none.

Tom Christie has been a dentist for 28 years. He saw the same results as Dr. Roberts with the head start kids. He was seeing 1 – 2 cases of decay a week in children before the fluoride was in the water, after the fluoride in the water, he might see 1 – 2 cases every 5 years. Medicare/Medicaid has not increased the reimbursement in the last 27 years. The underprivileged children do not have access to the care needed.

Laura Boggs has been a teacher for 30 years. She taught the head start classes. The underprivileged preschoolers suffered more. They had tooth aches weekly. After 4 – 6 months after adding the fluoride to the water, there wasn't any more tooth aches.

Diana Phillips was on the council then (1997) and she used to work for a dentist, but she still wants to do the research. She also said that Medicaid children got the fluoride where her kid didn't.

Brian Robb was lucky enough to have parents that were able to get fluoride treatment, not everyone has been so lucky. He still thinks we need it.

Tommy Lee Williams Jr. stated that if it is not broken, don't fix it.

Jabin Collins thinks it should be up to the parents. He is against the government dictating what is good for the kids.

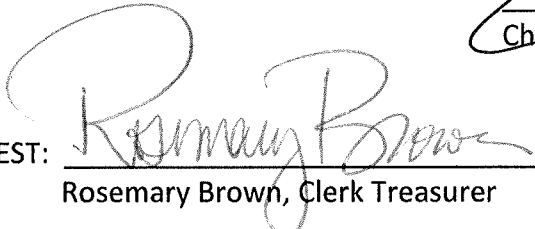
Laura Marszalek has been a dentist for 23 years. She recommends using foundations for information regarding fluoride and more than 2 studies.

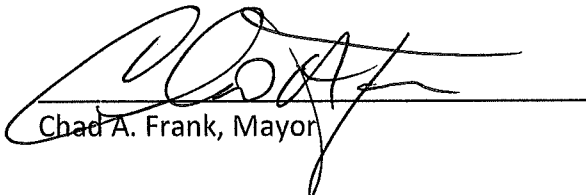
John Roberts stated that there is a percentage of kids that don't go to the dentist. The fluoride in the water has been proven safe time and time again.

Mayor Frank is interested in the long-term use effects.

Councilwoman McQueen announced that the Coleman Gibb's exhibit is still open at the Art Association.

Councilman Gray made a motion to adjourn with Councilwoman McQueen seconding. All Council members voted "yes."

ATTEST: 
Rosemary Brown, Clerk Treasurer


Chad A. Frank, Mayor