

*Indianapolis. Common Council.*

JOURNAL  
OF THE  
**Common Council**  
OF THE  
**CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

From  
January 1, 1955 to December 31, 1955

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# CITY OFFICIALS AND EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL

As of December 31, 1955

Mayor.....ALEX. M. CLARK  
City Clerk.....GRACE M. TANNER  
Deputy City Clerk.....MARGARET B. JONES

## COMMON COUNCIL OFFICERS

President.....JOSEPH E. BRIGHT  
Vice-President.....JOHN A. SCHUMACHER  
Clerk.....GRACE M. TANNER  
Deputy Clerk.....MARGARET B. JONES

## COUNCILMEN

First District.....JOHN A. SCHUMACHER  
Second District.....CARTER W. ELTZROTH  
Second District.....JOSEPH C. WALLACE  
Third District.....GLENN W. RADEL  
Third District.....JOSEPH A. WICKER  
Fourth District.....CHARLES P. EHLERS  
Fifth District.....J. WESLEY BROWN  
Fifth District.....CHRISTIAN J. EMHARDT  
Sixth District.....JOSEPH E. BRIGHT  
\*Fourth District.....CHARLES W. APPLGATE  
Succeeded Charles P. Ehlers, Sept. 22, 1955 (Deceased)

## OFFICE OF MAYOR

Mayor.....ALEX. M. CLARK  
Executive Secretary.....L. FRANCES PEASE  
Secretary to Mayor.....FRANCES L. RATHZ

AUG 7 1958

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

City Controller - -----JOHN R. BARNEY  
Deputy City Controller-----GEORGE USHER  
Finance Auditor-----IRVIN GLOSSON  
Supervisor Barrett Law & Assessment  
Bureau-----DOROTHY L. HERTWECK

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DEPARTMENT OF LAW

Corporation Counsel-----PALMER K. WARD  
City Attorney-----FRANK X. HAUPT

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LEGAL DEPARTMENT

\*1st Assistant City Attorney-----ARTHUR H. NORTHRUP  
\*\*2nd Assistant City Attorney-----JACOB S. MILLER  
\*\*\*3rd Assistant City Attorney-----BEN F. HATFIELD  
City Prosecutor-----JOHN M. RYAN  
Assistant City Prosecutor-----RALPH N. MAY  
Claim Adjuster-----DET. SGT. LESTER CUNNINGHAM  
\*Succeeded Rufus C. Kuykendall, August 12, 1955  
\*\*Succeeded Arthur H. Northrup, August 12, 1955  
\*\*\*Succeeded Jacob S. Miller, August 12, 1955  
(Ben F. Hatfield was appointed August 12, 1955 upon resignation of Rufus C. Kuykendall)

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DEPARTMENT OF CITY CIVIL ENGINEER

City Civil Engineer-----WILLIAM R. HUNT  
Assistant City Engineer-----FORREST M. LOGAN  
Street Engineer-----WALLACE F. ALKIRE  
Sewer Engineer-----JOSEPH O. WATSON  
Flood Control Engineer -----HARVEY W. CASSADY  
Chemical Laboratory -----JOHN B. PHIPPS  
Superintendent Street Lighting-----ARTHUR C. HELM  
Office Manager -----J. RAYMOND TROUT

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police-----JOHN E. AMBUHL  
Inspector of Detectives-----NOEL A. JONES

Inspector of Police.....LEOLIN TROUTMAN  
Inspector of Police.....RUSSELL CARMICHAEL  
Inspector of Police.....RALPH BADER  
Captain of Traffic.....AUDREY E. JACOBS  
Superintendent of Police Radio  
and Fire Communications...FRANCIS DENNIS CAMPBEL.

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TRAFFIC ENGINEER

Engineer.....WILLIAM H. BILBY

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FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief.....JOSEPH F. HANCOCK  
Deputy Chief.....FRED C. DILGER  
Deputy Chief.....ARNOLD W. PHILLIPS  
Executive Deputy Chief.....JOSEPH B. LAWRIE  
Director Fire Prevention.....MICHAEL J. HYLAND  
Master Mechanic.....FRANK A. BRAUN

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PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Purchasing Agent.....CLIFFORD F. BEEKER  
Assistant Purchasing Agent.....HERBERT H. HITCHENS

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BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Commissioner of Building.....CHARLES E. BRANDT

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STREET COMMISSIONERS DEPARTMENT

Commissioner.....JAMES B. CHAPPELL  
Chief Clerk.....FRED SCHOENEMAN

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WEIR COOK AIRPORT

Superintendent.....PHILIP H. ROETTGER  
Manager of Operations.....DONALD THARP  
Supervisor of Maintenance.....A.E. SUTHERLAND

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WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DEPARTMENT

Supervising Inspector.....HARRY H. BRUNNER

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PUBLIC BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Superintendent, City Garage.....WM. LIEBOLD  
Custodian, City Hall.....GIFT PENNEY  
Custodian, Police Headquarters.....LT. PHILIP O. McGEE  
Custodian, Tomlinson Hall.....HARRY GOINS  
Superintendent City Market.....PAUL A. RENE

# MEMBERS OF OFFICIAL BOARDS

## BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

President.....PAUL J. SHICK  
Member.....SIDNEY A. HORN  
Member.....JOSEPH B. TYNAN  
Secretary of Board.....AGNES HERNDON REILLY

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## BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

President.....RICHARD K. MUNTER  
Vice-President.....GEORGE CAFOUROS  
Member.....JAMES D. STRICKLAND  
Member.....THOMAS M. QUINN  
Executive Secretary.....DAVID H. MARSH

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## BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS

President.....CLARENCE T. DRAYER  
Member.....MARVIN J. BREZETTE  
Member.....LOUIS J. RYBOLT

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## BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

President.....H. J. RAFFENSPERGER  
Vice-President.....PAUL E. RATHERT  
Member.....EUGENE W. DORN  
Member.....AGNES P. CONNOR  
Director Public Parks.....J. R. TOWNSEND  
Secretary.....MARY E. GRIFFIN  
Finance Officer.....CORA E. HARTMAN

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## CITY PLAN COMMISSION AND BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

President.....ROBERT A. VOIGT  
Vice-President.....LOUIE MOLLER  
Members—J. WESLEY BROWN                      RICHARD K. MUNTER  
                  CLARENCE E. FLICK                      H. J. RAFFENSPERGER  
                  WILLIAM R. HUNT                      CATHERINE C. BROWN  
                  JACK B. KAMMINS                      FRANK J. UNVERSAW

BOARD OF AVIATION COMMISSIONERS

President.....IRVING M. FAUVRE  
Vice-President.....WILLIAM A. ATKINS  
Secretary.....FRED W. SOMMER  
Member.....THOMAS A. RIDDICK

BOARD OF FLOOD CONTROL

President.....WILLIAM R. HUNT  
Vice-President.....ROSS D. HAWES  
Member.....HOUSTON WHITSON  
Secretary to Board.....LUCILLE PETITHORY

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

\*Acting Executive Secretary.....WAYNE C. DEPEW, JR.

Trustees

President.....FRED W. JUNGCLAUS  
Vice-President.....WILLIAM J. MOONEY, JR.  
Secretary.....EARL H. SCHMIDT  
Member.....ROBERT E. KIRBY  
Member.....CHARLES E. WAGNER

Commissioners

President.....PAUL L. McCORD  
Vice-President.....FRED T. GREENE  
Secretary.....RICHARD H. OBERREICH  
Member.....J. ALBERT SMITH  
Member.....JAMES ROBB

\*Succeeded John W. Walls, July 15, 1955

POLICE AND FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

Chairman.....DR. M. O. ROSS  
Member.....RICHARD H. DYE  
Member.....DR. J. WILLIAM WRIGHT  
Member.....CHIEF JOSEPH F. HANCOCK  
Member.....CHIEF JOHN E. AMBUHL

OFF-STREET PARKING COMMISSION

President.....LUTHER J. SHIRLEY  
Vice-President.....DONALD JAMESON  
Secretary.....BRUCE C. SAVAGE  
Treasurer.....ALBERT O. DeLUSE  
Executive Secretary.....MRS. JEWELL PARKINSON

Note: 4 Members served during 1954 and 1955

# COMMON COUNCIL

## STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 1955

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE—Carter W. Eltzroth, Chairman; Charles W. Applegate, J. Wesley Brown, Glenn W. Radel, John A. Schumacher.
2. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—Charles W. Applegate, Chairman; Carter W. Eltzroth, Glenn W. Radel, Joseph C. Wallace, Christian J. Emhardt.
3. PUBLIC SAFETY AND AVIATION COMMITTEE—Glenn W. Radel, Chairman; Carter W. Eltzroth, Charles W. Applegate, Joseph A. Wicker, Joseph C. Wallace.
4. PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE—John A. Schumacher, Chairman; J. Wesley Brown, Glenn W. Radel, Christian J. Emhardt, Joseph C. Wallace.
5. PARKS COMMITTEE—J. Wesley Brown, Chairman; John A. Schumacher, Carter W. Eltzroth, Christian J. Emhardt, Joseph A. Wicker.
6. LAW AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE—Joseph C. Wallace, Chairman; Joseph A. Wicker, Charles W. Applegate, J. Wesley Brown, John A. Schumacher.
7. CITY WELFARE COMMITTEE—Christian J. Emhardt, Chairman; Joseph C. Wallace, John A. Schumacher, Carter W. Eltzroth, Glenn W. Radel.
8. ELECTION COMMITTEE — Joseph A. Wicker, Chairman; Christian J. Emhardt, Carter W. Eltzroth, J. Wesley Brown, Charles W. Applegate.

Note: Charles W. Applegate, succeeded September 22, 1955  
Charles P. Ehlers, deceased, September 13, 1955



# CALENDAR OF SESSIONS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL 1955

|   | Page |
|---|------|
| 1. January 3, 1955, 7:30 P.M.-----Regular -----     | 3    |
| 2. January 17, 1955, 7:30 P.M.-----Regular -----    | 33   |
| 3. February 7, 1955, 7:30 P.M.-----Regular -----    | 49   |
| 4. February 21, 1955, 7:30 P.M.-----Regular -----   | 65   |
| 5. March 7, 1955, 7:30 P.M.-----Regular -----       | 89   |
| 6. March 21, 1955, 7:30 P.M.-----Regular -----      | 121  |
| 7. April 4, 1955, 7:30 P.M.-----Regular -----       | 169  |
| 8. April 18, 1955, 7:30 P.M.-----Regular -----      | 185  |
| 9. May 4, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Special -----         | 233  |
| 10. May 16, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----       | 301  |
| 11. June 6, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----       | 325  |
| 12. June 20, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----      | 369  |
| 13. July 6, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Special -----       | 413  |
| 14. July 18, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----      | 453  |
| 15. July 20, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Special -----      | 475  |
| 16. August 1, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----     | 481  |
| 17. August 15, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----    | 577  |
| 18. August 29, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Special -----    | 609  |
| 19. September 7, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Special -----  | 673  |
| 20. September 19, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular ----- | 721  |
| 21. October 3, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----    | 765  |
| 22. October 17, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----   | 805  |
| 23. November 9, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Special -----   | 845  |
| 24. November 21, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----  | 889  |
| 25. December 5, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----   | 949  |
| 26. December 19, 1955, 6:30 P.M.-----Regular -----  | 1001 |
| 27. December 30, 1955, 1:00 P.M.-----Special -----  | 1029 |

# *History of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis*

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Indianapolis was established as a town in 1821. It was at this time that a commission, appointed by the legislature, selected this location as a site for a seat of government of the State of Indiana.

The town of Indianapolis conducted its affairs pursuant to the general laws of the state until 1832. In this year the town was incorporated and was governed by a board of five trustees.

In 1838, pursuant to a special act of the legislature, Indianapolis was re-incorporated and placed in the hands of its first town council composed of a president and six members.

The common council continued in a large measure to control the affairs of Indianapolis as a town and as a city under various so-called charters or grants of the legislature until 1891.

Under a special act of the legislature of 1891 for the city of Indianapolis, a somewhat different form of government was established. While the council continued to exercise broad control over the city's affairs, various executive departments of the city were provided, such as Public Works, Public Safety, Public Parks and Public Health, conducted by boards appointed by the Mayor. These boards were granted specific powers and duties concerning the city's business previously exercised by the council through committees subject, however, in some cases to approval of the council in all matters of expenditure of money and appropriation of funds by the council.

For some time prior to 1891 the City of Indianapolis was divided into 25 wards represented by 25 ward councilmen. Their term of office was two years and they were eligible for re-election. At this time there was also a separate body operating in conjunction with the council called the Board of Aldermen, composed of ten Aldermen, representing five Aldermanic districts, two being elected from each district.

Under the 1891 act the Board of Aldermen was abolished and a common council of 21 members was established. Fifteen members

were elected to represent 15 wards and six members were elected to represent the city at large.

This form of council continued to exist in Indianapolis under the general cities and towns act of 1905. The act of 1905, while often referred to as the Indianapolis Charter, is very largely a re-enactment of the 1891 Indianapolis charter, modified to make the Indianapolis system applicable to all classes of cities of the state. The 1905 law increased the term of Mayor and councilman to four years and prohibited re-election.

In 1909 a novel councilmanic law for Indianapolis alone was passed by the legislature. This law limits the number of councilmen to nine. The law provides for the nomination by each party of six candidates, one from each of six councilmanic districts. In the election all of the voters of the city may vote for any nine candidates and the nine receiving the highest number of votes are elected. This law insures a minority representation in the Council of at least three members. In 1949 the legislature amended the statutes to permit councilmen to succeed themselves.

## EXECUTIVE HEADS OF CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS UNDER VARIOUS FORMS OF ORGANIZATION

### Presidents of Boards of Trustees

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Henderson, Samuel.....                 | October 12, 1832, to September 30, 1833 |
| Edgar, James (Resigned as Trustee).... | Sept. 30 to December 9, 1833            |
| Blythe, Benjamin I.....                | March 7, 1834, to February 14, 1835     |
| Morrison, Alexander F.....             | February 14 to October 2, 1835          |
| Palmer, Nathan B.....                  | October 2, 1835, to April 13, 1836      |
| Lockerbie, George.....                 | April 13, 1836, to April 4, 1837        |
| Soule, Joshua, Jr.....                 | April 4, 1837, to April 2, 1838         |

### Presidents of Town Council

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Morrison, James.....                                | 1838 to 1839               |
| Palmer, Nathan B.....                               | 1839 to 1840               |
| Coburn, Henry P.....                                | 1840 to 1841               |
| Sullivan, William (Resigned November 12, 1841)..... | 1841                       |
| Culley, David V.....                                | 1841 to 1844; 1850 to 1853 |
| Wilson, Lazarus B.....                              | 1844 to 1845               |
| Levy, Joseph A.....                                 | 1845 to 1847               |
| Rooker, Samuel S. (Resigned November 1, 1847).....  | 1847                       |
| Cady, Charles W.....                                | 1847 to 1848               |

### Mayors

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Henderson, Samuel.....   | 1847 to 1849               |
| Newcomb, Horatio C. (Resigned November 7, 1851).....           | 1849 to 1851               |
| Scudder, Caleb.....  | 1851 to 1854               |
| McCready, James.....   | 1854 to 1856               |
| West, Henry F. (Died November 8, 1856).....                    | 1856                       |
| Coulon, Charles (To fill vacancy until November 22, 1856)..... | 1856                       |
| Wallace, William John (Resigned May 3, 1858).....              | 1856 to 1858               |
| Maxwell, Samuel D.....   | 1858 to 1863               |
| Caven, John.....   | 1863 to 1867; 1875 to 1881 |

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Macauley, Daniel  | 1867 to 1873                          |
| Mitchell, James L.                                      | 1873 to 1875                          |
| Grubbs, Daniel W.                                       | 1881 to 1884                          |
| McMaster, John L.                                       | 1884 to 1886                          |
| Denny, Caleb S.   | 1886 to 1890                          |
| Sullivan, Thomas L.                                     | From January 1, 1890 to Oct. 12, 1893 |
| Denny, Caleb S.   | From October 12, 1893 to 1895         |
| Taggart, Thomas   | From October 10, 1895 to 1901         |
| Bookwalter, Charles A.                                  | From October 10, 1901 to 1903         |
| Holtzman, John W.                                       | From October 15, 1903 to 1905         |
| Bookwalter, Charles A.                                  | 1905 to 1909                          |
| Shank, Samuel Lewis (Resigned November 28, 1913)        | 1910 to 1913                          |
| Wallace, Harry R.                                       | 1913                                  |
| Beil, Joseph E.   | 1914 to 1917                          |
| Jewett, Charles W.                                      | 1918 to 1921                          |
| Shank, Samuel Lewis                                     | 1922 to 1925                          |
| Duvall, John L. (Disqualified September 22, 1927)       | 1926 to 1927                          |
| Slack, L. Ert   | 1927 to 1929                          |
| Sullivan, Reginald H.                                   | 1930 to 1934                          |
| Kern, John W. (Resigned September 2, 1937)              | 1935 to 1937                          |
| Boetcher, Walter C.                                     | 1937 to 1938                          |
| Sullivan, Reginald H.                                   | 1939 to 1942                          |
| Tyndall, Robert H. (Died July 9, 1947)                  | 1943 to 1947                          |
| Denny, George L.  | 1947                                  |
| Feeney, Al G. (Died November 12, 1950)                  | 1948 to 1950                          |
| Bayt, Phillip L. (Resigned effective November 24, 1951) | 1950 to 1951                          |
| Emhardt, Christian J. (November 24, 1951)               | 1951                                  |
| Clark, Alex M.  | 1952 to 1956                          |