

CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES  
ERLANGER CITY COUNCIL  
January 20, 2026

Mayor Jessica Fette called the caucus meeting of the Erlanger City Council to order in the City of Erlanger Council Chambers at 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, January 20, 2026

The following Members of City Council were present: Tom Cahill, Chris Farmer, Michele Fields, Tyson Hermes, Jennifer Jasper-Lucas, Diana Niceley, Rebecca Reckers, Renee Skidmore, and Renee Wilson.

Also present were: Mayor Jessica Fette, City Administrator Mark Collier, City Clerk Sherry Hoffman, Director of Economic Development/ACAO Nick Eads, and City Attorney Jack Gatlin.

## CAUCUS DISCUSSIONS

### Small Business Task Force Abatement Ordinance

- > Discussion
  1. The abatement ordinance would be a property tax moratorium for residential and commercial properties where improvements were being made; the most current assessed value would be used.
  2. The program would be reviewed annually.
- > Action Requested
  1. The first reading of this ordinance to be placed on the February 3, 2026 regular council meeting agenda.

### On-Street Parking and Abandoned Vehicles Review

- > Discussion
  1. Mayor Fette reported that Police Chief Leming recommended the following:
    - A. Maintain the 24 hour on-street parking, not to extend 48-72 hours
    - B. Complaint received in November was a one time incident
    - C. Additional time can be granted case by case (i.e. vacation).
- > Action Requested
  1. Mr. Hermes requested Mr. Gatlin to draft an ordinance to be discussed and voted on by City Council with the following:
    - A. Time limitation according to road type
      01. Interstate: Tow after 24 hours
      02. Local Roads: Increase to 72 hours
    - B. No towing stipulation for weekends and holidays
    - C. No towing during snow emergencies.

### Speed Humps

- > Discussion
  1. Literature was distributed that contained a review of speed humps and traffic calming.
  2. Public Works Director Kevin Quinn contacted the City of Edgewood regarding any issues they may have had with their speed humps; the below was reported to have been found:
    - A. Acceleration of vehicles between humps
    - B. Teenagers accelerating to go over the humps.
  3. Speed Hump Analysis conducted by Public Works found:
    - A. They do reduce speed.
    - B. They do create a visual.
    - C. There are costs to maintain them.
    - D. They decrease property values.
    - E. They increase air pollution.
    - F. They decrease fuel efficiency.
  4. Permanent speeding signs instead of speed humps
- > Actions Requested
  1. Police Sergeant Justin Auton volunteered to create a list of streets that would be candidates for a permanent speeding sign. The following streets were recommended: Narrows Road, Concord Drive, and Riggs Avenue (before Hulbert Avenue and Kenton Lands Road).

### Insurance Premium Tax Reduction

- Discussion
  1. The following past reductions occurred:
    - A. 10% tax was reduced to 9.75%.
    - B. 9.75% tax was reduced to 9.50%.
  2. Mayor Fette recommended that the City should not make a change this year, but build a reduction from 9.50% to 9.25% in the next budget cycle with an ordinance confirming this reduction by March 2027.
- Actions Requested
  1. Ms. Jasper-Lucas requested the following:
    - A. To go with the recommendation and not make a change this year;
    - B. Place the topic of reduction on a council term rotation so that the City Council who is discussing the reduction is the same Council who would vote on the reduction.
  2. Mr. Hermes requested a caucus meeting to discuss a franchise fee reduction. Mayor Fette stated she would get the numbers for that reduction.

### Task Force Review

- Discussion
  1. Annual review of current and future task forces
- Actions Requested
  1. Parks Master Planning - Mr. Hermes advised the task force would continue.
  2. Council Size - New task force created by Mr. Hermes.
  3. Modifying or Eliminating Unnecessary Funds - New task force created by Mr. Hermes.
  4. Historical Society - New task force to document the City as it is now; created by Mr. Hermes.
  5. Open Records - New task force created by Mr. Hermes.
  6. Beautification - Ms. Niceley advised the task force would continue.
  7. Small Business - Ms. Reckers advised the task force would continue.

### Mayor Pay

- Discussion
  1. A spreadsheet detailing the Mayor pay for Kentucky cities was distributed; it included a population range.
    - A. Cities with the population of 20,000+ had an average Mayor pay of \$32,584/year; Mayor Fette makes \$15,000/year.
    - B. Mr. Hermes would like to increase the mayor salary closer to the average; he suggested using the money saved from reducing council from twelve members to nine.
- Actions Requested
  1. Ms. Reckers requested that the spreadsheet be converted to Excel and submitted to the City Council for review; she requested data based on the 2020 population.
  2. Mr. Hermes requested a caucus meeting in February 2026 for further discussion.

### ADJOURNMENT

M/S, Reckers-Wilson, to adjourn from the caucus meeting at 8:44 P.M. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

ATTEST AND RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

  
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Sherry Hoffman, City Clerk