

INDIANAPOLIS, COMMON COUNCIL

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

From  
January 1, 1956 to December 31, 1956

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**CITY OFFICIALS  
AND  
EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL**

As of December 31, 1956

Mayor.....PHILLIP L. BAYT  
City Clerk.....TERESA F. LAFFEY  
Deputy City Clerk.....MARY ANNE REDMOND

**COMMON COUNCIL  
OFFICERS**

President.....CHRISTIAN J. EMHARDT  
Vice-President.....JOS. C. WALLACE  
Clerk.....TERESA F. LAFFEY  
Deputy Clerk.....MARY ANNE REDMOND

**COUNCILMEN**

First District.....ROSCOE A. McKINNEY  
First District.....GLADYS POHLMANN  
Second District.....JOS. C. WALLACE  
Third District.....WM. H. WILLIAMSON  
Fourth District.....CHAS. W. APPLGATE  
Fourth District.....R. THOMAS MCGILL  
Fifth District.....CHRISTIAN J. EMHARDT  
Sixth District.....MARY M. FRANCIS  
Sixth District.....JOS. E. BRIGHT

**OFFICE OF MAYOR**

Mayor.....PHILLIP L. BAYT  
Executive Secretary.....KENNETH HARLAN  
Secretary to Mayor.....MARY SMYRNIS

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

City Controller.....CHAS. H. BOSWELL  
Deputy City Controller.....JOHN RYAN  
Finance Auditor.....HAROLD GOSSMAN  
Supervisor Barrett Law .....DOROTHY L. HERTWECK  
Assessment Bureau .....MAYBELLE OLIVER

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DEPARTMENT OF LAW

Corporation Counsel.....MICHAEL B. REDDINGTON  
\*City Attorney.....JOHN DILLON  
\* Succeeded Owen Mullin—August 12, 1956

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LEGAL DEPARTMENT

1st Asst. City Attorney.....JAMES NOLAND  
2nd Asst. City Attorney.....MERCER MANCE  
\*\*3rd Asst. City Attorney.....CHAS. S. WHITE  
City Prosecutor .....THOS. R. GIBSON  
Asst. City Prosecutor.....PATRICK CHAVIS, JR.  
Claim Adjuster.....SGT. RANDOLPH SCHUBERT  
\*\* Succeeded John Christ—August 12, 1956

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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 Library.....JOHN B. PHIPPS  
Superintendent of Street Lighting.....WM. A. BEAVERS  
Office Manager.....RAY HAAS

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police.....FRANK A. MUELLER  
Inspector of Detectives.....NOEL A. JONES

Inspector of Police.....ROBERT REILLY  
\*Inspector of Police.....CHESTER A. TIMMERMAN  
Inspector of Police.....JOHN AMBUHL  
Captain of Traffic.....AUDRY E. JACOBS  
Superintendent of Police Radio  
and Fire Communications...FRANCIS DENNIS CAMPBELL  
\* Succeeded Albert Kelly—December 20, 1956

TRAFFIC ENGINEER

\*Traffic Engineer.....STANLEY T. SIEGEL  
\* Succeeded Wm. H. Bilby May 28, 1956

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Fire Department.....ARNOLD W. PHILLIPS  
Deputy Chief.....FRANK O'MALEY  
Deputy Chief.....FRED DILGER  
Executive Deputy Chief.....JOSEPH B. LAWRIE  
Director Fire Prevention.....MICHAEL J. HYLAND  
Master Mechanic.....FRANK A. BRAUN

PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Purchasing Agent.....ALBERT H. LOSCHE  
Assistant Purchasing Agent.....FRANK H. SCHEIB

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Acting Commissioner of Building.....KENDRICK A. HATT, P.E.  
Asst. Commissioner of Building.....LeGRANDE MARVIN

STREET COMMISSIONERS DEPARTMENT

Street Commissioner.....ROSCOE BREDELL  
Chief Clerk.....LORETTO McDONALD

WEIR COOK AIRPORT

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

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DEPARTMENT

Supervising Inspector.....CARL SCHEPER

PUBLIC BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Superintendent—City Garage.....HARVEY McKIM  
Custodian—City Hall.....EARL CLEMENTS  
Custodian—Police Department.....SGT. WALTER THICKSTEN  
Custodian—Tomlinson Hall.....EDW. WHITE  
Superintendent—City Market.....JACOB STEINMETZ

# MEMBERS OF OFFICIAL BOARDS

## BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

President.....DR. DAVID SILVER  
Member.....WILLIAM WARREN  
Member.....SHIRLEY MURPHY  
Secretary of Board.....AGNES CLEGG\*

\* Succeeded Agnes Reilly—August 30, 1956

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## BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

President.....RUSSELL J. DEAN  
Vice-President.....HUGH G. BAKER  
Member.....ROBERT E. SCHREIBER  
Member.....AUGUST J. SIELOFF  
Executive Secretary.....LOUIS P. M. ADAMS

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## BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS

President.....JAMES C. COURTNEY  
Member.....OSCAR F. BARRY, SR.  
Member.....CLARENCE T. DRAYER

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## BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

President.....EUGENE W. DORN  
Vice-President.....AGNES P. CONNOR  
Member.....PAUL E. RATHERT  
Member.....RICHARD L. GILLIOM  
Director of Public Parks.....A. J. THATCHER  
Secretary.....MARY E. GRIFFIN  
Finance Officer.....CORA E. HARTMAN

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## CITY PLAN COMMISSION AND BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

President.....JACK KAMMINS  
Vice-President.....LAWRENCE SEXTON

Member—HARRY FEENEY	WM. R. HUNT
Member—ROBT. VOIGHT	WM. WILLIAMSON
Member—GRACE TANNER	RUSSELL DEAN
Member—JACOB KEIFER	FRANK UNVERSAW
Member—CHAS. S. BOEHM	EUGENE DORN

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..... HAZEL B. MILLER  
Secretary to Board..... LUCILLE PETTITHORY

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Acting Executive Secretary ..... OWEN PAUL

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

POLICE AND FIRE MERIT COMMISSION

Chairman..... DR. M. O. ROSS  
Member..... DR. J. WILLIAM WRIGHT  
Member..... JUDGE JOS. HOFFMAN  
Member..... CHIEF ARNOLD PHILLIPS  
Member..... CHIEF FRANK MUELLER

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  
Member..... CARTER ELTZROTH

# COMMON COUNCIL

## STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 1956

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE—Joseph C. Wallace, Chairman; R. Thomas McGill, Roscoe A. McKinney, William H. Williamson, Mary M. Francis.
2. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—R. Thomas McGill, Chairman; William H. Williamson, Joseph C. Wallace, Charles W. Applegate, Gladys C. Pohlmann.
3. PUBLIC SAFETY AND AVIATION COMMITTEE—Roscoe A. McKinney, Chairman; R. Thomas McGill, William H. Williamson, Joseph E. Bright, Gladys C. Pohlmann.
4. PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE—William H. Williamson, Chairman; Joseph C. Wallace, Mary M. Francis, Joseph E. Bright, Charles W. Applegate.
5. PARKS COMMITTEE—Mary M. Francis, Chairman; Roscoe A. McKinney, R. Thomas McGill, Gladys C. Pohlmann, Charles W. Applegate.
6. LAW AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE—Charles W. Applegate, Chairman; Joseph E. Bright, Joseph C. Wallace, R. Thomas McGill, William H. Williamson.
7. CITY WELFARE COMMITTEE—Joseph E. Bright, Chairman; Charles W. Applegate, Roscoe A. McKinney, Mary M. Francis, Joseph C. Wallace.
8. ELECTION COMMITTEE—Gladys C. Pohlmann, Chairman; Joseph E. Bright, Mary M. Francis, Roscoe A. McKinney, R. Thomas McGill.



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# *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.....	April 3, 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; 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
Bell, 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
Bayt, Phillip L.....	1956 to 1960