
Common Council President

15th District Alderman



Willie L. Hines, Jr.
City of Milwaukee Common Council

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Bill Arnold
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Common Council Committee Appointments Reflect Experience and Leadership

Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. today announced 2012-2016 assignments for the seven standing committees that will address the major issues impacting the City of Milwaukee. Included within these new assignments are the committee chairs.

President Hines likened the returning chairs to “team captains” in athletics who “possess a unique combination of expertise, leadership and overall experience.” “They have each demonstrated an unwavering willingness to directly address the issues that are among Milwaukee’s biggest challenges and problems. Additionally, they have each brought about innovative and workable solutions by involving our residents, business owners, and city staff,” he said.

The returning committee chairs are: **Ald. Michael J. Murphy**, Finance and Personnel, **Ald. Robert J. Bauman**, Public Works; **Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.**, Community and Economic Development, and **Ald. Ashanti Hamilton**, Judiciary and Legislation Committee.

President Hines pointed to the abilities, strengths, and expertise of each of the chairs: “Ald. Murphy possesses insightful and an expert level knowledge of Milwaukee’s finances gained during more than 20 years of service as a Council member, and his wisdom and leadership in addressing our financial challenges has been invaluable to the city. Ald. Bauman has brought a keen understanding of the critical connections between city infrastructure, public amenities, and city services, and how they impact our overall quality of life. Very simply, his knowledge and oversight of projects and the Department of Public Works has made many city projects and basic services better. Ald. Davis has continued to position Milwaukee as a leader in community-building and economic development, and I look forward to his continued efforts.”

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President Hines continued: “Finally, Ald. Hamilton has demonstrated incisive leadership in addressing some of Milwaukee’s most pressing challenges, including the abysmal rate of employment among our African American males and disparities in city contracts with women and minority owned firms. His knowledge of city processes and his legal background will continue to suit him well as chair of our Judiciary and Legislation Committee.”

Council veteran **Jim Bohl** will now chair Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development, and **Ald. Terry Witkowski** will now chair the Public Safety Committee. Taking Ald. Bohl’s place as chair of the Licenses Committee will be **Ald. Tony Zielinski**, who has served on the committee for the past four years.

President Hines said each new chair brings experience and insight gained over “dozens of combined years of city service.” “Each new chair will play a key role in moving our city forward by addressing the issues we face. Ald. Witkowski has served two terms on the Public Safety Committee, and as the longtime city Safety Director worked in partnership with the police department, the fire department, the health department and other agencies. His experience and knowledge is unquestioned; Ald. Bohl led the Licenses Committee – a very challenging committee – with integrity and strength, and his knowledge of zoning and development, and city processes will be a great fit for ZND; Ald. Zielinski’s legal background and business knowledge are well suited to head our quasi-judicial licensing panel.”

The Council’s newest member, **Ald. José G. Pérez**, will serve as vice-chair of the Community and Economic Development Committee, and as a member of the Licenses Committee. “Ald. Pérez has a background in business and economic development, and I believe he brings a good balance of skills and life experience that will be a benefit in his service to both of those committees,” President Hines said.

Vice chairs appointed by the president: Ald. Pérez, Community and Economic Development; **Ald. Nik Kovac**, Finance and Personnel; **Ald. Terry L. Witkowski**, Judiciary and Legislation; **Ald. Robert G. Donovan**, Public Works; **Ald. Robert W. Puente**, Public Safety; **Ald. Willie C. Wade**, Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development; and **Ald. Milele A. Coggs**, Licenses.

[A full listing of committee assignments is attached.]