

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA,
HELD A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING IN THE THIRD FLOOR ASSEMBLY
ROOM OF THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017
AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Mr. Caesar, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Nash, Mr. Blair, Mr. Aebersold, Mr. Barksdale, Dr. Knable and President McLaughlin. Mr. Coffey was not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Stein, Mr. Thompson, Police Officer Davidson and Mrs. Glotzbach

President McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION:

Mr. Caesar asked that we use this moment of silence for the hurricane victims in Puerto Rico and the 58 individuals that lost their lives during the Las Vegas shooting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for September 21, 2017, **Mr. Blair** second, all voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Coffey who was not present.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS):

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Mr. Aebersold stated that he received a storm water newsletter in the mail and feels that it is a useful piece of information dealing with gutters, limbs and crosswalk safety so he hopes it gets circulated and people read it. He mentioned that there are a couple of loans going out from the Horseshoe Foundation for businesses in New Albany, including Roots and added that Hull and High Water just opened the other day and Horseshoe loaned them money for that as well. He stated that there are warning signs on Silver Street but at two locations they are laying on the sidewalk which could be very dangerous at night if individuals walking do not see them.

Mr. Thompson stated that he thinks it is the striping contractor that does it but he will let them know that they do need to make sure they are safe.

Mr. Barksdale stated that he has been in contact with Mr. Summers to inform him that the intersection at Elm Street and Silver Street are lacking the painted white stop areas on the pavement. He added that he has witnessed numerous cars go right through that intersection even though there are stop signs and flashing lights.

Mr. Phipps stated that the red lights are crooked at that intersection and unfortunately he sent that issue to the director of the street department instead of Mr. Thompson and it wasn't addressed. He asked Mr. Thompson if he could look into it.

Mr. Caesar stated that he doesn't know what has been discussed about the crosswalk on W. 1st Street, but he noticed that the road goes down a little bit so you can't see the markings on the street until you are on top of it. He asked if they needed to install a sign or a yellow flashing light to indicate that it is a crosswalk.

Mr. Thompson explained that he had a meeting with the contractor and put them on notice. He stated that it was evidently a miscommunication because they asked them to put the center line down and the stop bars put down at the same time but that didn't happen. He reiterated that going forward they need these to be done at the same time for safety reasons. He added that they have had several discussions in-house about the crosswalks and trying to address the concerns with them. He stated that he will bring it up at the next Board of Works meeting.

Mr. Barksdale stated that there is one like that at St. Mary's Church as well and it provides a false sense of security because there are a lot of vehicles that aren't stopping. He added that he likes the idea of a yellow cone in the middle of the street.

Mr. Phipps stated that there are 13 or 14 intersections that have them now.

Mr. Blair stated that they need to work on sidewalks in the 4th, 5th and 6th districts.

Dr. Knable asked Mr. Caesar and Mr. Barksdale if they spoke to the redevelopment commission about Coyle Drive.

Mr. Barksdale stated that they have not had a redevelopment meeting since their last council meeting but he did call to get it on the agenda.

Dr. Knable voiced his wishes that the council meeting chamber in the new building not take on this Mt. Olympus type of set up that they see for so many other municipalities. He stated that he would like for them to be on the same level as the citizens that are coming in to address them and if they have any input on the design that would be his preference. He explained that he received another letter about Airbnb rentals throughout the city and has some questions as to whether the existing zoning codes covers this. He stated that he spoke with Mr. Wood who assured him that there would be some mention of this in the new zoning code. He stated that he would like for the council to pay close attention to this when it comes before them and thinks it would be worth having further discussions regarding this issue.

Mr. Caesar thanked Dr. Knable for bringing up the subject because he is concerned about the revenue that we are not receiving on these Airbnb locations we well. He stated that there aren't just issues with these smaller AirBnb rentals but also with B&B's in general like in Silver Hills where it didn't turn out to be what they all thought it would be. He added that he thinks there needs to be a registration of some sort because absentee ownership is a huge problem.

Dr. Knable stated that he wanted to bring it up tonight because they are supposed to have the zoning ordinance delivered sometime this month or next month.

Mr. Nash stated that he thinks the website takes care of income because Lyft and Uber are similar and that's the way they do it.

Dr. Knable stated that aside from the income they need a way to track it.

Mr. Blair asked Ms. Stein if he needs to get in touch with Mr. Wood about the billboard ordinance.

Ms. Stein stated that it is going to be included in the new zoning code.

Mr. Blair stated that they need to have something sooner than later because there are developers out there now that are falling in the loophole. He added that he can call Mr. Wood tomorrow and may bring up a six month moratorium on it at the next meeting. He asked Ms. Stein if a council member could do that.

Ms. Stein stated that her understanding is that it has to come from zoning but she will look into it. She added that she got the feeling that Mr. Wood was trying to address the code all at once instead of doing it piecemeal.

Mr. Blair stated that he has been hearing about the zoning for quite a long time now so his patience is running out. He added that he would like to schedule a time for a sewer and storm water update.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that the last time he talked with Mr. Wilkinson he was working on it and he will get in touch with Mr. Gardner about scheduling a session.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Mr. Thompson stated that the mayor wanted to extend an invitation to everyone to come out to the Harvest Homecoming Parade this Saturday and added that the festival is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. He explained that Elm Street is scheduled for conversion tomorrow and that is the last of the downtown grid project.

COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:

REPORTS – COMMITTEES, BOARDS OR OTHER OFFICIALS AS REQUESTED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE COUNCIL:

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

READING

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

Paul Holba, One Southern Indiana, updated the board on the talent development initiative that was first brought to them back in April. He explained that the council asked them in May to work a little harder to develop collaboration with the New Albany Floyd County Schools and they spoke with the school superintendent. He stated that it was agreed that this is something they are interested in and directed them to work with Dr. Jensen and Allen Taylor at Prosser. He explained that to-date they have spent just shy of \$150,000.00 through the grant and put in new advanced equipment. He stated that they spent ~ \$12,000.00 in stipends for the teachers to spend a week this summer in businesses

around the community. He explained that their next step is the Skillup3 grant and this one will be focused on collaborative and innovation which will see them working together to combine the counties in southern Indiana. He pointed out the job distribution by educational requirement and explained that these are the numbers that the Department of Workforce Development has come up with and is essentially status quo.

Dr. Knable asked Mr. Holba if he can elaborate on the connections and relationships that they have made with Prosser and New Albany High School.

Mr. Holba stated that he meets with Mr. Taylor once a month and they are working with the other schools to provide them additional students. He explained that they are working with Ivy Tech to look at what they can do to further the education of a high school student.

Dr. Knable asked if he has a point of contact for New Albany.

Mr. Holba replied Dr. Jensen and added that they are waiting for the appointment for the new superintendent to make contact with them.

Dr. Knable asked when those contacts were made.

Mr. Holba replied in January of this year.

Dr. Knable asked if the businesses are volunteering their access or do they have to pay for it.

Mr. Holba explained that they are volunteering their time and some have said to the teachers that if they are willing to work, they will pay their average wage. He added that it was put in the Skillup2 grant to incentivize some of the teachers that were on the fence.

Mr. Blair asked how they recruit.

Mr. Holba stated that it varies by the request for information from the various companies. He explained that it can be a request for the population for a 60 minute commute to graduation rate to looking for certain skills. He stated that most of the time they want a good look at the demographics and participation in the workforce.

Benjamin Santamaria stated that he is seeking support from leaders in the community for the Dreamers and asked them to sign a “We Stand with the Dreamers” letter than will go on to the representatives in Congress. He explained that he came from Arizona and was one of the first Spanish speaking children in the system and he wants to be able to give back to the community and asked if there are any projects that they know of that he could get involved in.

Mr. Nash asked if he is a Dreamer or a citizen.

Mr. Santamaria stated that he came here from Arizona and has seen this community grow with people from different countries and backgrounds and wants them to feel welcome in seeking New Albany as their home.

Mr. Blair asked if he is a US Citizen.

Mr. Santamaria replied yes.

Mr. Blair asked if he just wants to help the Dreamers.

Mr. Santamaria replied yes

Dr. Knable asked about the average length of time his cohorts have been here and what percentage have successfully taken the steps to become a citizen.

Mr. Santamaria stated that there were different programs throughout history and his experience is that he has seen that there are citizens of this country that do not speak the language and don't participate in what is going on. He added that Dreamers are required to go through background checks and have to be pursuing work or education. He stated that there are 800,000 Dreamers in this country right now with 10,000 here in Indiana and they need support.

Dr. Knable asked how long the average person who is labeled as a Dreamer has been here and how long does it usually take for them to achieve citizenship.

Mr. Santamaria stated that you had to be here before 2012 and had to be 16 so those that didn't meet the age requirement were cut off the program. He explained that once they get a work permit, they are in the system and have a social security number for taxes. He stated that eventually they become part of the nation but aren't a citizen.

Dr. Knable asked how many people complete the program to become a citizen verses how many stay illegally.

Mr. Santamaria stated that no one in the program has become a citizen yet so they keep renewing every 2 years but now with this new administration, they are in trouble of losing the ability to continue to pursue their citizenship. He explained that he is asking for support from community leaders to encourage reform that will integrate them into our society.

Mr. Phipps asked if he will have individual letters to be signed or will it be a group letter.

Mr. Santamaria stated that it will be individual letters.

Mr. Phipps stated that he would be happy to sign it when he brings it back to them.

Roger Baylor stated that he thinks that if they handle the Airbnb situation correctly they will have a boom of customers coming in here for Harvest Homecoming. He asked how many of them have stayed at an Airbnb property because he has had a lot of good experiences with them and he would hate to think that they were going to frame it as somewhat of a threat. He added that he isn't suggesting that it shouldn't be regulated but he doesn't want them to think of it as something of an expansion of slumlords.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Pat McLaughlin, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk