

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY,
INDIANA, WILL HOLD A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING IN THE THIRD
FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members: Mrs. Collier, Mr. Phipps, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Turner, Mr. Blair, Mr. Aebersold, Mr. Applegate, Dr. Knable and President Caesar.

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Stein, Police Officer Knight, Mr. Staten, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Moeller, Mr. Gibson and Ms. Milburn.

President Caesar called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcome the new members to the council.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Blair moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for January 6, 2020 as corrected, Mr. Phipps second, all voted in favor

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Mr. Turner reported that there is a new business opening on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. called Hoosier RC Hobbyplex in the Colonel Manor. He encouraged them to stop by if they have the chance and explained that it is a niche but it will bring a lot of people from outside New Albany to it. He reported that he emailed Joe Ham regarding the increased railroad work going on to ask that they increase the signage in the work areas.

Dr. Knable asked if he is referring to street identification signs.

Mr. Tuner replied yes and stated that he doesn't think that people are used to the railroads being active again and is worried about the potential for an accident.

Mr. Caesar stated that it has been about 15 years since that part of the track has been used so he would agree with the concerns. He suggested that he reach out to Mr. Thompson because he is really good about following through about things of that nature too.

Mr. Tuner stated that he will reach out to Mr. Thompson as well.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that he received a few calls regarding the thought that Ecotech is getting a little lax on letting debris fall out of garbage cans and trucks in the alleyways. He explained that what they have discovered is that a lot of it is people going around and getting into the garbage cans, flipping the lids to take things out and not putting them back. He added that he had an incident at his home that almost resulted in an altercation and he has spoken with Chief Bailey about this. He added that Bryan Slade has been to a home on Chartres Street before them and videoed a person on a bicycle going through the cans and leaving a lot of trash out as he made his way up the alley. He stated that they spoke with the gentleman and told him that they only ask that he clean up after himself but it does seem to be an increasing problem.

Mr. Caesar asked if this is sporadic or are people doing this at every garbage can.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that it is both and sometimes they even know the routes and come out before sanitation runs.

Dr. Knable stated that he believes there is an ordinance that prohibits people from going through residential trashcans. He explained that on one of the neighborhood sites that he monitors someone reported that individuals came to her home under the guise of scrapping and asked if they could go through her garage and she declined the request. He stated that it turns out they already had another individual in her garage and this tactic gets used to see when people are home during the day. He added that these neighborhood watch sites can be beneficial. He reported that Monday there is a MLK celebration at The Grand and asked if they were all copied on the email announcement. He reported that he attended the regional meeting on homelessness that Barb Anderson put together and it was well attended. He stated that he thinks there will be a lot more push on this as the year progresses. He reported that is he going to try to take another run at creating an affordable housing trust fund in New Albany and any one that wants to help he would welcome it. He stated that he would like to get more information as it builds up and ask Mr. Caesar to request that someone from the Housing Authority come and give them an update. He stated that he would like to know how they, as a community for the people that are out there trying to help these people, plug them in the system.

Mr. Caesar stated that he has had some contact with them and he does believe it can happen.

Mr. Aebersold reported that he received an email from Susan Smith on Ekin Avenue with concerns about an empty house that she thinks needs to be demolished and asked if someone could look into that. He reported that there are a lot of cars sitting in alleyways of the Silver Street area with expired or no plates and she wanted to know what can be done about it.

Mr. Caesar asked if she has called code enforcement because it needs to start there.

Mr. Aebersold stated that he hasn't spoken with her yet but he will relay that to her.

Mr. Phipps stated that he reported the issue at Ekin Avenue as soon as he received the call and code enforcement is working on it.

Mr. Gibson stated that it is actually in court now.

Dr. Knable asked that when they are working on these issues as a group to make sure they hit reply all so they aren't duplicating efforts.

Mr. Blair stated that he had an opportunity to attend a public presentation on the River Heritage Conservancy and they have developed their master plan to move forward. He explained that he would like to hear from the administration to see what they are doing with Loop Island to understand how it fits with what they are developing in Clark County. He stated that he is impressed with what they are doing so far and they have a lot of world renowned architects/planners involved in that project. He asked Mr. Caesar if he could add that to their schedule.

Mr. Caesar informed the council that Chris Gardner will be coming in at the next meeting to give a report on the riverfront and storm water. He stated that he is looking at the first of March to have city financial people and redevelopment to come in for a work session to explain the city finances and where they are.

Dr. Knable asked who that would include.

Mr. Caesar replied Crowe Horwath.

Mr. Blair asked if the work session would be on redevelopment or city finances.

Mr. Caesar replied both.

Mr. Blair stated that he did attend a redevelopment commission meeting where Mr. Staten gave a presentation and it was very informative so he wondered if it would be a continuation of that or more comprehensive.

Mr. Caesar stated that the goal will be to inform the council and the public about where the city stands financially speaking.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Michael Hall stated that the Mayor wanted to invite them to the MLK celebration at The Grand on January 20th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. He encouraged them to RSVP if they plan to attend.

COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:

Mrs. Moeller presented the October 2019 financial statement and asked that it be entered into the record.

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

Redevelopment

- Approved Change Order #4 in the amount of \$2,549.79 for INDOT at Oak and Cherry for the State Street signals
- Approved Change Order #18 in the amount of \$19,946.54 for the Mt. Tabor Road change on the message board that was requested by BOW
- Two plans to help put together the five year CDBG plan and that was awarded to Engaging Solutions for a contract not to exceed \$38,958.00

ONE SOUTHERN INDIANA – Wendy Dant-Chesser

Ms. Dant-Chesser thanked the council for being a partner in economic development and for their continued monetary support of their economic development efforts. She stated that she is present tonight to give them a report on how economic development activities affected the City of New Albany in 2019. She handed out a copy of the 1st Annual report and reviewed it with the board. Said report is on file with the City Clerk's office

Recent Activities - Summary of 2019 economic development activities.

- 4 announcements were made in Floyd County. 3 of those in New Albany.
- Average county wage in 2018 was \$20.03 and in 2019 the average wage of these announced Floyd County Projects was \$33.96.
- Household incomes increase. More money to spend locally. Higher quality of living in our communities when wages are increasing.
- 10 projects announced in Clark and Floyd Counties. 3 in New Albany. Of 10 projects announced over 1500 jobs were committed to. 400 committed to New Albany.
- Average annual payroll that is new to the community is over \$81M in both communities and that money is spent throughout the region.
- Added capital in Clark and Floyd Counties is over \$103M

Cumulative Look

- Since July of 2006 176 project announced. 58 in Floyd County/54 New Albany
- 15,000 jobs created in the two counties since 2006. 2,919 in New Albany
- Added payroll annually since 2006 is over \$588M/\$135M Floyd County/\$129M New Albany
- Added capital since 2006 is \$1.432B of taxable capital in our communities. \$306,258, 212 added in Floyd County. \$298,541,712 added in New Albany.

Investor ROI – How to measure a return on the investment in a community.

- New payroll return is significant. For every \$1 taken in since 2006 they have shown \$79.72 in payroll added to the local economy.
- For every \$1 invested in Isi's EDP, \$194.18 has been created in new taxable capital in the community.

Floyd County Project Locations (pages 9-11)

- Cumulative projects from 2006 to present that have been announced in Floyd County

Advocacy for Commerce

- Isi regularly provides opportunities to learn about and engage on various issues with elected official and topic experts.

Indiana's Regional Cities Initiative

- Regional Development Authority (RDA) group came together in 2017
- Awarded grant from Indiana Economic Development Corporation in 2018
- Put together 5 county regional plan that includes Washington, Scott, Jefferson, Clark and Floyd
- Plan accepted by the State of Indiana and Indiana Economic Development Corporation.
- Grant has been awarded and closed out, but no new monies allocated at the state level to help fund those operations.
- Group is still coming together to say when those dollars are available we will be ready

Dr. Knable stated that if money became available in 2020 for regional development what would they be prepared to put in for.

Ms. Dant-Chesser stated that the plan that was submitted lists 50 different projects and those are listed on their website at www.oursoinrda.org. She explained that some of these projects would be to provide a supportive role, but others could create more of a regional return including a coordinated effort on broadband and a regional marketing/branding identity.

Dr. Knable asked if mass transit was one of the 50 projects.

Ms. Dant-Chesser stated that she doesn't believe it is.

Mr. Applegate stated that the website has some good general information aside from the projects regarding this area including updated statistics and comparisons.

Mr. McLaughlin asked about the projected job creations for Sazerac and if it has slowed down because it seems to be a little behind what they anticipated.

Ms. Dant-Chesser explained that 110 was the commitment that was made but when the state issues the incentive letter they provide them a 4 year window in order to meet that job commitment. She added that she toured the facility recently and they did not express any concerns about meeting their goals.

Mr. Aebersold asked about the Sherman Minton bridge and if they are staying on top of it.

Ms. Dant-Chesser stated that they have accepted the bids for the work to be done but they haven't announced who it is. She explained that the legislative session, to her

knowledge, hasn't issued anything about it so it is expected to be something the administration will handle completely.

Mr. Aebersold asked if they already have a plan

Ms. Dant-Chesser stated that she believes the contractors have the ability to add elements of change to the plan. She explained that when the Ohio River Bridges Project was done they stated that there are two bridges, a rough outline of what was needed and they were asked to tell them the best way to achieve it. She stated that it was included in the bids of the different contractors. She added that they have been asked to minimize disruption and refrain from closing the bridge unless safety is at stake. She stated that they will stay on top of it and let this body know as soon as they know anything more.

Mr. McLaughlin thanked her for doing this.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

READING

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Tony Toran - reappointed to Police Merit Commission.

Mr. Caesar stated that in going through a lot of these committees and boards he discovered that there isn't a master list. He explained that he would like to try and work on this list because it makes sense that they know who is on what board and for how long. He added that he doesn't know how difficult this is going to be but there are still one or two more appointments that need to be made.

Mr. Blair stated that when he is doing this it might be worthwhile to determine what method they go about getting appointed.

Mr. Caesar stated that he will definitely look at that and is finding out that there is an Indiana Code that deals with a lot of these.

Dr. Knable stated that he thinks it is a great idea to have a master list to see who rolls off. He asked if there was any resolution with regards to Mr. Whalen.

Mr. Caesar replied no and stated that he would like to speak with Mr. Blair about it after the meeting.

Dr. Knable stated that if no one has asked for an ordinance in support of 1si for 2020 it is his intention to do so. He explained that if it passes they will have a seat at the table from the council and he thinks it is important to appoint someone other than himself so they can get a taste of it.

Mr. Blair stated that Mr. Applegate has been appointed to this position contingent upon the support.

Mr. Phipps stated that someone mentioned that the vacancy on the Human Rights Commission should be advertised and he has had two people express interest in the position. He asked if they want to advertise to get more candidates in.

Mr. Blair stated that he authorized the ad last year.

Mr. Phipps asked if they have received any responses.

Ms. Milburn stated that she doesn't know of any but she will check with Mrs. Glotzbach.

Mr. Phipps asked if he should publically announce the two people had expressed interest.

Dr. Knable recommended that he move forward with it.

Mr. Phipps stated that he would be totally happy with either and asked if they would like him to get a letter or resume from them to present to the council.

Mr. Caesar stated that he likes the idea of getting a resume or letter from them because he has some questions about that board as well that he needs to research.

Mr. Phipps asked if he is he officially appointed to UEZ

Mr. Caesar replied yes.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

Misty Ronau, Safety for our Schools (SOS) Floyd County PAC, stated that she is the chair of the PAC that has formed in support of a potential school safety referendum. She informed the council that NAFC schools will be hosting 2 town halls in advance of the February school board vote to move forward on the anticipated school safety referendum for the May primary ballot. She stated that the meetings will take place on January 21 at 6:00 p.m. at Floyd Central High School and January 22 at 6:00 p.m. at Processor. She invited the entire council on behalf the PAC as well as Dr. Snyder, his administrative team and the NAFC school board to attend one or both of these meetings.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Bob Caesar, President

Mindy Milburn, Deputy City Clerk