

**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,
MARCH 2, 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: Ms. Stein, Police Officer Davis, Mr. Staten, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Moeller, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Glotzbach.

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

MOMENT OF REFLECTION:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for February 20, 2020, Mr. Applegate second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Mr. Turner stated that he wanted to thank redevelopment for the work on Colonial Manor and making that happen and he thinks that is going to be big for the community.

Mr. Caesar stated that it will be a significant improvement for that area.

Dr. Knable stated that on behalf of some of the neighbors of the Glen Mill Road neighborhood he is passing along ongoing concerns about the intersection at Glen Mill Road and Green Valley Road.

Mr. Applegate said that intersection was brought up at their public safety & traffic committee meeting.

Dr. Knable asked what was discussed?

Mr. Phipps stated that it was just brought up as another intersection that may warrant a four way stop or some type of traffic calming.

Dr. Knable stated that he would like to ask Mr. Applegate to bring that forward with regards to the traffic committee to give it a little more priority. He then stated that he has received a lot of questions from the public and patients about the Coronavirus so he wanted to pass on that the Indiana State Department of Health is very much on the ball on this. He said that they get regular communications weekly and as needed. He then read the following paragraph. Although the immediate health risk to the general American public is low, the CDC is moving from containment strategies to mitigation and is operationalizing pandemic and response plans including specific measures to prepare communities to respond to local transmission of COVID-19. Influenza pandemic guidance is being adapted for the possibility of a COVID-19 pandemic. Healthcare providers, hospitals, local health departments, and EMS are urged to review pandemic influenza plans to assess local readiness, identify gaps, assess personal protective equipment inventories, staffing plans, and surge capacity. CDC has recently updated several guidance documents (see links below) for healthcare providers, public health departments, laboratories, travelers, businesses and schools. He said that the local physicians' offices are already kind of on guard with this. He explained that they are already putting in testing measures in all nine of their sites within the next week where they can identify and send people off for testing and are getting supplies ready. He stated

that he knows locally, in the past, the city and the county had routine drills with regards to that so he won't comment on that. He said that he just wanted everyone to know that things are happening whether they can see them or not.

Mr. McLaughlin stated this is kind of akin to the invite that they received from Ms. Tamara Markland from the health department. He said that they have invited them to the Floyd County Community Response to Coronavirus at Baptist Health Floyd, Room 2 and 3 in the Paris Education Center on Thursday, March 4th at 11:00 a.m. He said that he will be out of town but it will probably be the same as what Dr. Knable reported.

Dr. Knable stated that there would probably be another update by that time.

Mr. Blair stated that the intersection of Green Valley Road and Mt. Tabor Road is pretty tight and semis get in that intersection and can't make the turn very easily so he would like to see if there is something can be done there.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that he had a couple of people bring to his attention that Hausfeldt Lane and Green Valley Road is very dark at night and early in the morning and he thought maybe that could be taken to board of works.

Mr. Caesar asked if there is a painted crosswalk going across that intersection.

Mr. McLaughlin replied yes but it is not lit.

Mr. Aebersold asked if we have received any calls on potholes due to the notice that was sent out in the utility bills.

Mr. Caesar said that people do call.

Mr. Phipps asked if it is the same number that it was last year.

Mr. Caesar stated that it is 812-948-5352.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Mr. Hall stated that the Slate Run Road project is moving along and curbs and sidewalk forms are starting to go in along there. He said they are looking at mid-summer to early fall for completion on that. He also said that there is a staging area at the old Zestos lot and once the project is complete, they will do something a little nicer with that area.

COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:

Mrs. Moeller passed out the financials for December 2019 and said she wanted to note that the general fund ended under budget and everything is in good shape.

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

Mr. Applegate stated that he did go to the board of works about the process that the committee came up with and they thought it was a great opportunity for the board of works and the city council to work together regarding these issues. He said that what he will do from here is put together some type of form or spreadsheet to start looping things in and funnel those items down to board of works but the committee will do their due diligence before passing those down.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that they did have their committee meeting on the Catalyst Rescue Mission.

Mrs. Collier stated that Reverend Moon did supply an updated budget and a new flow chart so she was happy that they were more accurate.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that when Reverend Moon comes back things should be even more updated.

Mrs. Collier stated that he did say that there would be like a \$50,000.00 annual increase for security but he did not know those exact numbers at this time but she asked him to determine that before the next meeting.

Mr. Caesar stated that it will be interesting to see what that will include because they have already spent close to that on cameras.

Mrs. Collier said that the cameras were actually \$28,000.00 but he said that he wants to have someone monitoring the camera system around the clock and is expecting that to take four people. She also said that he had \$32,000.00 or \$35,000.00 in the budget but he is expecting that to go up to approximately \$85,000.00. She added that he said he could give the most accurate numbers after the first quarter.

Mr. Caesar asked if they feel it is time to advertise for this.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that would be up to Dr. Knable.

Dr. Knable stated that he was briefed by the committee on their findings and he would like to move forward with it. He then stated that the wanted to thank Mr. McLaughlin and Mrs. Collier for meeting a second time and for everyone doing their due diligence in going up there and looking through things. He said that he wanted to point out Mrs. Collier's skill at not accepting things at face value and asking questions until she gets answers that satisfy her with regards to the flow chart particularly and the discrepancies in it.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION – Mrs. Collier and Mr. Applegate

Mrs. Collier stated that at the last meeting they had a public hearing for the CDBG five year consolidated plan and the one year action plan. She said that there was a rebid for the Griffin Street Recreation Center improvements. She explained that they awarded a sidewalk improvement project for Olive Avenue. She stated that there was the purchase of properties on E. Spring Street at 2201 E. Spring Street and 2202 E. Spring Street. She then stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Staten for all of the work he did on Colonial Manor. She explained that was with Mr. Brian Forest with Hoagland Commercial Realtors and the agreement that was awarded to them was in the amount of \$1M for façade work and infrastructure. She said that he already has bids out for the work and he is hoping that the work will start in early April and be completed by the end of the year.

Mr. Turner asked how much of the \$1M is going to public infrastructure.

Mr. Staten stated that a lot of it is going into that parking lot.

Mr. Blair asked if the parking lot is public.

Mr. Staten stated that it will be public parking.

Mr. Blair stated that it is private property that we are making improvements to.

Mr. Staten replied yes.

Mr. Applegate mentioned the Spring Street corridor and stated that those are nice properties for the gateway coming into the city so that's a big deal too.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

READING

COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC: A-20-01 One Southern Indiana

COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONER: A-20-01 One Southern Indiana

Mrs. Wendy Dant-Chesser stated that it is clear that the bridge issue is very important to the council and to the merchants in the city as well as some of the industries. She said that as they learn new information about the discussions of the bridge, she has made sure that President Caesar is informed of those as well as Mr. Aebersold. She said that she is happy to share the information with all members or filter the information through those two members whichever the council prefers. She explained that as they learn more about the process, they are starting to see a shortening of the timetable for input from the public, the community advisory council as well as the Environmental Justice Committee. She said that if there are specific points or actions that need to be made, they stand ready. She said they are not letting any of these meetings go without their involvement but if there are things that are specific, the best they can do is communicate to the council as it wishes to be communicated to so that it is informed of those issues. She stated that they also continue to work economic development projects with the city and Mr. Staten and his team have been wonderful partners with them on those. She added that she trusts that Mr. Matt Hall will lead them with the communications they expect and to make sure that we do the best we can do for the City of New Albany on economic development.

Mr. Caesar asked if there is another meeting planned for the bridge.

Mrs. Dant-Chesser stated that they haven't established a notice on that but she believes the last communication showed that there are still a number of alternatives that are being considered on the bridge with one being maximum opening which is the two lane option. She said that it is probably not likely that they will use the two lane option but she can still let them know that the business community is fighting for that.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if this earmarks that we have representation on the One Southern Indiana Committee?

Mrs. Dant-Chesser stated any investor at the lead level and above has a seat on the Economic Development Council. She explained that the proposal with the City of New Albany in the past has been that there have been two seats and one is appointed by the mayor and one appointed by the council president. She said at the last meeting Councilman Applegate was in attendance and Mr. Staten was invited as well and that will continue with the contribution.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if these fund are used only for Southern Indiana and don't go into any state agenda on district redevelopment or anything like that.

Mrs. Dant-Chesser stated that these funds are earmarked for economic development and that includes any of the workforce development that they would work on including manufacturing specifics.

Mr. Aebersold asked if One Southern Indiana is going to be involved in Brown Station Way.

Mrs. Dant-Chesser stated that they stand ready to engage with them as issues come about. She said that they have been involved in the masterplan of the Lewis & Clark piece of it but this seems to fall outside of that project range so they have not been included in that. She added that she has not thought of that and the impact it would have on this area and she thinks it would be a good conversation in the future to understand where New Albany stands on that project.

Mr. Aebersold stated that if they start that project within a year that will not be good.

Mrs. Dant-Chesser said that if you see the timeline for the Sherman Minton renewal and the timeline for Brown Station Way that could create quite a deadlock in traffic in New Albany.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if they are almost on the same timeline.

Mr. Blair stated that he thought they committed not to do anything on Brown Station Way until the work was done on the Sherman Minton Bridge.

Mrs. Dant-Chesser stated that if that is true then she apologizes because she was not made aware of it. She said that she will make a phone call in the morning to look into it and report back.

Mr. Blair stated that he is fine with the path of communication going through the president and then he can filter through information to the council.

Mr. Caesar said he will make sure that all communications get back to the council.

A-20-01	Ordinance for the Appropriation of Riverboat Funds for One Southern Indiana	Knable/ 3 Turner
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Mr. Turner introduced Bill A-20-01 and moved to approve the third reading, Dr. Knable second, all voted in favor. Bill A-20-01 becomes Ordinance A-20-01.

Mr. Turner stated that this money from the Riverboat Fund is going to be vital to our area no matter what they decide to do with the bridge. He said whether it is a full closure or partial closure, we are going to need all of the assistance we can get. He also mentioned that Jeffersonville and Clarksville are not going to be affected by the bridge being closed down so he feels this is important.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

Ms. Cathy Higgins, 1106 Korb Avenue, stated that she feels that the homeless situation in New Albany needs a little more attention. She said that she has started doing outreach on Saturdays and Sundays with two different groups and the people that come there consistently do not leave the area. She suggested that we look into the White Flag Shelter days being extended to summertime too because it is dangerous when the weather gets really hot. She added that there are some local outreaches here and they are organizations but maybe we could get a little more support for them from the city.

Ms. Barb Anderson stated that she was out of town for the last meeting and wanted to thank the council for considering the Catalyst request. She said that she agrees with Ms. Higgins that we can do more especially during the heat of the summer because we have had more people die from inclement weather in the summer rather than the winter. She explained that if people are in poor health and it's really hot, that can be very serious. She then invited the council to an evening meeting on Wednesday, March 25th but said that they haven't identified the location yet. She said it will be an open discussion on homelessness and its many issues. She stated that one issue is that there is a wonderful building sitting on Charlestown Road and is now vacated which was a domestic violence shelter. She explained that Catalyst is not equipped to be a domestic violence shelter and out of necessity, it is one more time. She said that is not fair to the domestic violence victims nor is it fair to the residents at the shelter. She stated that there are so many different issues that they face such as mental illness, drug addiction and the working poor and they are all mixed together in one building. She said that we need more shelters but this needs to be a regional approach so that's why they are doing their meetings to find out how best to serve, where to serve and how to develop resources. She added that we do not get our fair share of help from the state and federal government on homelessness in this area and we need to get more assertive in making that happen.

Mr. Dale Bagshaw, 85 Galt Street, stated that he would like to commend Mr. Blair, Dr. Knable, Mr. Aebersold, Mr. Turner and Ms. Copas for all of the work they did last year on the redevelopment of Colonial Manor. He said that in his mind it was a courageous vote to turn down that project and it seems to have been the right thing to do since we

now have private enterprise moving in to take over that property. He then said that he had a complaint about the city going and buying up property and basically taking properties off of the tax rolls. He stated that the old tannery building and scratch and dent have been torn down and it looks real nice but it bothers him that we take properties off of the tax rolls all of the time and make public space out of them.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Bob Caesar, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk