

**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, FEBRUARY 2, 2015
AT 7:30 P.M.**

The meeting of the **New Albany City Council** was called to order by Mr. McLaughlin at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Council Members, Mr. Coffey, Mr. Caesar, Mr. Phipps, Mrs. Benedetti, Mr. Blair, Mrs. Baird, Mr. Gonder, Mr. Zurschmiede, and President McLaughlin.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Lorch, Mr. Duggins, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Moeller, Mr. Michael Hall, Police Chief Bailey and Mrs. Glotzbach

MOMENT OF REFLECTION:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes for January 15, 2015, Mr. Gonder second, all voted in favor.

Mrs. Baird moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for January 15, 2015, Mr. Phipps second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:

COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OFFICIALS:

Mr. Phipps stated that there are some problems with boundaries since they did the redistricting and he isn't placing blame anywhere but they need to get it fixed. He explained that the maps do not jive with what people get when then call downtown to find out to what precinct they live in. He stated that for example Randy Smith is in the 9th precinct in the according to the map but when he calls downtown they tell him that he is in the 10th precinct and that change in precinct changes what council district he is in and changes his council representative. He explained that they have to get this fixed before the next election and they need to really look at the map and the system to make sure there are no other mistakes like this.

Mr. Zurschmiede stated that when he went to the clerk's office last week she told him that the county fixed what the city had messed up on and they redrew it.

Mr. Phipps stated that there is something wrong with the map that was approved by the County Commissioners and they have to make sure they fix the issue.

Mr. Coffey stated that in the past they have always gone by precincts but when they went to census blocks that made it extremely difficult and they are still working out the kinks. He explained that the census blocks don't have the same boundaries and he thinks that is what they were told they had to do.

Mr. Phipps stated that he doesn't care either way but he just wants it corrected and they all deserve to have an accurate map.

Mr. Coffey stated that he thinks that the clerk's office wants Mr. Lorch to come in and help and the council will have to pay him for his time and from what he understands they can't cut a census block.

Mr. Lorch stated that this map reflects what the council geographically adjusted and passed and then it was given to the clerk and the commissioners to use to update their records. He explained that Mrs. Moeller spoke to the council regarding split precincts and special ballots having to be created for those people in the areas that were part of the splits. He stated that in order to get rid of the splits, from his understanding, was that the commissioners and the clerk worked together to submit an application to the Indiana Election Board to redraw the lines so that there are no more splits and all those that were part of it are officially part of the precinct they were trying to move them into. He explained that they provided the ordinance, mapping, and geographical boundaries for the census tracks that were affected and with that data the County Clerk should update the voter registration to reflect that information. He stated that if they do not do that it doesn't mean that the map they have is wrong it just means that those precincts will remain in the split.

Mrs. Benedetti stated that Mr. Smith pulled up the state registry and he is in Mr. Phipps district but the local registry has him in Mrs. Benedetti district so they really need clarity on what happened and what the precincts should be.

Mr. Coffey stated that they are working on it but they definitely need correct information on how it stands.

Mr. Blair stated that if the filing deadline is the 6th this should be taken care of immediately.

Mr. Gonder asked if this would invalidate any of the filings for the election.

Mr. Phipps stated that if someone like Mr. Smith wanted to file to run he would need to know the proper district to file in.

Mr. Coffey stated that someone needs to talk to Don Lopp because if the commissioners changed any of this he would be the one to know.

Mrs. Benedetti stated that she is sure that they have the right to change any of this if they feel like they need to.

Mrs. Moeller stated that the commissioners have the authority to change precincts lines.

Mr. Coffey stated that it sounds like that is what they did.

Mr. Phipps stated that the Chris Moore told him that the map that he gave him was the map that was approved by the County Commissioners.

Mr. Zurschmiede asked if it is just that Indianapolis has the wrong information.

Mr. Phipps stated that he suspects that someone entered incorrect information.

Mr. Lorch stated that he is happy to follow up with them to make sure all the information is correct.

Mr. Zurschmiede stated that he believes this map is right.

Mr. Phipps stated that he just wants it fixed.

Mr. Coffey stated that somewhere along the line they are going to have to figure out if they want to rent voting machines because the last election was unreasonable for voters and over 6,000 people couldn't vote.

Mr. Blair asked if he is suggesting that they city should help provide the solution.

Mr. Coffey stated that he is suggesting that he city buy the machines and then lease them to the county because there aren't enough machines.

Mr. Phipps stated that even if they lease the machines there is no guarantee that they would use them.

Mr. Gibson stated that he has spoken with Mrs. Eurton and she has indicated that they need an additional 30 machines and accompanying poll books to properly run the city election and that is including the ones that they have.

Mr. Gonder stated that if someone in authority says that we need "x" number of machines and we don't provide those machines are we running an illegal election.

Mr. Gibson stated that the city is obligated to pay for costs of the city election. He said that they budgeted for election this year but not for an extra 30 machines.

Mrs. Benedetti asked if she had the numbers broken down for that.

Mr. Gibson stated that he wanted to talk with them about having a special meeting on Thursday to talk with Mrs. Eurton about that. He explained that the other item they wanted to have a meeting about is the 2015 budget to discuss a calculation error.

Mr. McLaughlin asked what the timeline is on that.

Mr. Gibson stated that it has to be done by Monday, February 9th.

Mr. Gonder asked if the city is obligated to put forth the money for the machines for this school board election.

Mr. Gibson stated that the county is responsible for funding elections and they are responsible for paying for the city's share and he would think that the county and school corporation would discuss how to pay for that.

The council set two special meetings on February 5th at 6:30 p.m. for the district questions and 7:30 for DLGF.

Mrs. Benedetti asked Mr. Lorch if he could address with the state the issues they have with the maps by the meeting on Thursday.

Mr. Coffey stated that someone should also talk to Mr. Moore.

Mr. Lorch stated that he will do what he can.

Mr. Zurschmiede reported that the committee regarding the property maintenance code is still working with Mr. Brewer and their next meeting is going to be Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Benedetti stated that they are going to meet again tomorrow afternoon regarding the downtown lighting and they may need to go back into negotiations with Duke but she will hopefully have an update at the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Michael Hall stated that the city will be hosting a small open house at the Silver Street Park on Saturday from 12:00-3:00 p.m. and invited all the council member to join them.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: READING

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (non-agenda items):

Randy Smith applauded the president for calling the work session with the school board. He stated that Slate Run is a critical piece if they ever want to connect the Green Way and this is an opportunity to work with the school system and do something with that area.

Mr. Baylor shared that he is receiving a radar gun and he will be measuring the speed of traffic in front of his house.

IN COMMITTEE:

G-14-01	Ordinance Adopting the International Property Maintenance Code Standards for the City of New Albany	Zurschmiede 1&2
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TABLED ORDINANCES:

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Pat McLaughlin, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk