

**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 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18,
2016 AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Mr. Coffey, Mr. Caesar, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Nash, Mr. Aebersold, Mr. Barksdale, Dr. Knable and President McLaughlin. Mr. Blair was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Lorch, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Moeller, Mr. Hall and Mrs. Glotzbach

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for February 1, 2016, Mr. Caesar second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS):

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Mr. Barksdale passed out a flyer for the St. Marks Neighborhood Health Fair and explained that it is an annual event for the whole community and asked that they pass this on to any constituents that they may think would benefit from it.

Mr. Phipps stated that the committee met regarding the rental registration ordinance and they made some suggestions to Mr. Gibson. He explained that he has tweaked the document and they are pretty close to completing the final document and he hopes to bring it back at the March 7th meeting.

Mr. Coffey stated that one issue they have downtown is that the sidewalks are no longer handicap assessable because the restaurants have moved too far out onto the sidewalk so wheelchairs are unable to get through. He explained that he has brought this up during the redevelopment meetings and he thinks that they need to really look at this issue.

Dr. Knable asked Mr. Phipps if they ever added any landlords to that committee.

Mr. Phipps stated that they decided not to use any landlords but they do have two realtors (Chris Fox and Angela Bower) as well as one person from the community (Steve Pacciano).

Dr. Knable reminded the board that Mr. Blair is still working on the retreat and trying to find individuals that will help them with it and will follow up at the next meeting. He stated that he had a couple of constituents ask him about two lighting issues. He explained that the first is on Main Street near the YMCA and Mr. Thompson has looked into it, and while the wiring is good the globes are inaccessible on many of them so he will drill them out and replace them. He stated that the second issue is in front of the federal building and is a little more complicated. He explained that he spoke with Todd Young about it yesterday and they are going to have to get Duke and the contractor together to see who is responsible for digging it up and repairing the conduit.

Mr. Barksdale stated that he saw someone out in the bucket truck today replacing the bulbs.

Mr. Phipps stated that there is a light pole at the back of the post office that is leaning on the Oak Street side and asked Dr. Knable if he could mention that since he is working with the federal government.

Mr. Aebersold explained that he was at the Animal Shelter this afternoon talking about the dog park and the animal control group was wondering how they fit in. He stated that he was surprised that they weren't involved from the beginning but they are willing to help out the Parks Department in any way that they can.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Michael Hall stated that the Mayor wanted to extend his appreciation with regards to allowing Ecotech to take on a larger role with trash collection. He explained that it will free up personnel to focus on more aesthetic work around the city and they hope to see results by midsummer.

COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:

Mrs. Moeller passed out city financials for January 2016.

Mr. Thompson explained that the state called him regarding the sewer line and once they determine that it is okay then work will start and as far as he knows the schedule is still the same.

Mr. McLaughlin asked what goes into the pipe.

Mr. Thompson explained that his understanding is that a creek was redirected and that is why they piped it and it comes from West Street.

Mr. Coffey stated that it dumps out into Falling Run Creek.

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

School & Library

Mr. Barksdale introduced the new library director, Melissa Merida.

Ms. Merida gave a brief background. She stated that it has been a great transition so far and she is thrilled with the staff and is very glad to be here.

Police Committee

Dr. Knable stated that himself, Mr. Blair and Mr. Aebersold met with the membership of the FOP and had a preliminary discussion about some of their concerns. He explained that they will report back when there is a more formal list.

Mr. McLaughlin asked who initiated the meeting.

Dr. Knable stated that he believes it was Mr. Blair.

Fire Committee

Dr. Knable stated that himself, Mr. Caesar and Mr. Phipps met with representatives from the fire union last night and they also have some concerns that they will be formalizing to be brought back to the council.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

READING

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Human Rights Commission

Paul Kiger – New Appointment
Wendy Stepro – Reappointment

The board appointed Ms. Stepro and Mr. Kiger by a unanimous show of hands.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

ADJOURN:

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

Pat McLaughlin, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk