

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA, HELD A PUBLIC HEARING IN THE THIRD FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015 AT 7:15 P.M.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Lorch and Mrs. Glotzbach

Mr. McLaughlin called the public hearing to order at 7:15 p.m. and asked if anyone was there to speak on the following:

**Z-15-01 An Ordinance for the Vacation of a Public Way
Pursuant to a Petition Filed by New Albany-
Floyd County Consolidated School Corporation**

Mr. Alan Hoffer stated that he is representing the school corporation and explained that the property is between the old Northside Church and the school administration building and he believes that the road is called Sleepy Lane. He said that the school is all around the property and the only adjoining neighbor was at the end but those people are deceased and the property remains unoccupied and has been for a couple of years. He also said the school would like to take that property over and absolve the city from further maintenance and liability.

Mr. Phipps asked if there is another way to access the property at the end in case someone did want to live there or develop it.

Mr. Wisheart stated that there is an easement to the north in place that could be used and is probably a better approach in because at the end of Sleepy Lane there is about a 20 ft. fall in a very short period into that space.

Mr. Blair asked if the estate has been notified.

Mr. Hoffer stated that he is not sure if there even is an estate. He said that they did a title search and did not see where an estate had been opened. He added that the owner of record had been sent notices.

Mr. Blair stated that someone has to have rights to the property.

Mr. Coffey stated that a family was landlocked when the school system took over Lancaster's and the people ended up having to sell for little to nothing. He said that he doesn't want to sign off on something unless we have 100% assurance.

Mr. Wisheart stated that he was never aware of locking anyone out when they bought the Lancaster property and that property was already there and they just purchased it. He added that there is an easement to the north along the backside of the property.

Mr. Coffey stated that we need to make sure that we contact those people. He added that is a huge piece of property to be giving up.

Mr. Blair stated that we need acknowledgement from whoever owns the property that they are aware of this.

Mrs. Benedetti asked Mrs. Glotzbach if it was sent by registered mail.

Mrs. Glotzbach replied yes but she did not receive the receipt or the letter back yet. She said she mailed it approximately two weeks ago.

Mr. Coffey stated that is too short of time to make this sort of decision.

Mr. Zurschmiede asked if the taxes have been paid on it.

Mr. Hoffer stated that he did not check this month.

Mr. Caesar stated that we are going to have to know who owns it and what they are going to do with it before we can move forward.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Pat McLaughlin, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk