

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 21, 2016 AT 6:45 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Mr. Coffey, Mr. Caesar, Mr. Nash, Mr. Blair, Mr. Barksdale, Dr. Knable and Vice President Phipps. President McLaughlin and Mr. Aebersold were not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Lorch, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hall, Mr. Duggins, Mrs. Moeller, Mr. Wood and Mrs. Glotzbach

Mr. Phipps called the public hearing to order at 6:45 p.m. and asked if anyone was there to speak on the following:

A-16-02 Ordinance for Appropriation of EDIT Money for Blessings in a Backpack

A-16-03 Ordinance for Appropriation of Rainy Day Money for Paving and Sidewalks

Vernon Niemier stated that he is not here representing Blessings in a Backpack or Slate Run School but he is a volunteer for Blessings and is present to represent the students. He explained that he is concerned because he heard that it would be funded by the council in 2016 but will have to be voted on in 2017 and 2018. He brought a bag in to show what the students get to take home over the weekends. He added that since Slate Run School is a Title 1 school 75% of them receive these bags. He thanked the council for everything they've done in the past and hopes that it will continue to fund this program and stated that it is a worthwhile cause.

Mr. Caesar asked if 100% of this money goes towards the food.

Mr. Niemier replied yes.

Stephanie Watson stated that she is the Chairperson of Blessings in a Backpack and handed out information on the program and explained that the cost is \$2.11 per child/per weekend. She thanked the council for their support in the past. She gave the example of a child that she teaches at Fairmont School that is homeless who benefits from this program and stated that they have 1,514 students in New Albany that receive Blessings in a Backpack. She urged the council to continue funding the program.

Mr. Blair asked if they are still raising a significant portion of their funding from the community.

Ms. Watson stated that they lost a couple of their big sponsors so the \$43,840.00 comes from pounding the pavement and getting the word out about the program.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Greg Phipps, Vice President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk

