

**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, AUGUST 17, 2017
AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

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

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

MOMENT OF REFLECTION:

Mr. Phipps asked that they remember the victims of the terrorist attacks in Barcelona today during this time.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2017, Mr. Barksdale second, all voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Coffey and Mr. Aebersold who were not present.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS):

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Mr. Phipps moved to amend the agenda to add R-17-10, Mr. Caesar second, all voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Coffey and Mr. Aebersold who were not present.

Mr. Blair explained that he strongly condemns racism, hatred, bigotry and intolerance as well as what happened in Charlottesville. He added that he supports the Human Rights Commission but as they all know, he usually votes no on these types of resolutions because he isn't an advocate of non-binding resolutions and doesn't think it is in their jurisdiction. He stated that he looked up the IC code regarding the duties of the council and in section 36-4-6-18 it states that they may pass ordinances, resolutions, and motions for the government of the city. He explained that for him that is where their focus should be and thinks that they should be spending that time discussing business within the city and something like this resolution becomes an unnecessary type of item. He stated that as individuals they have an opportunity to go to public events and make statements but this is a body and he doesn't think that is what this body should stand for. He stated that having said that, if the other members want to vote on this he will agree to add it to the agenda. He added that unfortunately things like this are going to happen all over and if they react every time they could get bogged down with these types of resolutions.

Mr. Phipps stated that the council doesn't react every time but if people sit by in silence when there are atrocities going on in the world, they are somewhat guilty indirectly. He added that the timeliness of this is important and he believes that things like this need to

be passed close to when the event takes place and that is why he chose to get it on the agenda tonight.

Mr. Blair stated that he does understand the timing of the addition but he asked that the members also understand why he is abstaining.

Mr. Phipps stated that he appreciates Mr. Blair allowing it to go forward for the vote but he can't promise that he won't have more in the future if he feels that it is something that is important.

Dr. Knable stated that he respects what Mr. Blair has to say but he feels the council has a duty and a responsibility to act beyond the black and white of what is on the statutes. He explained that when things like this come up that inspires a council member to bring forth a resolution like this, it does give them an opportunity for them to come together across party lines, and it does show the community that there are some things that transcend party politics. He thanked Greg Roberts for organizing the event on Tuesday and thanked Mr. Phipps for bringing this resolution forward. He added that it is nice to have a body consciousness and a role that Mr. Phipps excels at.

Mr. Phipps stated that he knows that their role is primarily to look out for the interests of the city but sometimes they have to be American's first and look out for the nation.

Dr. Knable stated that he would agree with that.

Mr. Blair stated that he was more concerned that this was going to be more of a media event and the room would be packed and he didn't want it to turn into a rally or something like that. He then stated that in the last budget session he was challenged to come up with a list in his district of intersections that need painting and it was too extensive to do that because half of his intersections didn't have paint or were completely faded. He explained that in the next year he would really like to put a priority on getting the painting done and possibly carve out funds in a line item that is specifically for this project. He stated that he did speak with Mrs. Moeller and it will create some extra work but he thinks that if they have something set aside specifically for this it is more likely to get done.

Dr. Knable asked Mr. Thompson to give them an idea of what funds would actually be needed for this.

Mr. Thompson stated that with new paving, they put down thermoplastic which makes it last a lot longer. He explained that the other painting lasts about a year.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if curb painting hold up longer.

Mr. Thompson stated that it depends on the road.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that there are some areas where the intersections and corners are tighter and since the yellow curbs have disappeared people are parking right on the corner. He added that this is not only a safety issue but busses are unable to get through because of this.

Mr. Blair asked if \$50,000.00 would make a dent.

Mr. Thompson stated that they would need to figure out if this would be done in-house before assessing that.

Mr. Blair stated that he would let the administration decide what is best.

Mr. Nash asked if \$50,000.00 is just for paint or paint and labor.

Mr. Blair stated that he is fine with allocating more he just wanted to get the conversation started about this to at least get a separate line item for this work.

Mr. Caesar stated that he doesn't really want to put paint down which will only last a year.

Mr. Thompson stated that the thermal works better but unfortunately when they pave it, it is milled up and gone so that is why they can't just put down thermal down everywhere.

Mr. Caesar stated that they should set out the worst intersections and get with Mr. Christmas to set out a contract.

Mr. Blair stated that he doesn't expect to solve all of the problems in one year and asked Mr. Thompson what funds he would think is appropriate.

Mr. Thompson stated that in the past they would go through before school started and repaint the worst crosswalks around the schools in addition to anything else that they could get to. He added that with manpower being what it was, they didn't have the ability to send a crew out every day and if they did this work in-house that is exactly what it would require.

Mr. Caesar asked where they could get the information on cost to do an intersection in thermoplastic.

Mr. Thompson stated that it is more than \$100.00 but less than \$2000.00 but again, they wouldn't want to put thermal down on roads that will need to be paved in the next few years because it is expensive and it will last for 10 years.

Mr. Caesar asked if Mr. Christmas could get them a b list that is three years out to let them know what will not be done in that time frame.

Mr. Thompson stated that he thinks the administration would agree that would be the best way to do this if they want to budget for it.

Mr. Blair stated that a dollar amount does not have to be settled on tonight and asked Mr. Thompson to give it some thought and get back with them. He added that even if they do a specific line item they could leave striping in the large line item and pull from it if they need more.

Mr. Caesar asked Mr. Thompson to let the mayor know that this is a focus for the council.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Mr. Hall stated that Mayor Gahan wanted to invite them to the Solar Eclipse Event that the city is hosting on Monday at Silver Street Park. He added that the event will be starting at 12:00 p.m. and will last until a little after 3:00 p.m.

Dr. Knable asked that they double check to make sure the glasses are ISO approved and are from one of the 15 vendors that were approved as well because he doesn't want to see anyone get hurt.

Mr. Hall replied yes.

Mrs. Moeller requested that the financial reports for July 2017 be read into the minutes. She passed out an updated EDIT sheet for the budget.

COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:

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

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

READING

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

R-17-10	Resolution Expressing Solidarity with the People of Charlottesville, Virginia and a Public Condemnation of Racism, White Supremacy and Neo-Nazi Ideology in our Community, the Nation and the World	Phipps
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Mr. Phipps introduced R-17-10 and moved to approve, **Mr. Barksdale** second, all voted in favor with the exception of **Mr. Coffey** and **Mr. Aebersold** who were not present and **Mr. Blair** who abstained.

Mr. Barksdale thanked Mr. Phipps for putting this together.

Dr. Knable pointed out that he really wouldn't support this without paragraph 4 that acknowledges the constitutional right to free speech because he would still defend their right to have a permit and say what they will, even if he doesn't agree with or defend what they are saying.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

Tony Nava, 1306 Chartres Street, asked if the resolution goes out to groups like Black Lives Matter because they are kind of agenda driven as well.

Mr. Phipps stated that they are not white supremacists or a neo-Nazi group and while everyone has an agenda they aren't racists.

Mr. Nava stated that he is representing the Chartres Street Neighborhood Association on many issues that have been overlooked even though they have been in contact with the city for several years. He stated that they are trying to clean up the neighborhood and seems as though they are dragging an anchor. He explained that they have trees that have been dead for many years that they can't get cut down, a home that has no flooring, issues with drugs and lack of curbs which create parking issues. He stated that he has spoken with everyone that he can from the city about these issues and added that he has photos of all the dead trees if the council would like to look at them. He explained that as residents they feel like they are being treated as secondhand citizens and it is a constant fight. He stated that they are constantly finding heroine needles in the alley and he has called the NAPD about this to retrieve them and most of these issues are coming from the rental properties. He added that the rental ordinance isn't worth the paper it is written on because they don't hold the source responsible for the issues. He explained that they are trying their best to clean the neighborhood up but they need help from the city to do it.

Mr. Phipps stated that they do have the mechanisms in place in the rental property ordinance to hold the property owner accountable for some of the issues he is talking about.

Mr. Nava asked why they aren't being enforced.

Mr. Phipps stated that they also have the rental registration in place and he has been asking for those numbers for several months.

Mr. Nava stated that they have speeding issues and stop signs that are blocked by the trees which is a safety hazard in their neighborhood. He added that they are just asking for help from the city to take back their neighborhood as well as address beautification issues.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if there has been much action as far as the city coming in to cut grass.

Mr. Nava stated that they have cut a few. He explained that he has spoken with Police Chief Bailey about having a liaison and he said he will find an officer that is willing to do that.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that it is not for lack of trying on the council's part and added that they have tried to beef up the ordinances as well as fines to aid in these issues.

Mr. Nava stated that enforcing the fines doesn't seem to be happening.

Dr. Knable stated that the proposed budget for 2018 allocates more money to the tree board and code enforcement so there is a shifting of emphasis.

Mr. Nava asked if he is going to have to wait another eight years to get the trees taken down.

Mr. Barksdale explained that the Chartres Street trees were brought up and they are having an inventory done of all the city trees. He stated that once that is brought back

then they will get a plan in order and they will do as much as they can with the funding that they have. He asked Mr. Nava to come to their next meeting to speak to the board.

Mr. Nava asked what type of promises this council can make to the residence of Chartres Street.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that this body legislates the laws but they are not an enforcement entity.

Dr. Knable stated that enforcement will require visual evidence and he will be pushing for trail cams to be installed in hotspots around the city and aiding in enforcement.

Roger Baylor stated that he would just like to point out that Mr. Nava couldn't have referenced the resolution during agenda speaking time because there was no way to know that it was going to be on the agenda or what the content was.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Pat McLaughlin, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk