

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA,
HELD A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT
NEW ALBANY CITY HALL, ROOM 100, ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021
AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members: Mrs. Collier, Mr. Caesar, Mrs. McLaughlin, Mr. Turner, Mr. Blair, Mr. Aebersold, Mr. Applegate, Dr. Knable and President Phipps.

ALSO PRESENT: Amy Stein, Linda Moeller, Scott Wood, Mike Hall, Police Chief Bailey, Police Officer Byrd and Vicki Glotzbach

CALL TO ORDER:

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

MOMENT OF REFLECTION:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mrs. Collier moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for November 1, 2021, Mr. Turner second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Dr. Knable stated that he has been speaking with a few local merchants and had a preliminary conversation with Mr. Staten regarding the phase 3 of the COVID Relief Fund from the ARP Funds and he thinks Mr. Staten told him that it was 43 merchants that received some sort of assistance with that. He said that he would like to push for a phase 4 of the Covid Relief Fund because some are still feeling a little bit of a pinch hangover from the pandemic and also with the Sherman Minton Bridge being closed intermittently. He stated that he thinks the Tribune and the INDOT website are doing okay for people who are doing some work commutes, but people who are wanting to just pick up and go to dinner and/or shop for a day may not be as nimble with regards to reading the Tribune. He added that some people from Louisville that want to come over here don't get the Tribune so he is going to talk to INDOT with regards to seeing if we can get more timely updates to that, projected forward. He stated that he would really like to make a push for some of the ARP money to go to a phase 4 Covid Relief Fund earmarked for local businesses that did not receive anything previously and really reach out to those folks and let them know that money is available preferable in a forgivable loan or a direct grant. He asked that the council folks on redevelopment take that up the chain and get back to us so that we don't have to make a formal resolution or ordinance for that which would take more time.

Mr. Applegate stated that he would take that to redevelopment since he is one of the council's representatives on that board. He said that money capped out a certain amount and then there was additional funding placed that went towards the remaining businesses that had less criteria.

Mr. Aebersold stated that he has seen a few delivery companies' vehicles parked on the wrong side of the street and he has even seen them park on the wrong side of the street and get out to deliver on the other side of the street. He also stated that on very narrow streets such as East Elm Street, etc., they do not pull up two or three car lengths and pull

over and park and walk back a few houses to deliver. He said that they park right in the middle of the street with their lights flashing but no one can get around them and if you can get around them, you have to be very careful and it is just a hazard. He stated that he has guys delivering all day long and they never do that and he doesn't think that anyone else in town does it except for these two or three delivery companies. He said that he hasn't gotten in touch with Police Chief Bailey yet so he doesn't know if we have some sort of law against that or if we just let them go ahead and do it. He stated that he will talk with Police Chief Bailey about it but if anyone has any ideas on what could be done, he would like to hear them because he thinks something needs to be done before someone gets hurt.

Mr. Blair stated that at the October 12th redevelopment meeting there was money appropriated for alley improvements and that was for the alley between New Albany City Hall and Coffee Crossings. He said that he understood that the engineer's estimate to do those improvements was \$300,000.00 and redevelopment accepted the bid for \$639,000.00. He asked what improvements were done and why we spent substantially more money than the original estimate was.

Mr. Applegate stated that there was some walkways to make it handicapped accessible from the front of Main Street to the back instead of making people go around. He also stated that there were some rails and some different services and he thinks a lot of that was that after the architect designed it, it was just a higher cost. He said that the actual bid that was accepted ended up being about \$100,000.00 lower than the original bid. He stated that they could get a more formal answer from Mr. Staten but in a nutshell, it was just an underestimate of what it would cost to keep the pedestrian walkway ADA compliant.

Mr. Blair asked if there was a breakout of what ADA compliant was and what some of the other work was. He also asked if there was any discussion of not doing the work because it was just too costly.

Mrs. Collier stated that they are working with the company to reduce the cost and the last change order was for a reduction in cost.

Mr. Blair stated that he just wants to make sure that as a city we are mindful and frugal with taxpayer's dollars. He added that there are other alleyways throughout the city that need improvements too and he hates to spend all we have on one or two alley projects and wants to make sure the we spread the money out accordingly.

Mr. Turner stated that there were multiple merchants that received one and two loans and our brick and mortar got \$10,000.00 and our mobile unit got \$10,000.00, so he thinks it will be better to spread the wealth if the opportunity arises and have a little more structure on who to give money to. He also stated that during budget time he did bring up that Greenville has named their alleys because the state will provide funding for alleys so naming the alley that Mr. Blair referred to may get us more funding from the state. He then thanked Mrs. Moeller for providing the budget to actuals for October and requested that they maybe get them a day sooner because there are 73 pages and they got it just hours ago. He then asked about leaf removal and if there is a schedule or if you call to get them picked up from the side of the road. He said that he has tried to get the answer from Mr. Phil Aldridge through email and phone but has gotten no response.

Mr. Caesar stated that he was always under the impression that it was done by calling in.

Mr. Turner then spoke about technology for meetings because he has Mr. Blair on speaker phone and we just got this new building. He stated that he is just curious as to how long it will take to get these meetings live streamed on Facebook. He said that if the

city needs help, he is in IT and is fully qualified to make that happen and would be glad to provide his services for free. He added that he would like to have access for everyone so that they can see the meetings when they want to see them.

Dr. Knable asked Mr. Turner if he can see Mr. Blair because some of the legislation that was passed said if a member is going to vote, they should be audibly and visually present.

Mr. Turner stated that he could not see him.

Dr. Knable stated that he probably needs to call in so he can be seen.

Mrs. Collier stated that she would like to add to what Dr. Knable said regarding the funding that redevelopment did for local businesses. She said that she does know that every business that applied received funding either through the OCRA Grant or through the additional grant money that was appropriated through the American Rescue Plan but she will discuss another phase with Mr. Staten.

Dr. Knable stated that the issue was that not everyone knew about it but he knows that they tried to get the word out there the best they could. He said that if we have another round of it, maybe it's incumbent on them to reach out. He stated that he has a list of people that have reached out to him and he has given some of that to Mr. Staten so when that becomes available, we can contact them.

Mrs. Collier stated that she does have a note that Dr. Knable would like to focus on businesses that have not received help as of yet.

Dr. Knable stated that he thinks they should be first in line.

Mr. Phipps stated that he would like the rules committee to convene and take a look at our policy on non-agenda items and comments from the public. He said that we started entertaining emails when we were on Zoom because people maybe didn't have the technology capacity to be present and speak their concerns. He thinks prior to that the policy on emails was that they would send them to the clerk and then she would just send those out with the packets and weren't really read into the record. He stated that he thinks that we need to go back to that policy now and the committee probably needs to take a look at that when developing the rules. He said that generally reading into the minutes is something that the council members would do if they wanted something in the record and not so much from the general public. He stated that if someone wanted their information read into the minutes they would be here to actually present it to the council. He said that the clerk can just forward emails to us and that way we can read them and if one of us feels that it is pertinent enough to read into the minutes, we can ask that it be read into the minutes because it kind of puts the clerk in a precarious situation to read those. He stated that while the committee is at it, he recommended that they take a look at the New Albany Floyd County School System's policy that they have for non-agenda items. He said that it is very clear in terms of how much time the person has, what type of issues they are not going to entertain or the fact that you can't cede your time to someone else. He stated that it is a very good policy that they have in place. He added that our policy is a bit vague and he would like to get that done before the end of the year when he leaves the president seat, but if not, it can carry over into next year.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Mr. Mike Hall stated that on Saturday, November 27th the city will be having Light Up New Albany at Bicentennial Park and it will start at 6:00 p.m. He said that it is their annual event to help kick off the holiday season for downtown and Santa will be coming

to help light up the tree and light up New Albany. He stated that there will be some gift giveaways, a hot cocoa bar, a couple of other activities and also some performances by a couple of groups including New Albany High School. He said that the mayor wanted to invite everyone down to kick off the holidays.

COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:

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

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Mr. Applegate, Mr. Aebersold and Mr. Phipps

Mr. Applegate stated that they did hold a meeting on November 2nd with Police Chief Bailey and Mr. Gibson and went over what has transpired regarding the length of time of ambulance drop offs and those types of things. He said that Mayor Gahan and the CEO of Baptist Floyd met to discuss the times and other things like that. He also said that Police Chief Bailey talked with AMR about it as well and as of November 12th, he is setting up weekly meetings with them and their times were under 15 minutes at that point. He stated that as a committee they felt that they were satisfied at the moment that the times decreased and whatever caused the delays have maybe been tightened up a little bit and they are satisfied that our city is safe. He said that it was determined that there was no need to call an emergency meeting or bring in additional ambulances at this time. He stated that this is an ongoing matter and there is a good line of communication between the three parties involved. He said that there is also communications about updating to a better radio system. He stated that they will continue to monitor the situation and stay in touch with Police Chief Bailey and the hospital to find out if there is any further actions that need to be taken. He then stated that he wanted to comment on the county building commission wanting to use the police building for something else. He said that while they had Police Chief Bailey involved in the meeting, they talked about that a little more in detail and they are a little concerned because by being a lessee, we could potentially lose our space there. He stated that the building does have its faults and the ability to look at leasing in the future depends upon what needs to be done with training in mental health and those additional items which do present a challenge. He said that they recommended as a council that they start looking for potential space for the police department to have a headquarters of their own. He stated that they need it to where it will facilitate the training needs for the future and to where we don't have to worry about potentially not having a space for our police department. He said that is one area that he hopes everyone will agree with. He stated that they wanted them to go ahead and start looking at space to see what's out there and potentially start getting some estimates and costs and see what that process looks like.

Dr. Knable asked if they were presented with data with regards to the number of ambulance runs in the last 30 days versus the prior 30 days. He asked about the time of day of those runs, the location of those runs and then the average call time. He said if they were, he would like to have that data as well because he thinks that is something that they should be getting monthly and looking at that. He also said that he thinks they need a long standing record of that and it should be public record. He then stated that on the police department, he hates to say it but he feels that was a predictable outcome of the city moving away from the City/County Building and further away from the county. He said that now we are going to have those expenditures that we will have to deal with and he realizes that but in a world with limited resources, he would rather the priority go to recruitment and retention of officers to fill the gaps we have over a new headquarters. He stated that they may dovetail a little bit but in a world where a tax dollar will stretch only so far, he would rather it go to the number one resource which is the men and women in uniform. He then stated that they need to be data driven on this emergency medical issue

rather than just anecdotal. He said that he does appreciate the update but thinks that they should probably be meeting monthly on that until we get some good data on it.

Mr. Aebersold stated that he thinks AMR has a lot of data on when they pick people up and when they are dispatched to go there as well as when they hit the hospital and how long they are there. He said that he thinks they could get that data and thinks that is a good idea. He also said that before all of the entities started meeting, some of them didn't realize there was a problem. He stated that he thinks that things for the last year or so have been a lot more difficult than they were previously.

Mr. Turner stated that for it to be said that they didn't know about it is just incorrect because he has been speaking about this for probably six months. He said that he asked for the AMR contract because it was so bad and now you have police transporting people to the hospital rather than AMR. He stated that he requested data about a month and a half ago and was told that he would get that information when it was ready. He said that there have been several meetings since and he has not been provided that information. He stated that he is glad that it is being addressed but with data, you can really tweak it to what you want. He said what he would really like to know if this is AMR's times specifically because if AMR's times are bad and he is thinking about what information would suit him, he is thinking about the entire county where you have another ambulance service that also provides service. He also said that the city using drop off times as a performance indicator for the ambulance service is not a good statistic and it is indicative of the hospital doing their job of getting people off of the ambulance. He then asked why Police Chief Bailey is in this conversation because he would think that Fire Chief Juliot would be the one in the conversation because he has worked EMS and has been the chief when we had EMS service. He then stated that if we were blindsided about the building like Police Chief Bailey told us in the meeting, he thinks that the county needs to answer to it. He said that he thinks they need to have someone from the county building commission come before the council and explain why we were blindsided as a city and provide documentation on when they reached out to the city. He stated that is not right to our taxpayers in the city if that is the case.

Mr. Applegate stated that Police Chief Bailey is in charge of 911 and AMR is dispatched from 911 so you are looking at police calls and other services and that's why Police Chief Bailey is involved. He also stated that probably everywhere in New Albany is within five minutes or so to the hospital so if there is an emergency matter and police and fire are on site, they will pick up the patient and take them to the hospital instead of waiting longer for the ambulance to get there. He added that they are qualified to do that.

Mr. Turner asked Mr. Applegate if he could get information on that specific shooting and the cops, if he gets the date and time on that run. He said that he wanted information on how long it took the ambulance before the cops decided to act.

Mr. Applegate stated that he could check on it.

Mr. Phipps stated that there was a blurb posted on the city's page today that explained some of this issue with EMS and the need for a police station so he recommended that everyone take a look at that.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

READING

COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC: Z-21-06 PUD 4501 Charlestown Road

No one signed up to speak.

COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONER: Z-21-06 PUD 4501 Charlestown Road

**Z-21-06 Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of Applegate 1&2
New Albany, Indiana Title XV Chapter 156
(Mike Leonard, for Hogan Real Estate requests a
Planned Unit Development (PUD) to permit a
commercial development in the LDR – Low
Density Residential and FLD, Floodplain districts
at 4501 Charlestown Road)**

Mr. Applegate introduced Bill Z-21-06 and moved to approve the first and second readings, Mr. Caesar second, all voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Blair who recused himself.

Mr. Applegate stated that this piece of property is the open field north of Northside Church and just past Lewis Endres Way. He said that there were some drawings in the packet and it looks to be a nice three building retail lot and if you look at the area and how it has grown, he thinks as a city it would be very beneficial to approve this. He also said that there is a lot of housing developments between New Albany and Sellersburg and they can choose to go either to New Albany or Sellersburg to eat, shop and play and we want them to choose New Albany. He stated that he thinks this is a fitting area for this because it fits with the other buildings and retail in the area and would be an addition to the floodplain district there.

Mr. Turner asked how the flooding is being addressed.

Mr. Applegate stated that they have to go through all of the planning procedures and he believes that they also have to go through the county for approval on storm water.

Mr. Caesar stated that was his question as well. He just wants to make sure that the floodplain issues and storm water was taken care of.

Mr. Wood stated that the applicants have indicated that they are going to be placing some fill in the area in accordance with our floodplain section. He also stated that this is in the two mile fringe area so he works closely with the county engineer and the county storm water department to make sure that they comply with the county's storm water masterplan. He said that is essentially identical to our storm water masterplan. He also said that in addition, as a courtesy to the county, he has a third party engineer review the proposed drainage improvements at the applicant's expense. He stated that they then report out that yes, this meets the county's standards before their storm water board meets and issues it. He stated that they are very cognizant of the environmental constraints there and the applicants have been great to work with.

Mr. Turner stated that he is very concerned about all of this development at that end of Charlestown Road and his fear is that it will turn into the next State Street and that is not something that he wants to see. He asked if that is being addressed.

Mr. Wood stated that they also talked with the county engineer about that and when they first met with the developer, they were proposing a full entrance with left in, left out and right in, right out. He said that he suggested that they talk with the county engineer because he didn't think that they were going to go for that and in fact, they were not in favor of it. He stated that they changed it to a right out, right in only so if you are going northbound on Charlestown Road, you are going to need to get off at Lewis Endres Parkway to get into this development. He added that going southbound on Charlestown Road you can obviously turn into the development but not going northbound.

Mr. Turner asked if there has been a traffic study done

Mr. Wood stated that there hasn't been a traffic study and he didn't compel one with the signal being just a few hundred feet away at the Lewis Endres Parkway. He said that they thought there was enough capacity there to deal with it. He added that ultimately it is the county's call on issuing the curb cut there and they didn't need to see a traffic study there either.

Mr. Turner thanked Mr. Wood and his staff for getting them the draft notes for the minutes because it makes it easier for him.

Dr. Knable asked Mr. Wood to detail some of the drainage improvements that they are going to do.

Mr. Wood stated that they are going to have on-site retention. He explained that both the county and the city storm water plan says here is your baseline and basically you have a field right now with no impervious surface whatsoever, so you calculate how much that drainage handles and that's what they are going to have to be or below that after they construct their developments.

Mr. Mike Leonard, Hogan Real Estate, stated that the second phase of the PUD will have them go into a lot more detail on how the storm water system will work and they will do whatever the county and the city require because of where this site is. He said that their plan is to raise what they are going to build out of the floodplain and then their water will be detained.

Dr. Knable asked if it is has yet to be determined if it is going to be subterranean or a retention pond.

Mr. Leonard stated that he does not believe at this point that they think it needs to be subterranean.

Mr. Caesar stated that they just don't want their water to go onto the neighbors.

Mr. Leonard said that they don't either.

Mr. Turner stated that the speed limit changes from 35 mph to 50 mph pretty quickly right there and asked if anything is being done with the speed between the county and the city.

Mr. Wood stated that he is not aware of any discussions. He said that if there has been any they would have been with Mr. Larry Summers the City Engineer. He said that he can ask Mr. Summers about that and report back before the third reading.

Mr. Turner asked if there is any way they can get Mr. Summers to these meetings.

Mr. Wood stated that they are the council and they can invite anyone that they want to invite.

COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC: Z-21-07 PUD 4401 Charlestown Road

Mr. Dave Barksdale, 614 Terrace Court, stated that he is the state appointed Floyd County Historian and our historic built environment helps us tell the story of our community. He said that the historic Smith farmhouse on Charlestown Road is another needed chapter in our city's history book. He stated that the original proposal made at the

New Alban Plan Commission meeting on November 19, 2021 drew a lot of concerned citizens after finding out there was a threat of losing the historic Smith house to demolition. He said that this building is one of last remaining farmhouses in the area that once was all farmland out Charlestown Road. He stated that it is a tangible object that allows the story to be told of the Smith family and the story of early agriculture in New Albany and without the building, the history would be eventually lost. He said that he wanted to personally thank the Hogan Real Estate Company and its team for listening to the concerns brought up at that plan commission meeting earlier this month.

Mr. Greg Sekula, 1811 Ekin Avenue, stated that he is the Southern Regional Director for Indiana Landmarks and they are statewide non-profit historic preservation organization. He said that they are very pleased that Hogan Real Estate, as Mr. Barksdale said, has listened to the concerns of the public and has come up with a plan that involves the relocation of the house to an alternative site. He stated that Indiana Landmarks is supportive of this particular proposal that Mr. Leonard has outlined and is appreciative that Hogan Real Estate did listen to the concerns that were articulated at the plan commission meeting and has come up with a plan that he thinks is a win, win for the community.

Ms. Amanda Marksbury, 610 E. Market Street, stated that she is the granddaughter of the previous owners at 4401 Charlestown Road, the Smith farmhouse and she was at the last meeting for planning and zoning and she spoke up. She said on behalf of the family that they are in support, along with Indiana Landmarks, of the plan that Hogan Real Estate proposed and wanted to thank them for reaching out to them to remedy the situation.

COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONER: Z-21-07 PUD 4401 Charlestown Road

**Z-21-07 Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of Applegate 1&2
New Albany, Indiana Title XV Chapter 156
(Mike Leonard, for Hogan Real Estate requests a
Planned Unit Development (PUD) to permit a
commercial development in the LDR – Low Density
Residential and FLD, Floodplain districts at
4401 Charlestown Road)**

Mr. Applegate introduced Bill Z-21-07 as amended and moved to approve the first and second readings, Mrs. Collier second, all voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Blair who recused himself.

Dr. Knable moved to amend the ordinance with the recommendations/stipulations that were emailed to the council by Mr. Wood along with the moving of the building, Mr. Turner second, all voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Blair who recused himself.

Mr. Applegate stated that there was information provided to the council via email from Mr. Wood and the information can be provided as requested from the clerk. He recommended to the council that since it was such a large element of the PUD that they would amend the ordinance as to include the development of the Smith farmhouse being allowed to be moved off of the property.

Mr. Phipps stated that he wanted to be clear on this and said that in addition to the development of moving the building, there were stipulations that were sent out to the council via email by Mr. Wood. He then asked Mr. Applegate to read through those stipulations.

Mr. Applegate read through the stipulations. Said stipulations are on file in the city clerk's office. He stated that these stipulations were previously discussed in the plan commission. He also stated that this PUD did come across as unfavorable due mainly to the Smith farmhouse and the fact that it was going to be demolished. He said that has been worked through and with the unfavorable, there was no passing along with recommendations so if the council approves the amendment, the ordinance will include the recommendations from planning.

Mr. Turner stated that he just wanted to say thanks to the people who showed up and made this happen. He said that these things don't happen without people speaking up such as the public, Mr. Barksdale and Mr. Sekula. He stated that he wanted to thank Hogan Real Estate too because usually people just take, take and take when you are a developer and it is nice to see a developer give back and especially listen to the people. He said that it is much appreciated.

Dr. Knable stated that he wanted to reiterate that it is the mythically win, win, win, win and it is not often that they get the historians to win, the developer to win and in this case, the Smith family to win as well as the people of New Albany to win. He said that he doesn't think that he has ever seen that here.

COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC: Z-21-05 PUD 4606 Charlestown Road

No one signed up to speak.

COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONER: Z-21-05 PUD 4606 Charlestown Road

Z-21-05	Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of New Albany, Indiana Title XV Chapter 156 (Billy Green, Jr. for Christian Brothers Automotive, requests a Planned Unit Development (PUD) district to permit automotive service and repair center in the LDR – Low Density Residential and FLD, Floodplain districts at 4606 Charlestown Road)	Applegate 3
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Mr. Applegate introduced Bill Z-21-05 and moved to approve the third reading, Dr. Knable second, all voted in favor. Bill Z-21-05 becomes Ordinance Z-21-15.

Mr. Applegate stated that nothing has changed since the first and second readings.

Mr. Turner stated that he did get the plan commission meeting minutes that he didn't have for the first and second readings. He said that he did see that one person spoke up about flooding in one adjacent property and at the time it looked like the county and city engineers were going to review. He asked if there has been any update on that.

Mr. Wood replied no. He stated that the developer doesn't typically reach out for those types of permits until the council has acted and approved the docket because it is rather costly to get to that level of design. He said that they are aware of it but the difference here is that they are not putting a building in the floodplain and it will mostly be parking so there isn't really any change to the profile of the floodplain. He stated that it is going to be quite minor.

Mr. Applegate stated that the business owner of the driving range is who spoke up but the owner of the property is the same owner that owns the other dwellings as well and asked Mr. Wood if that is correct.

Mr. Wood stated that the driving range and the rental houses are all owned by the same owner of this property and once the council approves this, this applicant will close on this property and begin the design work.

COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC: X-21-02 Arbor Place Annexation

No one signed up to speak.

COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONER: X-21-02 Arbor Place Annexation

X-21-02 An Ordinance of the Common Council of the Applegate 3
City of New Albany, Floyd County, Indiana
Annexing Certain Real Estate into the City
Pursuant to Petition for Voluntary Annexation

Mr. Applegate introduced Bill X-21-02 and moved to approve the third reading, Mr. Turner second, all voted in favor. Bill X-21-02 becomes Ordinance X-21-16.

Mr. Applegate stated that this is the property just north of Arbor Place Apartments and they are adding a couple of buildings. He said that it is all approved and they just want to annex in this property because the rest of the property is already annexed in.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC: R-21-15 Post Redevelopment meeting agendas to social media

Ms. Diane Williamson, 916 Brookwood Drive, stated that she wanted to thank all of the council for their service because this is a thankless job sometimes and you get push back from your constituents sometimes for votes that aren't popular. She said that every once in a while you get to vote on something that is going to be universally popular to your constituents and tonight you have that opportunity. She stated that it is an opportunity to promote transparency in city government and transparency is the foundation of trust, and trust leads to confidence in a political area and confidence potentially leads to re-election votes. She said that she would like for the council to vote on this, which she thinks is a no-brainer, to provide more transparency as to what is going on in the redevelopment commission meetings instead of just sticking a sign up on the door the day before at the building. She stated that it is a simple thing that doesn't cost any money and the city does actually pay a social media company to post things on the city's Facebook page so maybe they could help with that. She said that this recommendation that Mr. Turner is proposing tonight is a no-brainer and she is definitely in favor of it. She added that any time there is more transparency in New Albany's government, it's good for the citizens and she appreciates it.

Ms. Deedra Ankrom, 4707 Scotch Pine Drive, stated that she is present to ask the council to pass this resolution so your constituents can see what matters will be up for consideration at each meeting. She said that she realizes that by posting the agenda on the wall outside this room, you are in compliance with state statute. She stated that she thinks the citizens of New Albany would be appreciative to see that their local officials are willing to go beyond the minimum requirements they are expected to meet. She said think about that the representatives of the citizens are merely doing the minimum just to get by, it is not a good look for elected officials. She stated that passing this resolution would also reinforce the idea that all actions here are open so there is no reason to deny the citizens the opportunity to view the agenda online, which would be more convenient than they have been able to do so far. She added that it is not easy to find time in their busy schedules to stop by this building so they can see what will be discussed and

decided on. She said they should be able to access that information online in the comfort of their own homes and then they will have more time to consider what is on the agenda and decide whether or not they want to provide input about it to be considered. She stated that voting yes in this matter shows that you choose to be completely transparent.

COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONER: R-21-15 Post Redevelopment meeting agendas to social media

R-21-15 Resolution Recommending the New Albany Redevelopment Commission Post Meeting Agendas on Social Media Turner

Mr. Turner introduced R-21-15 and moved to approve, Dr. Knable second, all voted no with the exception of Mr. Turner, Mr. Blair and Dr. Knable who voted yes.

Dr. Knable moved to amend the resolution to read all social media platforms that the city has current subscriptions to, Mr. Turner second, all voted no with the exception of Mr. Turner, Mr. Blair and Dr. Knable who voted yes.

Mr. Turner stated that basically this is something that he tried to do behind the scenes about six months ago and he was told that they are following statute by taping the agenda to the door on Monday before the meetings. He said at that time he asked them to post it on Facebook because it is a no cost, easy thing that they can do to get it out in the public and get some public input. He also said that he reads the minutes for redevelopment and to his knowledge, there has never been anyone show up for public input. He stated that he hopes the council can stand together and recommend that redevelopment do this for our constituents.

Dr. Knable asked Mr. Turner if he is stipulating that it would be posted on any media platform or any and all social media platforms that the city has current subscriptions to.

Mr. Turner stated that it would be the ones that the city is using.

Dr. Knable stated that probably needs to be clarified.

Mr. Turner stated that the Facebook one would be the most important because it is the one that has the most followers and people get an alert when the city posts something.

Dr. Knable stated that he thinks it should be clarified though because Facebook isn't even Facebook anymore and they are Meta, so if we have Facebook in the resolution then next week that may not be valid. He recommended that it read any and all social media platforms that the city has current subscriptions to.

Ms. Stein recommended that it read all social media platforms instead any and all social media platforms.

Dr. Knable stated that he is anticipating an argument that the council should not be recommending what other boards and bodies do, but his counter to that is that there is no other such board or body that handles such a tremendous amount of taxpayer's money. He said that we have an unelected board that is channeling tens of millions of dollars of taxpayer's money through it and to send the message that "the agenda is on the door", he thinks it sends a very poor message. He said it is 2021 and we are using 1880's technology of putting messages on the door. He added that if we have nothing to hide then let's put this out there and have people in on fair, honest discussions so the people can witness what is going on with what is, after all, it's their money.

Mr. Turner asked if anyone can explain how this is a bad idea because it is no cost so what is the holdup on more transparency. He said that it is giving their constituents an opportunity to see what we're doing and speaking up for it.

Dr. Knable stated that this is non-binding. He also stated that he has already discussed with our representatives in Indianapolis changing state statute if we have to in order to get this done. He said that he thinks they will have good success with that. He added that he would like to get out ahead of that because he doesn't think that it should be mandated.

Mr. Phipps stated that his suggestion was going to be to talk to the state representatives to see if they can get the state code changed and then, of course, we would abide by it at that point. He said that his objection has really been against dictating what other boards do because we have a multiple list of boards.

Dr. Knable stated that it wouldn't be a dictation or a mandate, it's a recommendation.

Mr. Turner stated that it is a recommendation from the elected body of the people that want to see the people have more opportunities to see what is going on at no cost and no time commitment.

Mr. Applegate stated that we all know that if you want to get the agenda you can just email redevelopment to have your email added to the list of people who receive the agenda and when it goes out, you will receive it at your email address. He said that he wants to make sure that people know that it is not that they can't get the agenda as public. He also said that he doesn't think that redevelopment posts anything on the city Facebook page. He stated that is done through the mayor's office and through communications and doesn't have anything to do with redevelopment posting their meetings.

Mr. Turner stated that email is one thing and they can request it but what is the problem with going ahead and posting it on Facebook.

Dr. Knable stated that what he is hearing is that we are doing the minimum and that's okay with the majority of folks here.

Mr. Blair stated that the city has \$17M in ARP money and when this body voted to turn the administration of that over to redevelopment, we also agreed to hold public meetings to discuss how those funds were spent. He said that the council recognized the need for transparency through that process and his argument was that those funds should've been overseen by the council. He stated that this would just be another step in being transparent especially in light of that \$17M of federal funds that is being spent within the city.

Mr. Turner stated this is the right thing to do.

Mr. Applegate stated that the council did have a public hearing on those funds.

Dr. Knable stated that he believes they were supposed to be having multiple meetings.

Mr. Applegate stated that he can request to set another one up.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

Mr. Andrew Nicholson addressed the democratic members of the council regarding their “actions for the replacement of a deceased city council member” and expressed how irresponsible he thought it was to place the newly widowed wife in that vacant seat. He asked the council to do the right thing and reprimand the fourth district representative. Mr. Andrews’ full comments were emailed to the body, said email is on file for review in the city clerk’s office.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Greg Phipps, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk