

**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 MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2019  
AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mrs. Stein, Police Chief Bailey, Mr. Staten, Mr. Wood, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Moeller and Mrs. Glotzbach

**President Blair** 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:**

**Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for November 21, 2019 with corrections, Mr. McLaughlin second, all voted in favor with the exception of President Blair who abstained, Mr. Coffey who was not present and Mr. Nash who was not present.**

**COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:**

**Mr. Blair** stated that he would like to collect comments that each of the members heard from constituents while they were out campaigning and Mrs. Glotzbach can compile those. He requested that each district member submit their top one concern and each at large member submit their top three concerns in email form to Mrs. Glotzbach. He said that he thinks this could help the council with funding for next year as well as with committee assignments and so forth.

**Dr. Knable** asked if the deadline could be late January to give the new members a chance to submit theirs as well.

**Mr. Blair** stated that he would reach out to the three new members and ask them to do the same.

**Mr. Caesar** asked if he wants Mr. Barksdale's comments.

**Mr. Blair** stated that he doesn't want it too weighted so he would like to have one comment from each district and three comments from the at large members so that it will be spread out evenly.

**Mr. Caesar** said that he understands what Mr. Blair is after but Mr. Barksdale talked to a lot of people and has a lot of information.

**Mr. Phipps** asked if there is any reason that they can't just discuss them tonight publicly.

**Dr. Knable** stated that he had literally hundreds of comments and would like a little more time.

**Mr. Blair** stated that since Mr. Barksdale is at large, he would like for him to submit his comments and he will reach out to the three new members.

**COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:**

**Mr. Staten** stated that the mayor was very pleased with the turnout on Saturday for the Jingle Walk and the shop local day and wanted to encourage everyone to continue to shop local throughout the holidays and beyond.

**COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:**

**Mrs. Moeller** presented financials for the month of September. She also wanted to let the council know that she received the 1782 Notice from DLGF and they approved the general fund for every penny that we asked for.

**Mr. Blair** stated that he assumes the financial reports will be caught up.

**Mrs. Moeller** stated that is correct.

**Mr. Thompson** stated that Mt. Tabor Road was substantially completed on November 27<sup>th</sup> but he doesn't know if they have had the inspection yet to come up with a punch list. He said that Grant Line Road has been paved except for all of the approaches and they will continue working on the fences and some bollards that have to go in as well as some loops. He added that the rest of the paving will have to wait until it gets warm enough. He then reported that they are doing concrete work on Slate Run Road with curbs and sidewalks. He said they are trying to get as much of that done during the winter and then start the asphalt work in the spring.

**Mr. Phipps** stated that he noticed that there is not a sign on Beechwood Avenue going north on Grant Line Road.

**Mr. Thompson** stated that they will be at board of works tomorrow to give an update so he can check to see if that is just something that they haven't put up yet.

**Dr. Knable** stated that the striping on Grant Line Road is all eschew.

**Mr. Thompson** stated that it is just temporary striping and they will have to wait on the weather to put the thermoplastic down.

**Mr. Blair** asked if he has any information on the speed tables on Rainbow Drive.

**Mr. Thompson** stated that he does not.

**Mr. Blair** asked Mr. Thompson if he would check on that.

**Mr. Thompson** said that he will find out.

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

**HORSESHOE BOARD – Mr. Caesar and Mr. Aebersold**

**Mr. Caesar** stated that everyone needs to be reminded that December 12<sup>th</sup> will be the grand opening for the land based casino and a couple of days before that will be the final day to gamble on the boat. He said that they talked about the bridge a little more and it seemed that the conversation turned to what can be done to shorten the time span. He

also said that they don't really care which scenario they use but the timeframe needs to be shortened with maybe using night crews and weekend crews. He stated that the fall grant awards went out in the amount of \$350,000.00 for all kinds of projects and everyone was so appreciative for what they received.

**Mr. Aebersold** stated that he spoke with the lieutenant governor about the bridge situation and she said that INDOT does pay attention to the comments that are coming from the city and we should keep sending them information and concerns. He said that it needs to be done as quickly as possible with working several crews six to seven days a week. He said that she reiterated several times to keep sending notices and letters from anybody and everybody expressing their concerns. He also said that he knows the downtown businesses are really concerned and thinks that we should get it out there that they need to send those concerns on.

**Mr. Blair** asked if there was any thought on doing a marketing campaign to try to encourage people to comment.

**Mr. Aebersold** said that he doesn't know.

**Mr. Phipps** stated that it would be a good idea to get all of the businesses on board and get each one of them to send a message as well in addition to what we do.

**Mr. Aebersold** stated that we should get One Southern Indiana involved to send out notices to all of their businesses to send up their concerns and stay on top of it.

**Mr. Caesar** said that sounds like a great project for Develop New Albany and at their next meeting they can put it out to the people downtown and they can all write a letter stating what they think. He added that he thinks time is the big issue.

**Mr. Aebersold** stated that if they get hundreds of letters suggesting more shifts working on the bridge, it may make a difference.

**Mr. Caesar** asked who the council's representative is for Develop New Albany.

**Mr. Blair** said Mr. Barksdale.

**Ms. Stein** said it was Mr. Coffey.

**Mr. Blair** said he thought he resigned.

**Ms. Stein** said that she didn't think anyone else was appointed.

**Mr. Barksdale** stated that he hasn't been going to the meetings since Councilman Coffey wanted to be the liaison.

**Mr. Caesar** asked if he knows when they meet.

**Mr. Barksdale** stated that it is normally the third Thursday at 4:00 p.m. but he doesn't know where because they change it around a lot.

**Mr. McLaughlin** asked if anyone has been coming in from across the river expressing their concerns because it will affect them as well.

**Mr. Aebersold** stated that the Horseshoe is concerned about it.

**Dr. Knable** stated that the meeting that was put together in October had a representative from the Analogous Organization from Louisville. He said that he also discussed with Mr. Trey Hollingsworth trying to get Mr. John Yarmuth involved in some sort of joint federal discussion. He also said that Congressman Hollingsworth has spoken with the INDOT Commissioner on our behalf when he was at that meeting as well. He stated the more voices, the better and at the beginning of the year when someone is appointed to Develop New Albany that should be something that we try to help them coordinate.

**Mr. Blair** stated that he has been encouraging people to use the website.

**Dr. Knable** asked if the \$350,000.00 for grants from the Horseshoe is pretty much on par with what has been done in the past.

**Mr. Caesar** replied yes and stated that \$350,000.00 is budgeted in the spring and fall.

**Dr. Knable** asked if 2020 will be the same.

**Mr. Caesar** stated that right now it is.

#### **REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION – Mr. Barksdale**

**Mr. Barksdale** reported the following:

- Approved the purchase of 37.5 acres off Durgee Road and Barak Obama Way with the intent to extend the Industrial Park. (\$160,000.00)
- Also approved the purchase of 2002 Grant Line Road which includes three parcels of property owned by the Salvation Army at the intersection of Daisy Lane, Grant Line Road and Beechwood Avenue. (\$180,000.00)
- Approved the purchase of the property at 1732 Division Street, adjacent to Division Street School.
- NARC sold the lot at 1611 Ekin Avenue to a developer that will build an owner-occupied structure on the site.
- Approved the Market Street Change Order No. 5 and Retainage Release for that project.
- And also approved the release of the retainage fee for the Green Space Pocket Park at E. 15<sup>th</sup> and Main streets.
- Approved a New Albany Emergency Repair Application for a new 40 gallon water heater at a home on Beechwood Avenue.
- Brick entrances on East and West Oakwood Drive at Mt. Tabor Road were taken down during the Mt. Tabor Road Improvements and not rebuilt, the residents would like to see these reconstructed.

**Dr. Knable** asked what the cost was on the purchase of the 37.5 acres.

**Mr. Barksdale** stated that it was \$160,000.00.

**Mr. Blair** asked if that property connects to Reas Lane.

**Mr. Staten** stated that the property is to the west.

**Dr. Knable** asked if that is from one owner.

**Mr. Staten** replied yes.

**Mr. Blair** then addressed the brick entrances on East and West Oakwood Drive and said that the entrances are nice but if they are going to become a maintenance issue or a hazard then they need to be thought through.



**Mr. Staten** stated that from the school's perspective it does bring them under the umbrella of our police and fire protection and puts them on our sewer rates. He said that Grant Line Road is becoming a very well-traveled road and getting busier and busier so as the city does more improvements out there, the more people want to come into the city and that helps them so all around it is a good thing. He added that part of the redevelopment group is doing the Blackberry Ridge Project which will be moving forward next year but there are other things that need to happen out there along with that project.

**Mr. Caesar** stated that when the project next door to the school came up he had advocated that St. Joe Road and Grant Line Road should be made a legitimate intersection but the funds just weren't there to do it at that particular time. He said that he just wanted to publicly state that needs to be an intersection with a stop light because it is a major highway. He added that other than that, he is all for the project.

**Mr. Barksdale** stated that they have had that conversation in redevelopment.

**Mr. Staten** stated that he doesn't want to commit to any specific project because he is not an engineer but they do need to look at certain pieces of that road.

**Mr. Caesar** stated that he is not after a commitment but just wants it to be looked at because there is a lot of traffic on that road. He also mentioned Mel Smith Road and said that it needs to be looked at as well.

**Mr. Blair** asked if anyone recalls that state putting the section of Grant Line Road from the north entrance of IUS down to Highway 60 as a future project. He said that he recalls seeing a list about five or six years ago saying that they wanted to widen that section of Grant Line Road

**Mr. Barksdale** stated that he does remember that but then the state relinquished that area. He also stated anyone having to pick up children at Grant Line School knows how it gets backed up all the way to Fire King and beyond.

**Mr. McLaughlin** stated that they still have a problem at McDonald Lane and Grant Line Road when school lets out at Christian Academy.

**Mr. Caesar** stated that they were talking earlier about comments being made to the members while campaigning and he thinks Grant Line Road was brought up to all of them.

**Mr. Barksdale** stated that with this the New Albany Fire and New Albany Police would be in charge of these two parcels now so if the school needed a patrol officer or something like that they could get it.

**Police Chief Bailey** stated that a school resource officer is already in place there but if there was an afterhours issue that would be handled by the New Albany Police Department.

**Mr. Blair** asked if there are any other financial considerations besides reduced sewer fees and if they have estimated how much that will be.

**Mr. Beau Zoeller** stated that it was roughly \$3,500.00 per year.

**Mr. Blair** asked if there is anything that will be required as far as future expenses.

**Mr. Staten** stated that they would have to examine what is needed on that road to continue to support the growth that is occurring out there so he can't say that there won't be a project that will cost money.

**Mr. Blair** stated that the city owns that part of Grant Line Road so we are already committed to the road itself. He said that he is just trying to figure out fiscally if there is anything else that will impact us.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: R-19-10 Annexation (Klein Homes, LLC)**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS – PETITIONER: R-19-10 Annexation (Klein Homes, LLC)**

**R-19-10 Resolution of the Common Council of the City of New Albany, Indiana Phipps**

**Mr. Phipps** introduced R-19-10 and moved to approve, Mr. Caesar second, all voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Coffey and Mr. Nash who were not present.

**Mr. Blair** asked why we do an ordinance and resolution.

**Mr. Staten** stated that they are required to do a fiscal plan and that is included in the resolution.

**Mr. Barksdale** stated that he is taking it that we do have adequate police and fire to take this in.

**Mr. McLaughlin** stated that a grant that the fire department received will possibly allow them to bring on 10-12 additional firemen for the next four years.

**Police Chief Bailey** stated that as far as the police department, they can handle that responsibility.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: R-19-11 Annexation (School & Stonecrest)**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS – PETITIONER: R-19-11 Annexation (School & Stonecrest)**

**R-19-11 A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of New Albany, Adopting Fiscal Plan for Annexation Ordinance Annexing Certain Real Estate into the City Pursuant to Petitions for Voluntary Annexation Phipps**

**Mr. Phipps** introduced R-19-11 and moved to approve, Mr. McLaughlin second, all voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Coffey and Mr. Nash who were not present.

**Mr. Barksdale** asked how many units are in the apartment complex.

**Mr. Wood** replied approximately 260-270.

#### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS:**

**Mr. Phipps** stated that there was a resignation from the human rights commission which was Ms. Calle Janson and he didn't know if she was a council appointment or not.

**Dr. Knable** stated that she was a council appointment.

**Mr. Phipps** stated that it would probably be best to wait and act on that in January.

**Dr. Knable** said that they can start trying to find a pool of applicants.

**Mr. Blair** asked if they should advertise for resumes.

**Dr. Knable** replied yes. He added that Ms. Janson moved out of the city and that's why she had to resign but she was doing a great job.

**COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):**

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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Scott Blair, President

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Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk