

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA,
HELD A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING VIA ZOOM.COM ON THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 17, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Stein, Mrs. Moeller, Mr. Nash, Mr. Staten and Mrs. Glotzbach.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes for December 7, 2020, Mrs. Collier second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for December 7, 2020, Mr. Applegate second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Mr. Phipps stated that he just wanted to remind everyone to keep wearing their masks, practicing social distancing and washing their hands. He said that we all have to do our part because it is our humanitarian and patriotic duty. He also said that yesterday in the United States we hit a record number of deaths in one day which was 3,600 and it is going to get worse in the next three weeks. He stated that Christmas is coming and he knows that everyone wants to be with their families but if you really want to honor the babe in the manger, remember that he taught us to love our neighbor and the best way we can do that right now is to not spread the virus.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that he wanted to say Happy Holidays to everyone and reiterate what Councilman Phipps said. He said that he hopes that the light at the end of the tunnel will start on Monday. He said we are approaching 310,000 fatalities with this and our losses in WWII were about 420,000 and over 650,000 with the Spanish flu pandemic. He stated that Santa's sleighs are being replaced with UPS planes to move this vaccine around and to move commerce around as well.

Mr. Turner stated that there is a \$250,000.00 line item for QRS land in the monthly sewer financial report and he wondered what that was.

Mr. Caesar suggested that he send an email to Mr. Gibson and he is sure that he can explain it. He told him if he has any issues to get back with him.

Mr. Blair explained that the city purchased land from QRS and it was an installment sale so that \$250,000.00 is probably the installment for this year. He said he thinks it is over a 10-year period. He then stated that he had some questions on three items in the EDIT fund at the last meeting and Mrs. Moeller is still looking into the answers to those questions so he hopes to have an update at the next meeting. He then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Mr. Aebersold stated that the Caesars Foundation did hire an Executive Director, Mr. Josh Kornberg. He explained that there were four finalists and they interviewed them all in-person and then the board spent another hour or so discussing all of them and that's who they came up with. He stated that Mr. Kornberg did accept and is supposed to take charge on January 11th he believes. He then stated that he did have one other thing on the Beharrell Avenue U-Turns. He said that he heard that there was a driver coming out of AquaBlu on the corner of Beharell Avenue and pulled out in front of a car on Spring Street and moved over into the left hand lane. He said that at Woodrow Avenue, he made a U-Turn to go back to Clarksville which was really dumb. He stated that he knows they are working on it but he hopes we can get something done before a dangerous accident happens. He then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays and told everyone to stay safe.

Mr. Applegate stated that he wanted to reiterate what others have said and wants to remind everyone to be accountable for themselves and to try their best to shop local. He then said that there are a lot of people that have been affected by all of the deaths and holidays are hard so he just wanted to send out to those people that they can get through it and to just stay the course and things will get better. He said that if they don't get better then reach out to some people and ask for some advice and help. He then stated that his first year of sitting on the council with everyone has been a pleasure and he appreciates the opportunity and is looking forward to 2021. He said Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to everyone.

Dr. Knable stated that he wanted to commend the mayor on his choice for filling the city's appointment to the board of health. He said that he has known Mr. Tom Jones for over 35 years and he is intelligent, conscientious and not a yes a person so he can't think of anyone better to fill that role. He then stated that he has been asked so many times by so many people this week about the vaccine and whether he is going to take it and if they should. He said that he was signing up to take the vaccine tomorrow through the hospital but then the CDC came out with guidelines where they are recommending that those of us who have had COVID should wait 90 days. He said that he is going to wait and take it mid-February as soon as his 90 days expire. He stated that he is having a lot of thoughtful, conscientious discussions with his patients and it is ultimately their decision but he is encouraging them to take it. He also stated that it has been tremendous to watch the mustering of resources in this country over the last several months to get us to this point this fast. He said thanks to everyone up and down the line from local officials who met with them at the first meeting and indicated that Floyd County might have as many as 350-400 deaths and nationally we might have as many as 2,000,000 deaths. He stated that hopefully this vaccination is the turning of the tide and from the local people up to the White House, it has been a very concerted effort and he is thankful to see these vaccinations role out this week.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

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

COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC: Z-20-05 Shiloh Place Vacation

COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONER: Z-20-05 Shiloh Place Vacation

Z-20-05 An Ordinance for the Vacation of a Public Way Applegate 3
Pursuant to a Petition filed by Brenda Scharlow
and Reservation of Permanent Utility Easement

Mr. Applegate introduced Z-20-05 and moved to approve the third reading, Mr. Phipps second, all voted in favor. Bill Z-20-05 becomes Ordinance Z-20-10.

Mr. Applegate stated that they went over everything at the last meeting and he had nothing further to add.

Mr. Caesar stated that everything got answered at the last meeting and there really weren't any neighbors in that area and all of the utilities were notified. He then stated that he wanted to thank the council for a wonderful year and said that it was a strange year but they made it through it. He said that it has been a pleasure for him to be president this year.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Bob Caesar, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk