

**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 ON THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022
AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

MOMENT OF REFLECTION:

Mr. Applegate stated that we lost Council Member Caesar and asked that everyone keep him in their thoughts during the moment of reflection.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2022, Mrs. Collier second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2022, Mrs. Collier second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Dr. Knable stated that like everyone else he was caught off guard by Mr. Caesar's passing. He said that the funny thing about Mr. Caesar and he, is they got along everywhere except in this council chamber. He stated that ironically Mr. Caesar is the one who convinced him to run for city council and he often wonders if he regretted that or not. He said that sometimes he had mixed feelings about it, but he will miss him and he knows that his family and friends will as well.

Mr. Aebersold stated that he thought about the project at Daisy Lane and Green Valley Road after the last meeting and it seems that the council went through a lot of trouble and planning and zoning went through a lot of trouble for the approval on it a year and a half or two years ago. He said that the developer originally had to cut back on the number of apartments and had to do a lot of things to make it look good and he thinks that when it was all said and done, the people out there were fine. He stated that it seemed as though everyone was on the same page and it was a good project. He said that then a year later there were a lot of changes and the end result that he is coming up with is that he thinks they wasted a lot of time, and now their constituents are not happy with it and the council's hands are tied and can't do anything about it. He stated that he doesn't think that it needs to come before them because it is not going to do any good.

Dr. Knable stated that he has no video from them but if they get a video to him, he will bring it back up. He said that it is not going to come back up this evening from him.

Mr. Blair stated that he wasn't going to bring up the project on Green Valley Road, but he was wondering if we tell the citizens the process because it seems as though that group was confused as to what the process is for approval. He said that they didn't know going in that it wasn't coming back to the council and he would like for the director or someone

to start telling them what the process is for approval. He stated that he thinks that would make things a lot clearer if it comes from a position of authority, so he thinks that should be passed on to the plan commission director. He then stated that the city received the Community Crossings Grant this past week and he just wanted to show his appreciation to Mr. Christmas and Mr. Summers for the work they did on that. He said that it is a pretty tough application that you have to go through and a lot of it starts with the council because we have to appropriate money for road paving and this is a matching grant. He said that they have identified some areas where they are going to use the money. He also said that it is a strenuous application and if you don't cross your all of your Ts and dot your Is correctly, as we have found out before, you may not be eligible for it. He stated that from the list he saw, New Albany got the maximum amount of \$1M and there were other communities given less than what they could apply for, so he is thankful that the process that Mr. Christmas and Mr. Summers is using is getting us the maximum amount. He added that an extra \$1M in paving makes a huge difference in what we are able to get done. He then stated that Mr. Caesar has just been an icon and if anyone is Mr. New Albany, it probably was Mr. Caesar. He said that he has known him for a really long time through his sister and their family. He also said that his wife and he bought their wedding rings at J.O. Endris and Mr. Caesar made it a really pleasurable experience for them. He stated that Mr. Caesar was one that kept his company in New Albany and it was really sort of an anchor of the city and was here for the revitalization so we appreciate his longevity. He also stated that Margie bought a lot of her dance awards from Mr. Caesar and it was an annual trip for him to go down right before the recital and pick up the awards so it got to be a tradition. He said that he was talking with some people in the community about his commitment to making the Silver Hills Trail happen. He stated that it is really nice and if you haven't done it, you really should because there is a lot of history there with the trolley and so forth. He said that Mr. Caesar is going to be deeply missed and he really cherishes the time that he spent with him and that he was a really good person.

Mr. Turner stated that he is on the school and library committee so he figured that he would go ahead and start doing things with that. He said that he went to a school board meeting and he met all of the school board members and introduced himself. He stated that he met Dr. Snyder and has a meeting lined up with him pretty soon. He said that he is in the process of working on some things with the library and getting some meetings together to see if there is anything the council can do or team up with them on. He stated that in regards to public health and welfare, he has been meeting up with some homeless nonprofits throughout the city and has more meetings scheduled in the coming weeks. He said that he has also been in contact with the Floyd County Coroner and nonprofits that deal with drug issues in our city. He stated that he is gathering a lot of data right now and he hopes to bring some of that before the council soon. He then stated that it is nice to see that premium pay was getting started at the last redevelopment meeting and asked if it is going to all city employees?

Mr. Gibson replied yes.

Mr. Turner asked if it is just a one-time thing?

Mr. Gibson replied yes, it is.

Mr. Turner stated that redistricting is coming up and they have to do it by the end of the year. He said that he would like to see that it is transparent and bipartisan. He said that our state did not do it the right way and he believes it could've been handled a little better and he hopes that the city takes a different approach. He then stated that Mr. Cook has reached out to all of the council members as well as Ms. Stein about cameras and he wanted to discuss if they should even approach that subject. He said that in his opinion, he can see what Mr. Cook is saying about having a camera pointing at his yard. He stated that he happens to have a camera but it is zoned to where it will only record in his yard and even though it is pointing at his neighbors' yards, he can't see anything that they are doing. He said that he doesn't know how you can point someone out and tell them that

you want to look at their camera footage and what the enforcement is for that. He stated that they are going to have to do something because he is going to keep reaching out to them. He asked if they thought they should proceed on anything with that?

Mr. Applegate suggested that maybe the rules committee could look into it because that is where it is going to ultimately fall. He stated that he researched it a little bit and there isn't any law or anything that is going to back much up.

Dr. Knable stated that he has spoken with several lawyers and he thinks that others have too and it is really beyond the authority and jurisdiction of this body to do anything. He said that they can't really implement any kind of law that would stand up on that so it may end up in civil litigation or something.

Mr. Turner asked if it is even practical for them to try to do anything?

Dr. Knable stated that to date, no one has come up with anything that we could do that would hold water on it. He then wanted to clarify that premium pay excludes elected officials.

Mr. Applegate replied yes, it does exclude elected officials.

Mrs. McLaughlin stated that she first wanted to say that they are all going to miss Mr. Caesar. She said that Mr. Caesar was a wonderful man and was so close to her husband and so many other people. She stated that when they were talking about jewelry, she wore some earrings to the Medallion Dinner that she had bought from Mr. Caesar, which was very touching because he was supposed to be at that as well. She then stated that the city just received the grant from the state for \$2M for the south Monon trail and freedom trail, which she is very excited about.

Mr. Phipps stated that he just wanted to concur with what everyone else said and Mr. Caesar will be greatly missed on the council and in the community.

Mrs. Collier stated that she also wanted to add her thoughts about Mr. Caesar. She said that he will be missed throughout the entire community because he was just such a prominent figure and did so much good here in the city. She then reminded everyone that Beautification Day is on Saturday, May 21st and if you aren't signed up or have a team, everyone is meeting at city hall at 8:00 a.m. and you can just show up and you will be assigned an area to help out in.

Mr. Applegate stated that he would just like to say similar tributes to Mr. Caesar as everyone else here has. He said that he knew him from the council side as well as the personal side and he was always behind the scenes especially with anything to do with building jewelry at the store. He stated that the only thing he was out front in was on this council and it was told to him several times at the memorial service that he would always have a shovel in his hand and ready to work and help. He said that he thinks the heartbeat of New Albany skipped a little bit when he passed and he thinks that they all have to look at as far as keeping the community going strong and appreciate all of the people that have had roles in New Albany when we see them out. He stated that Mr. Caesar was out in front on this council but there are a lot of others out there that have helped New Albany get to where we are and we should thank those people when we see them.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Mr. Gibson stated that he knows that the mayor would like to echo some of the sentiment that has been said about Mr. Caesar. He said speaking for himself, he worked with him for several years as well as Mrs. Moeller and other staff have, and it is a horrible loss for the City of New Albany. He stated that not having him sitting in this chamber any longer is a great loss and the city is definitely going to miss him because he

has provided great leadership. He then stated that the city was awarded \$1M in the Community Crossings Grant and obviously that just helps us extend our goal of repaving and fixing more roads. He said that along with that, the city was also awarded this week \$2M as part of the governor's trails initiative, so we couple that with the READI Grant and that is \$6M for additional trails and quality of life aspects. He stated that from a grant or award standpoint, this week was a good week for the City of New Albany and hopefully we will continue in that fashion.

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-22-01 Sewer Easement Vacation

COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONER: Z-22-01 Sewer Easement Vacation

Z-22-01	An Ordinance for the Vacation of Sanitary Sewer Easement Pursuant to a Petition Filed by INTERPLAN LLC	McLaughlin 3
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Mrs. McLaughlin introduced Z-22-01 and moved to approve the third reading, Mrs. Collier second, all voted in favor. Bill Z-22-01 becomes Ordinance Z-22-01.

Mr. Gibson stated that the council did excuse the representative from coming back from Pennsylvania, but she did want to convey her appreciation for not having to travel back even though she did really enjoy the visiting greenway and our downtown while she was here last time. He said that they have already started some work so hopefully they will knock that out pretty quickly. He stated that he assumes there weren't any questions because he didn't receive any and wasn't aware of any.

Mrs. McLaughlin stated that she shared all of the pictures and plans with everyone.

Mr. Turner thanked her for doing that.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Jason Applegate, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk