

**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 MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024
AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members: Mrs. Collier, Mr. Phipps, Mr. FitzGerald, Mrs. Gohmann, Mr. Blair, Mrs. Griffith, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Unruh and President Dickey.

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

CALL TO ORDER: President Dickey 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. FitzGerald moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for February 15, 2024, Mrs. Collier second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Mr. Unruh stated that being that it is March and in the tradition of Hoosiers, he would like to talk a little basketball. He said that he wanted to congratulate all of the local teams for strong showings in their sectionals. He stated that he wanted to congratulate especially Christian Academy on their sectional victory and wish them good luck in the regional. He also wanted to congratulate our neighbors in Lanesville because their Lanesville Ladies Eagles won the state championship and it is their second in a row.

Ms. Murphy stated that she wanted to thank Ms. Mindy Milburn and Ms. Cathy Cousins who work in Mrs. Glotzbach's office because they have been very helpful this week with some of the things that she has been working on. She gave a couple of gold stars for those ladies because they are just very kind and very helpful. She then said that the next time the council meets, it will officially be spring time so enjoy this beautiful day and we will meet in the spring.

Mrs. Griffith stated that we do turn the clocks back this weekend so she just wanted to remind everyone that we will start getting another hour of sunshine at night time. She also stated that she went to the SoIN Tourism annual meeting and there was great representation of New Albany. She said she thinks there were a couple of council members there but it was the same night as the Veteran's graduation, so she wasn't able to go to that. She stated that they showcased two of our businesses locally and it was great. She added that it was held in Jeffersonville, but she thinks we got more kudos points being in New Albany.

Mr. Blair stated that he didn't go to the SoIN celebration but he did go to the Veteran's graduation with Mr. Dickey and Mr. FitzGerald. He said that if you haven't been, it's a very moving ceremony and celebration. He stated that what the veterans are going through in order to sort of right things for the community and work themselves out of situations is phenomenal. He said that we have some really good judges and Judge Granger does a fantastic job with that, so kudos to them for what they have established and what they continue to grow and expand upon.

Mrs. Gohmann stated that March is Women's History Month and she would remind everyone that it was the 19th amendment, which was passed in 1920 which gave women the right to vote, so we all know how very, very important it is to vote. She added that it

is even more so with women like her grandmother who was a suffragette and used to say “it’s our right and our responsibility”.

Mr. FitzGerald stated that before the Veteran’s Court graduation and the SoIN Tourism celebration, the Urban Enterprise Zone which he sits on, gave Nance’s Florist one of the façade grants, which is one of the economic improvement grants that they voted on. He said that in the next year you are going to see them have their exterior really fixed up, so we have a little gem that is being polished up and shine some more in the city, so be on the lookout to see what is happening on Spring Street.

Mr. Phipps stated that March is Women’s History Month and he thinks that we have a lot to be proud of here in New Albany. He said that he thinks this is an all-time record for the number of women sitting on the city council at one point in history. He is pretty sure that it is. He stated that while we are making progress here locally, he has to remind people that women’s rights are under attack in this country nationally and we have seen a rollback of those, and he thinks the trend is likely to continue so as Mrs. Gohmann said, we must vote. He said that we must vote not only to preserve women’s rights but preserve our democracy because it is clearly in danger in this coming year.

Mrs. Collier stated that she wanted to echo what Ms. Murphy said about Ms. Milburn, Ms. Cousins and the clerk’s office. She said that for the past four years, they have just been phenomenal and always helped with anything that she has ever needed and she does want to say thank you to them as well. She then thanked Ms. Murphy for bringing that to their attention because they have been great for years.

Mr. Dickey stated that he will just echo a lot of the previous comments. He said that obviously Mr. Blair is correct about the Veteran’s Court because it is a very moving program. He thinks it is also very appropriate that we show them support because many of these folks have endured harsh conditions as part of their service and we want to be grateful for that, and this is an opportunity for us as a community to help them kind of stand on both feet. He thinks that as far as some of the other activities, everything was well said here tonight. He stated that it is Women’s History Month and he should know who the first woman was elected to the city council.

Mrs. Glotzbach asked if it was Ms. Letty Walters?

Mr. Dickey stated that he thinks it was Ms. Letty Walters.

Mr. Phipps stated that he thinks it was Ms. Letty Walters too.

Mr. Dickey stated that if we are wrong about that, we will look at that and correct it next time but Ms. Walters is still with us and in the community. He said that she has done a fabulous job representing the community in a number of ways such as with parks, athletics, municipal government and we will certainly give her a shout out tonight extending to Women’s History Month.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Mr. Hall stated that he wanted to pass along an update on some of the ongoing concrete work. He said that if you have been by North and South Audubon Drive, you may see a lot of activity going on there right now. He stated that work has maybe two plus weeks left kind of depending on the weather. He said that the road has been fully milled and repaved through there, there is new drainage infrastructure and also new driveway connections and aprons. He stated that they have gotten a lot of positive feedback from the residents that they have spoken with in that area and he thinks is it really shaping up to be a nice project. He then said as some of the council members has mentioned, spring is just around the corner so those hot asphalt plants will be opening back up, and we will be able to finalize all of the work then as well as really finalize some of these nasty potholes we’re working on right now.

COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:

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

Mrs. Collier gave the following reports on Public Health & Welfare Committee meetings:

February 9, 2024 – Coffee Crossing, Main Street, New Albany

Present: Jennie Collier, Chair, Louise Gohmann, Stefanie Griffith, Elaine Murphy and Julie Rigerish – Purdue University

The Public Health & Welfare Committee met to gather information to help determine the necessary next steps to proceed. After some discussion about the potential program, the committee expressed that it would probably best if the support component of the program be focused on case management.

No committee recommendation necessary for this meeting.

February 16, 2024 – Coffee Crossing, Main Street, New Albany

Present: Jennie Collier, Chair, Louise Gohmann and Stefanie Griffith

The chair distributed an outline to help eliminate any confusion distinguishing the original opioid program with the side/correlating program that would not be part of the program funded by the opioid lawsuit funds, but enhance that program as a separate matter.

Some legal counsel would be advised before spending any other time on this matter. The committee will reconvene after a review by legal counsel of the potential program.

No committee recommendation necessary for this meeting.

Mr. Dickey announced the following committee meetings to take place this week. He said that the Rules Committee will be meeting on March 5th at 2:00 p.m. He stated that the Development & Annexation Committee will be meeting on March 7th at 3:00 p.m. in regards to the legislation that was introduced as Z-24-01. He said that the Public Works Committee is set to meet again on March 8th at 9:00 a.m. He then stated that he thinks Mrs. Griffith had a question that she emailed with regards to redevelopment. He asked her if she was asking about the hearing with regards to the sally port?

Mrs. Griffith said she thinks so but she would have to go back and look now.

Mr. Dickey stated that redevelopment met this past week and did take an action undertaking a change order in connection with the police station. He said that when they did the original design, there was a desire to have a sally port, but for costs and other considerations at the time, it was not put into the final plans for the package that was done. He stated that in the interceding period of time, there has been further discussions on this and some refinement, so the redevelopment commission did approve that change order allowing for the sally port to be constructed at the same time as the station. He said this will save tremendous dollars, and if we had added it later, we would likely have had to do some utility relocations and some other issues, so this saves us cash in that sense and it will be covered by TIF dollars as an allowable expense. He thinks Mrs. Collier will agree with him that this was kind of a win, win and we get to address an issue that the chief and the officers were concerned about, but originally, we just didn't have it in the budget to do at the time that we approved that last year.

Mrs. Griffith stated that was her question because she didn't understand why it was being added. She thanked Mr. Dickey for that information.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING:

**Z-24-01 Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of Phipps 1
New Albany, Indiana Title XV Chapter 156
(Douglas Geiger for Geiger Commercial Properties,
LLC requests a Preliminary Planned Unit Development
(PUD) to permit apartments in the MDR, Mixed
Density Residential District at 1702 Graybrook Lane)**

Action Taken: This ordinance was referred to the Development & Annexation Committee.

Mr. Dickey stated that for clarification to the public, we did approve a non-residential multi-family housing moratorium but this was submitted prior to that moratorium which is why it is being considered at this time. He said that action that was taken upon receipt, and as president, he referred this to the Development & Annexation Committee and as he noted that they have a committee meeting on Thursday to discuss this item. He added that no additional action is required by this council tonight.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

- New Albany Urban Enterprise Association – Ms. Ann Streckfus

Mr. Dickey stated that in talking to staff, there was a minor oversight made. He said that our original list that was held in the clerk’s office did not have for this year a listing of Ms. Ann Streckfus. He said that her appointment is up for renewal and he wanted to go ahead and take care of that tonight correcting that oversight. He stated that Ms. Streckfus has served on this board for a number of years now and has done a very diligent job for us, and he would like to put her forward as the nominee to continue and solidify her nomination. He said that he would entertain discussion or a motion.

Mr. FitzGerald moved to confirm the appointment of Ms. Ann Streckfus to the New Albany Urban Enterprise Association, Mr. Phipps second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Adam T. Dickey, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk