



NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2019

CALL TO ORDER:

Council Member Fellows, as Acting Mayor, called to order the New Albany City Regular Council Meeting of January 2, 2019 at 6:35 p.m. at the New Albany Village Hall, 99 West Main Street, New Albany, Ohio. Staff attending were City Manager Joseph Stefanov, Law Director Mitch Banchefsky, Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly, Finance Director Bethany Staats, Police Chief Greg Jones, City Engineer Ed Ferris, Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler, Public Service Director Mark Nemec, Public Information Officer Scott McAfee, and Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason.

Council Member Fellows led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

The following Mayor/Council Members answered Roll Call:

Mayor Sloan Spalding	A
CM Colleen Briscoe	A
CM Marlene Brisk	P
CM Michael Durik	P
CM Chip Fellows	P – Acting Mayor
CM Kasey Kist	A
CM Matt Shull	P

Clerk Mason told council that Mayor Spalding, Council Member Briscoe, and Council Member Kist were all traveling, were unable to attend, and had requested to be excused. Council Member Fellows moved to excuse Mayor Spalding, Council Member Briscoe, and Council Member Kist from the meeting. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with four yes votes to excuse Mayor Spalding, Council Member Briscoe, and Council Member Kist from the meeting.

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Council Member Fellows asked if council had reviewed the proposed December 18, 2018 regular meeting minutes and asked if they had any additions or corrections. Hearing none, Council Member Shull moved to adopt the December 18, 2018 regular meeting minutes. Council Member Fellows seconded and council voted with four yes votes to approve the meeting minutes as corrected.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

NONE.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

NONE.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION: No meeting.



NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2019

PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

ACHITECHTURAL REVIEW BOARD: No meeting.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: No meeting.

BOARD OF CONSTRUCTION APPEALS: No meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION: No meeting.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: No meeting.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION: No meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION:

City Manager Joseph Stefanov reported that he received an email from Chief Wright at the Monroe Township Fire Department. The fire department received a Class 2 Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating which would be effective April 1, 2019. That rating placed them, along with Plain Township, in the top 5% nationally of all fire departments and should help reduce insurance rates for residents and businesses in the district.

Council Member Fellows reported receiving an email, via the general council address, from a person complaining about the State Route 161 closure. City Manager Stefanov told council that staff would be responding and he would copy council on it. Council Member Fellows noted that parks were important to any community. The city had other successful parks, a Triple-A bond rating, and an excellent track record of managing its finances.

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

NONE.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE O-01-2019

Council Member Brisk read by title AN ORDINANCE FINDING THAT THE PROPOSED ADDITION OF LAND TO THE NEW ALBANY EAST COMMUNITY AUTHORITY WILL BE CONDUCIVE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, CONVENIENCE AND WELFARE, AND WILL NOT JEOPARDIZE THE PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS "NEW COMMUNITY" AS DEFINED IN SECTION 349.01(A) OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE; AND REDEFINING THE BOUNDARY OF THE AUTHORITY'S COMMUNITY DISTRICT TO REFLECT THAT ADDITION OF LAND.

Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler told council that this legislation was part of a statutory process to add ground to a community authority district. This ordinance was the second piece of legislation necessary to add the 441.251 acres of land to the New Albany East Community Authority. The future



NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2019

development of the site would be within the New Albany East Community Authority (NAECA) boundaries and would generate additional revenue for the community in that district. There would be a third piece of legislation which was also part of the statutory process.

Council Member Shull asked and Director Chrysler confirmed that this land was recently annexed and was just now being added to the Community Authority. She added that this process couldn't be started until the annexation was in place and the referendum period had expired. After that, there were multiple public hearing notices that had to be published, plus other steps per the Ohio Revised Code (ORC). Council and staff discussed existing NAECA boundaries.

Director Chrysler stated that community authority laws in the ORC had changed in 2015. Previously, community authorities had to follow county lines. Now community authorities were permitted to cross county lines so long as they remained inside a municipality. The NAECA was a municipal community authority district which crossed county lines. The New Albany Community Authority (NACA) could only be located in Franklin County as it was created prior to the change in the ORC.

Council Member Fellows set the ordinance for second reading at the January 15, 2019 council meeting.

READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION R-01-2019

Council Member Durik read by title A RESOLUTION TO CLARIFY CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY'S PERSONNEL POLICIES TO DEFINE EARNABLE AND NON-EARNABLE SALARY AS REQUESTED BY THE OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

Finance Director Bethany Staats stated that this legislation was required by the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) when a municipality allowed sick leave or vacation conversion payout. New Albany provided for sick leave conversion payout in Chapter 155 of city code. This resolution defined sick leave payouts as pensionable, meaning they would be added into the employee's total pay for OPERS' purposes.

Council Member Shull asked and Director Staats confirmed that sick leave payout would be treated as income by OPERS. The city did not have a vacation conversion policy.

Council Member Fellows opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Durik moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with four yes votes to approve Resolution R-01-2019.



NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2019

RESOLUTION R-02-2019

Council Member Shull read by title A FINAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN ODOT CONSENT LEGISLATION FOR THE REFERENCED PROJECT WHICH PROPOSES TO INTERCONNECT TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND UPGRADE CONTROLLER CABINETS THROUGH THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (MORPC) ATTRIBUTABLE FUNDING PROGRAMS.

Public Service Director Mark Nemec reminded council that there had been similar legislation in September of 2018. The prior legislation set out the project of interconnecting the city's 24 traffic signals with fiber optic cable. In 2018, plans were still being finalized and engineer's estimates were being prepared, making that legislation preliminary in nature. The plans had been completed and the project was ready to go out to bid in January. Therefore, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) was requiring a final resolution. The legislation stated New Albany's cost would be \$229,194, a slight reduction from the prior estimate. The total cost of the project remained around \$1.1 million.

Director Nemec stated that project would be advertised in a couple of weeks, should be contracted by April of 2019, and would take around year to complete. The city would see benefits around May of 2020 when the signals were connected, the cameras were functioning, and the controller system installed at the Public Service Department.

Council Member Brisk asked and Director Nemec replied that this project included all existing traffic lights in the city, including the two newest signals. It would be the city's responsibility to install cable and connect any additional traffic lights to the system, and that incremental expense would be built into the cost of the signal. Council Member Fellows asked and Director Nemec answered that benefits of interconnect traffic signals included synchronizing the signals so that vehicles spent less time idling, improving city air quality. New Albany's signal network would eventually tie into the City of Columbus's network as well.

Council Member Durik asked and Director Nemec answered that the system would be controlled by the city's traffic engineer, currently David Samuelson. Council Member Fellows asked and Director Nemec answered that the system would require a human operator to alter the timing. This was an improvement to monitoring an intersection in person and adjusting each light using the attached cabinet. This was not a "smart" system which would make its own adjustments. City Manager Stefanov stated that, in the event of an emergency, the city would have the ability to override the signal programming to move traffic in a hurry. Council Member Durik asked and Director Nemec stated that police officers would still have the ability to plug into individual lights and change them for events. Council and staff discussed the cameras which would be installed only at high priority intersections. Law Director Mitch Banchevsky asked and Director Nemec replied that the cameras could record accidents. Council Member Durik asked and City Manager Stefanov confirmed that this project was in the city's 2019 budget.

Council Member Fellows opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.



NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2019

Council Member Shull moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Durik seconded and council voted with four yes votes to approve Resolution R-02-2019.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Finance Committee: No report.
- B. Safety Committee: No report.
- C. Public Utilities: No report.
- D. Service and Public Facilities Committee: No report.
- E. Planning and Economic Development Committee: No report.
- F. Administration Committee: No report.
- G. Grants and Non-Profit Funding: No report.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:

- A. Council Representative to MORPC: No meeting.
- B. Council Representative to Joint Parks and Recreation: No meeting.
- C. Council Representative to New Albany Plain Local Schools: No meeting.
- D. Council Representative to Plain Township: Council Member Durik reported that the township was considering whether to add an emergency squad leader into the staff configuration.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

- A. Mayor: No report.
- B. Clerk of Council: Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason reported that she would be out of the office January 17-20.
- C. Finance Director: Finance Director Bethany Staats told council that the new payroll system was in place and their paystubs would be different. Council should feel free to approach her with questions.
- D. City Manager: No report.



NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2019

- E. City Attorney: Law Director Banchefsky reported that the Charter Review Commission would be reviewing Articles IX Taxation, Borrowing, Budgeting, and Contracting Procedures, and X Boards and Commissions on January 22nd at 4 pm. Council was welcome to give input or attend.

POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE.

POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:

Council Member Shull thanked Public Service Director Mark Nemeč and the Public Service Department for completing installation of the warning lights at the pedestrian crossings at the Market and Main roundabout. He noticed that some of the bulbs were not working. He also asked if there was a way for it to be apparent that the flashing lights were lit when the pedestrian crossing button was pushed. Right now, a pedestrian had to walk around to the front of the sign to see that it worked. It was particularly difficult to tell if it was working during the day. Council Member Brisk had observed two cars go through the crossing despite the flashing lights. Council Member Shull stated that they stopped for his family. Council Member Shull asked and Director Nemeč answered that only white or yellow lights were permitted. Director Nemeč talked about other types of beacons, like a strobe bar, which could be added. He stated he would check to see if an indicator light could be placed on the back of the sign.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council Member Fellows moved that council go into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) to consider appointment, employment, promotion or compensation, discipline, demotion or dismissal of a public employee or official, and reserved the right to take action afterwards. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with four yes votes to go into executive session at 7:04 p.m.

Council Member Shull moved that council come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council Member Fellows seconded and council voted with four yes votes come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council resumed the regular meeting at 7:21 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Council Member Fellows moved to appoint Andrea Wiltrot to the Planning Commission position for the term 1/1/2019 to 12/31/21. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with four yes votes to appoint Andrea Wiltrot to the Planning Commission for the term specified.

Officer Ken Hamilton's retirement party (Clerk's note – not an agenda item)

Police Chief Greg Jones told council that, after 25 years of service, Officer Ken Hamilton was retiring. There would be a gathering on Monday, January 7th from 11:30-1 in council chambers to celebrate his retirement. Officer Hamilton was a great asset to community, excellent at de-escalating situations, and a pleasure to work with.



**NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

January 2, 2019

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Council Member Durik moved and Council Member Fellows seconded to adjourn the January 2, 2019 Regular Council meeting at 7:23 pm.

ATTEST:

Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council

Sloan Spalding, Mayor

Date