

## NEW ALBANY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 17, 2019

### CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of December 17, 2019 at 6:30 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 Banchevsky, Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly, Finance Director Bethany Staats, Police Chief Greg Jones, City Engineer Ed Ferris, Engineer Mike Barker, Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler, Public Service Director Mark Nemec, Public Information Officer Scott McAfee, and Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason.

Mayor Spalding led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL:

The following Mayor/Council Members answered Roll Call:

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

### ACTION ON MINUTES:

Mayor Spalding asked if council had reviewed the proposed December 2, 2019 minutes and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Hearing none, Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the December 2, 2019 minutes. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve the December 2, 2019 regular meeting minutes.

### ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Mayor Spalding moved to amend the agenda to reset the Ohio Auditor of State's presentation listed under Hearing of Visitors to the next council meeting, and to move Resolution R-57-2019 to after the Executive Session. Council Member Fellows seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to amend the agenda.

### HEARING OF VISITORS:

#### Proclamation - New Albany Plain Local Schools State Champion Girls Golf Team

Mayor Spalding welcomed the NAPLS Girls Golf team, Coach Ritter, and their supporters. He read the proclamation. Mayor Spalding noted what it took to finish the OSU Gray Course with their scores. Council Member Durik had run into someone from out of state who knew of the team's accomplishments. Council congratulated the team. Council Member Kist asked and the team answered that two players were seniors.



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Torri Huebner, Central Regional Liaison, Ohio Auditor of State's office

*Reset to the January 7, 2019 council meeting. See Additions or Corrections to the Agenda.*

### BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION: Law Director Mitch Banchefsky reported that the PC heard and approved a final plat and variance for 5055 Johnstown Road. The owner was splitting the property into two buildable lots. There was a variance for a gravel road which accessed multiple parcels. The PC discussed at what point the gravel road would be improved.

PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD: Council Member Fellows reported that the PTAB approved a \$7,500 fee in lieu for the owner of a lot behind Temple Beth Shalom which was being divided into two parcels. Council Member Briscoe asked and Council Member Fellows responded that the owners did not need an easement and would provide a 25 to 30 foot preservation zone along a creek.

ACHITECHTURAL REVIEW BOARD: Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler reported on a renovation to 15 North High Street, soon to be Morgan Stanley Financial Services. The building needed to be brought into ADA compliance, necessarily including construction of a ramp on one side. Some windows and doors were being replaced, and a railing was being added to the patio deck. Staff had worked extensively with the owner to keep the historical integrity of the area, and the ARB helped to further address those issues.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: No meeting.

BOARD OF CONSTRUCTION APPEALS: No meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION: No meeting.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: No meeting.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

### CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION:

NONE.

### SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

#### **ORDINANCE O-41-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND TO ISSUE A THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATE.



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Finance Director Bethany Staats told council that appropriations were mostly decreased due to moving some capital projects to 2020. Increases were minimal. There were a few changes since the first reading related to the Oxford TIF and Schleppi Nottingham Trace TIF. When the TIFs were approved, infrastructure agreements with the development company included the company installing infrastructure and the city reimbursing for the infrastructure with TIF revenue. The city had to get those liabilities on its books, so there needed to be a book entry of loan proceeds and an entry for the expenditure. The other change to the legislation was the addition of a Then and Now purchase order for the police department's CALEA accreditation. The CALEA annual fee was included in the 2020 budget, but the city received the invoice in 2019 and wanted to get it paid.

City Manager Joseph Stefanov clarified that the TIF reimbursement agreements were made because the developer was building infrastructure that exceeded the city's code requirements. In Oxford, it was additional leisure trail and park improvements and, in Nottingham Trace, it was oversized sanitary sewer and water infrastructure to accommodate development to the north and east, and park commitments. Director Staats added that the widening of State Route 605 was also included.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Shull moved to adopt the ordinance. Council Member Durik seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Ordinance O-41-2019.

### INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

NONE.

### READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS

#### **RESOLUTION R-57-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AMEND, RENEW, AND EXECUTE THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY MANAGER FOR 2020.

*This item was moved to after the Executive Session. See Additions or Corrections to the Agenda.*

#### **RESOLUTION R-58-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A 2020 HEALTH SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO AND THE DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT AND FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH.

Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly told council that the Franklin County Board of Health (FCBH) was a "general health district" as defined by the Ohio Revised Code. Since becoming a city, New Albany had contracted with the FCBH to provide public health services, including food service and licensing inspection, nuisance enforcement, plumbing inspections, and other environmental health services, as outlined in Appendix A. The FCBH proposed a 3%



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increase which was a typical adjustment. The cost of the FCBH contract was set at \$8.87 per capital for a total of \$96,656.39 for 2020.

Mayor Spalding observed that New Albany had worked with the FCBH for many years. It hadn't previously made sense for New Albany to provide these services. The FCBH seemed to be the sole alternative.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-58-2019.

### **RESOLUTION R-59-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SIEKMAN AND SIEKMAN, LLC FOR GOVERNMENT RELATIONS SERVICES.

City Manager Joseph Stefanov told council that the city first contracted with Pam and Dwayne Siekman, then with The Strategy Group, after a competitive process in 2014. In 2016, the Siekmans formed their own company but terms of the city's contract with them stayed the same. Their work included relationship building and information sharing with state representatives and the congressional delegation in Washington D.C. They had been helpful in obtaining state capital grant money. The proposed 2020 contract contained a retainer increase of 2.75%. City Manager Stefanov said this would be the city's 6<sup>th</sup> year with Siekman and Siekman, and staff could do a rate comparison and/or a Request for Proposals in the second half of 2020.

Council Member Fellows asked and City Manager Stefanov answered that the city had signed a few multi-year contracts, but subsequently, council's preference changed to individual year contracts. City Manager Stefanov was willing to look at a multi-year contract for this kind of service if council preferred. Council Member Shull said multi-year contracts made sense in some situations. Council Member Fellows opined they might provide additional value. City Manager Stefanov noted a few examples of past years' multi-year contracts.

Council Member Fellows asked and City Manager Stefanov replied that he met with the Siekmans at least once per month, depending on holidays and vacations. They reviewed legislation before the State House of Representatives and State Senate, and looked at anything that would be important to the city. The city also benefitted from lobbyists working for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and Ohio Municipal League. Council Member Fellows observed that the city had been awarded some grants and the Siekmans had provided



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good service to the city. Mayor Spalding added that they provided some connections with state agencies also.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-59-2019.

### **RESOLUTION R-60-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY WITH MITCHELL BANCHEFSKY TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES TO THE CITY.

City Manager Joseph Stefanov told council this contract was for one year and contained a \$2.75% increase, consistent with the amount authorized for city staff in 2020. The contract contemplated around 25 hours per week. In 2019, Law Director Mitch Banchefsky regularly averaged around 30 hours per week and City Manager Stefanov expected that to continue through the first quarter of 2020. If there was a change in the number of hours, he and council could revisit this contract. The last rate comparison was in the fall of 2018. Law Director Banchefsky's price was the best of the few responses the city manager received.

Council Member Fellows asked and City Manager Stefanov answered that Law Director Banchefsky started working for the city, via various firms, in 1997. Council Member Fellows noted that meant Law Director Banchefsky had a lot of historical knowledge and had provided exceptional service. Council Member Kist asked and Law Director Banchefsky answered that he did very little work outside of his service to New Albany. Council Member Shull asked and City Manager Stefanov answered that the last two pieces of legislation contained increases similar to those of city staff, but that was not the usual way of proceeding. Some contracts had higher or lower rates, and some years rates were frozen.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Fellows moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-60-2019.

### **RESOLUTION R-61-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO WITH ARCHITECTURE!OHIO, INC. TO PROVIDE COMMERCIAL PLAN EXAMINATION, BUILDING INSPECTION, AND CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL SERVICES TO THE CITY.





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Engineer Mike Barker stated this legislation allowed the city manager to sign a contract with Mike Boryca of Architecture!Ohio, who had been a long time support, Chief Building Official (CBO), and plan examiner to the city. This contract was for commercial plan review and electrical inspector services, back-up building inspection services, and CBO services for 2020. Architecture!Ohio was highly qualified firm and had partnered with the city on its biggest and best projects. Unique contract provisions included commercial walk-thru services and 14 days to complete a plan review. The \$65 per hour rate for electrical and back-up inspection services would be the same as 2019. The rate for commercial plan review would \$95 per hour. The CBO rate would be \$105 per hour. The cost of work was passed through and paid by each applicant. The proposed rates were in line with the current market. Staff researched and found that similar cities were paying the similar or higher rates, depending on their fee structures.

Council Member Kist asked and Engineer Mike Barker replied that the city broke even when fees were collected because amount of the bill was passed directly to the customer.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Kist moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-61-2019.

### **RESOLUTION R-62-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO WITH FEINKNOPF MACIOCE SCHAPPA ARCHITECTS TO PROVIDE BACKUP COMMERCIAL PLAN EXAMINATION AND BACK UP CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL SERVICES TO THE CITY.

Engineer Mike Barker explained that Sherri Scholl and FMS had been working with the city and Architecture!Ohio for many years supporting development in the city. This legislation authorized the city manager to enter into a contract with FMS for back-up commercial plan review and back-up Chief Building Official (CBO) services for 2020. The contract followed in lockstep with the Architecture!Ohio contract, including the unique provisions described above. Ms. Scholl was 99% utilized as a back-up plans examiner. Rates were also consistent with Architecture!Ohio's rates. The rates reflected an increase, but these increases were in line with and comparable to the costs of services provided to other cities.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.



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Council Member Kist moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-62-2019.

### RESOLUTION R-63-2019

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO WITH THE ENGINEERING FIRM OF E. P. FERRIS & ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES TO THE CITY.

Engineer Mike Barker introduced Ed and Matt Ferris who were both present. This legislation allowed the city manager to enter into a contract with E.P. Ferris & Associates for 2020. The 2020 contract was similar to previous contracts and the amount was the same as 2019. The company provided a variety of engineering services including review of private site development plans, design, preparation of construction plans for capital improvement projects, attending public meetings, reviewing development plans going before Planning Commission, completing traffic studies, and assisting with resident complaints. In 2018, staff compared rates of similar firms and found that E.P. Ferris & Associates was the lowest and best service provider. The company continued to be a great partner to multiple city departments. Council Member Fellows thanked the Ferrises for another great year.

Mayor Spalding 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 seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-63-2019.

### RESOLUTION R-64-2019

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO WITH THE FIRM OF MKSK, LLC TO PROVIDE PLANNING AND DESIGN SERVICES TO THE CITY.

Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler told council that MKSK had worked with the city for many years. Their contract contained two components. The planning component included formal landscape reviews, submitting reports to boards and commissions, evaluating development proposals, updating and mapping for the city's website and GIS, and attending meetings with developers. The special projects component identified four city projects priorities in 2020 – a Village Center parking study, the Veterans Memorial project, the Open Space Park Plan, and the Taylor Farm designs. MKSK would also be helping to wrap up the Strategic Plan update. Chris Hermann was on his way to the council meeting and this company had been great to work with and provided a tremendous amount of support. Council Member Fellows asked and City Manager Stefanov agreed that MKSK had been a strong partner to the city.



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Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-64-2019.

### **RESOLUTION R-65-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE AND SIGN AN AMENDED & RESTATED CONSOLIDATED AGREEMENT WITH PJP HOLDINGS, LLC RELATED TO INCENTIVES AVAILABLE FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT IN THE OAK GROVE II COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA.

Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler stated that Axium Plastics located to New Albany at the beginning of the Beauty Park development. Instead of just supporting one primary customer, a number of companies in the Beauty Park were able to go out and win more contracts. Some companies would expand multiple times. The original incentive formula created in 1997 by the Joint Economic Committee was based on the revenue generated per square foot for Class A office space. This was how the city bench-marked the amount of revenue the community would collect from a project in order to grant real property tax abatement.

When the city started taking on manufacturing and production facilities, a new formula was needed because space was being built out and used differently. The new formula partly was based on the amount of infrastructure the city needed to invest in the project, covering that infrastructure within five years. The city came up with a revenue generation per acre formula for manufacturing businesses to determine whether companies were eligible for tax abatement and added in the ECOS green building program. This worked well for the first round of companies, particularly in a recessive economy. Several manufacturing companies not only expanded, but brought in research and development, and located their corporate office components in New Albany. These mixed uses were the source of Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) discussions questioning whether the formula was still useful.

Axium Plastics expanded their existing facility three times and just recently completed a new facility on Innovation Campus Way West. The new proposed project would be adjacent to their original facility. Each time they expanded, they had signed a new Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) agreement, so the city now received and filed four different annual reports for the same company. Looking at the company's revenue and the revenue generated per square foot for Class A office space, and also looking at the formula the city created for pharmaceutical businesses, staff used Axium as a test case to see if the city could consolidate their CRA agreements, apply a new standard to every facility across the campus, and establish the benchmark that captured the mix of uses.





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Taking the original model and modifying it based on Axiom's data, considering the prior benchmarks, and applying those to the total square footage culminated in the proposed amended and restated consolidated agreement. The CRA payroll benchmark increased from \$10 million to \$17.6 million. Axiom exceeded the benchmark in these good economic times. The benchmark would help the city pay its partners and provide city services, while allowing the company to survive during more difficult economic times. Director Chrysler told council that the city was glad for the expansion and wanted to help the company grow in a way that allowed for more ease of reporting and fairly reflecting the activities in the facilities. Axiom had been a wonderful partner. Paul Judge, owner, resided in New Albany and was present at the council meeting.

Council Member Durik asked City Manager Stefanov offered to gather the actual numbers on what the city had been receiving from Axiom using the old and new benchmark. City Manager Stefanov stated that the actual amount Axiom was paying wouldn't change as they exceeded both benchmarks. The city had increased the standard which determined whether they received the incentive. As the company continued to grow, that would add to the revenue the city received.

TIRC reports were usually compiled in March of each year and the TIRCs determined whether the company was meeting its requirements. If there was a recession and the company reduced its staff, the new payroll benchmark could come into play. The city didn't want to raise the bar too high and make it unattainable in a recessive economy.

Council Member Briscoe asked and Director Chrysler answered that the CRA required that the company had to have a payroll increase, but not a job increase. Council Member Briscoe pointed out, in theory, that Axiom could reduce their workforce and still have the abatement on their new space. Council Member Briscoe was concerned this dynamic would be a problem in future agreements. Director Chrysler said the greater focus was setting the level for what the city needed to pay partners and provide infrastructure. Director Chrysler stated that Axiom's payroll was way above other existing CRA thresholds. Council Member Briscoe noted the substantial difference between the benchmark and actual payroll. She estimated the city would net about \$96,800 annually, after paying partners.

Council Member Briscoe asked and Director Chrysler stated she would need to run a different calculation if Axiom's space were Class A office. Council Member Briscoe supported this legislation and wanted to see those numbers. Director Chrysler stated the new formula was tested on other Beauty Park companies - some of them would meet the benchmark and some wouldn't. She wanted a new benchmark to be aggressive and aspirational. Axiom had over-performed for the last two years.

Compared to Class A office space, manufacturing had fewer people per square foot and the tax value of the building per square foot was also much lower. Council and staff discussed how



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these differences in tax value could affect benchmarks. Council Member Briscoe asked and Director Chrysler confirmed that the city did not need to install any infrastructure for the new Axiom facility. Council Member Briscoe asked and Director Chrysler answered that the 15-year abatement on first building was almost half-way done.

Council Member Shull asked and Director Chrysler answered that the new CRA contemplated new uses. The city could look at the function in the building and apply the right formula to that function. ~~Director~~ The new agreement was creative and could be amended and restated in the future. There were no best practices out there. Axiom's CRA was a good place to start since they were already exceeding their benchmarks under the old formula.

Council Member Durik stated he had insufficient understanding of what happened under the old standard versus what happened under the new standard. Director Chrysler offered, based on the old formula, Axiom's total payroll benchmark, without the new facility, would be \$10 million. Staying under the old formula and adding in the new facility, the payroll benchmark would be \$15 million. Using the new proposed formula, the payroll benchmark would be \$17.5 million and, moving forward, any new building would get the more aggressive formula. Council Member Durik found this explanation more helpful.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Fellows moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-65-2019.

### RESOLUTION R-66-2019

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE AND SIGN AGREEMENTS WITH AMAZON DATA SERVICES, INC. RELATED TO INCENTIVES AVAILABLE FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT IN THE OAK GROVE II COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA.

Director Chrysler pointed out a typo in the Legislative Report wherein the actual agreement contemplated a minimum of \$250,000 of annual revenue beginning in 2024, not \$245,000 as stated in the Report. This resolution authorized the city manager to enter into and execute agreements related to Amazon Data Services. This potential project could contain approximately 170,000 square feet upon completion. The estimated project investment was \$400 million. The potential project would create 35 new jobs with an annual minimum payroll of \$2.4 million. The CRA agreement required that Amazon Data Services generate a minimum of \$250,000 in annual revenue for the city per year beginning in 2024 and \$500,000 per year beginning in 2026. Any additional square footage built would add on \$1.11 per square foot in excess of the 170,000 square feet. The city was offering 100% real tax abatement for 15 years



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for the project, and staff estimated that the Johnstown-Monroe Local School District would receive approximately \$125,000 from the project during the abatement period.

Mayor Spalding asked and Director Chrysler confirmed that this incentive package followed the same formula as for the company's other data centers. Council Member Kist asked and Director Chrysler answered that the number for the estimated investment numbers were pulled from the application filled out by the company as part of the statutory requirement of the CRA program.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Briscoe moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-66-2019.

### 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: City Manager Joseph Stefanov reported that MORPC issued its Central Ohio Air Quality Report for the season. 78% of days ozone levels were in the good range, 89% of days were in the good range for particle pollution. One day in July was deemed unhealthy for certain population groups. A monitoring station was located in New Albany. The City of Columbus was requesting public and private sector entities pledge their support to voluntarily eliminate gender pay inequity within their organizations. New Albany did a pay equity analysis the prior year and found no pay inequity issues. MORPC passed their motion after a presentation by the Executive Director of the Columbus Women's Commission. MORPC adopted their annual trick-or-treat resolution establishing a single beggars' night. MORPC's membership now constituted 71 communities. Finally, the last SMART Region Task



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Force meeting would be in February or March of 2020. Three work products were being produced and would be provided.

- B. Council Representative to Joint Parks and Recreation: No report.
- C. Council Representative to New Albany Plain Local Schools: No meeting.
- D. Council Representative to Plain Township: No report.

### REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

- A. Mayor: Mayor Spalding told council that Mayor Ginther and Shannon Ginther were both very committed to gender pay equity. Many Central Ohio businesses had signed on to this and now Mayor Ginther was trying to get local municipalities to work towards achieving pay equity – which New Albany had undertaken.

Mayor Spalding moved to pledge council's support to the City of Columbus' commitment to achieving pay equity for the Columbus region. Council Member Briscoe seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to pass the motion.

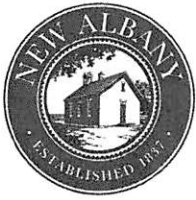
- B. Clerk of Council: No report.
- C. Finance Director: Finance Director Bethany Staats told council that 92% of the year had passed as of the November report. The city had spent about 73% of its budget and the General Fund was looking healthy. The city was at 98% of collections of income tax funds per the revised budget. She estimated that the city would add at least \$1 million to the General Fund. The city was about \$1 million ahead of what it had received at the same time in 2018.
- D. City Manager: City Manager Joseph Stefanov told council he would have a written report ready by the end of that week.
- E. City Attorney: Law Director Mitch Banchefsky reported that he received the Certificate of Result of Election on the charter vote. There were 1,077 total votes on the charter issue. 132 were negative. 945 were affirmative.

### POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chris Hermann, Principal at MKSK, apologized for being late. He told council it was an honor and privilege to work with them, with the staff, and with the community. Mayor Spalding returned the thanks and said he looked forward to seeing the results of the Strategic Plan update.

### POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:





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Council Member Brisk told council that the Dreidel Drop would go forward on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2 pm at the high school stadium. The event would last around 1 hour. There would be crafts for kids. A helicopter would fly by with candy and dreidels. Council was all invited and Council Member Brisk asked them to let her know if they would be attending.

Council Member Fellows asked and Public Information Officer Scott McAfee replied that the new logo would be rolling out next year, with timelines for signage and vehicles. Most of the changes would take place in the first half of 2020. Some of the cars could take longer. Staff had new Power Point slides which Development had already started using and that had been shared with the council clerk. City Manager Stefanov stated that most of the cars were wrapped, not painted, making it easier to change the graphic. They would start with the new cars and then work their way through the rest of the city's fleet. A few vehicles had a watermark appearance which might be preserved. Council Member Fellows asked and Police Chief Greg Jones answered a cruiser usually was pulled off the street for a day or two to update the wrap, only the doors needed updating. SUVs may get changes to the tailgate. Some of the city's trucks were more difficult because of the many different body styles and sizes. Ideally, the gold line on the bottom of the doors would stay, if the body-style allowed for it. It should be easy to update the signs into the city. The goal would be to transition those signs by early summer.

Council Member Shull told council that a citizen expressed concern to him about the safety of the steps in front of the Keswick development. Now that the trees were lit for the holidays, it was easy to see the steps. When the lights came down, he suggested separate step lighting for that city property. City Manager Stefanov responded that Public Service Director Mark Nemec was working with the Keswick Home Owners Association and The New Albany Company to come up with a lighting solutions. They were looking at bollards, as other solutions seemed to have too many issues. Council Member Durik reported that the wiring for lighting had already gone in. Council discussed the inconsistent power to the tree lights. The tree lights would remain through January.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Spalding moved that council go into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) to consider appointment, employment, and compensation of a public employee or official. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to go into executive session at 7:50 pm.

Council Member Briscoe moved that council come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with seven yes votes come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council resumed the regular meeting at 8:44 pm.

### **RESOLUTION R-57-2019**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AMEND, RENEW, AND EXECUTE THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY MANAGER FOR 2020.





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Council Member Fellows read a summary of changes to the community since City Manager Joseph Stefanov started with the city in 2000. Changes included the completion of Village Hall, a new Public Service building, a new Police Station, much more infrastructure, expansion of the city limits, growth of the population, a bigger budget and expanded staff, and greatly increased commercial development. Council Member Fellows described how City Manager Stefanov helped bring these things to life through his stewardship, fiscal responsibility, and discipline.

Council Member Fellows told City Manager Stefanov that council was offering a 2.75% increase in salary, commensurate with the staff raise, and a \$15,000 bonus. Mayor Spalding thanked City Manager Stefanov for the ways they benefitted from his leadership every day.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Fellows moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with seven yes votes to approve Resolution R-57-2019.

### OTHER BUSINESS:

NONE.

### ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Shull seconded to adjourn the December 17, 2019 regular council meeting at 8:51 pm.

ATTEST:

Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council

Sloan Spalding, Mayor

Date