



## Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

January 3, 2023

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of January 3, 2022 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 Benjamin Albrecht, Finance Director Bethany Staats, Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly, Police Chief Greg Jones, Planning Manager Steve Mayer, Public Service Director Mike Barker, Economic Development Specialist Sara Ziegler, Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason, and Public Information Officer Josh Poland.

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 Marlene Brisk	P
CM Michael Durik	A
CM Chip Fellows	P
CM Kasey Kist	P
CM Matt Shull	P
CM Andrea Wiltrout	P

Mayor Spalding moved to excuse Council Member Durik from the council meeting due to travel. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to excuse Council Member Durik from the meeting.

### **ACTION ON MINUTES:**

Council adopted the 12/6/2022 regular meeting minutes by consensus.

Council adopted the 12/27/2022 special meeting minutes by consensus.

### **ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

NONE

### **HEARING OF VISITORS:**

#### **Oaths of Office:**

Officer Collin Peters – Police Chief Jones introduced Officer Peters as having joined the New Albany Police Department (NAPD) in 2021 and graduated from the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy in July of 2022. He went through the Field Training Officer Program. He was from Wisconsin. He was a The Ohio State University graduate and a member of the OSU Hockey Team. Mayor Spalding swore him in. Officer Peters mother, Jill Peters, pinned on his badge.

Officer Drew Duncan – Chief Jones introduced Officer Duncan as being hired in 2021 with Officer Peters. He graduated from the Ohio State Patrol Academy in July of 2022. He went through the Field

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Training Officer Program. He graduated from Centerburg Marion Technical College. Mayor Spalding swore him in. Officer Duncan's grandfather, Larry Duncan, pinned on his badge.

Officer Kaleb Goad - Chief Jones introduced Officer Goad as being hired in 2021. He graduated from the Ohio State Patrol Academy in July of 2022. He had been through the Field Training Officer Program. Officer Goad was a member of the Coast Guard for 6 years, serving in Michigan and Alaska. He was from Marysville and had worked as a corrections officer. Mayor Spalding swore him in. Officer Goad's wife, Brittany Goad, pinned on his badge.

Officer Sara Vinca – Chief Jones introduced Officer Vinca as being and Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) trooper prior to being hired by New Albany. She joined the OSHP in 2019, had earned 2 criminal patrol awards, was a state leader in OVI arrests, served as a self-defense instructor, and was a member of the mobile field force. Officer Vinca was currently in the Field Training Officer Program. Mayor Spalding swore her in. Officer Vinca's friend, Emily Cook, pinned on her badge.

Mayor Spalding thanked the families and friends for attending and supporting the officers. Law enforcement was a hard job. Council and the community appreciated their service.

Joe Quigley, 4025 Chelsea Green West, stated his younger brother was 30-year police veteran. He thanked the officers and was glad people were still signing up.

Mr. Quigley observed that he spoke at December council meeting about the group of parents troubled by New Albany Plain Local Schools (NAPLS) policies which put trans teenagers at greater risk. 42% LGBTQ teens contemplated suicide. Only 1 in 3 had homes that affirmed them. If LGBTQ teens had access to safe space – school, hobby, sport, club – they reported fewer attempts. They wanted to create safe spaces for all youth because they wanted them to grow up to become valued members of the community. He became involved because his oldest son came out as trans. Zach was the first trans person Mr. Quigley had met.

Mr. Quigley related that Council Member Fellows posted a meme on Facebook that was hurtful to trans families a few hours before Mr. Quigley last addressed council. When they saw something like that publicly posted, they worried about their children and what that person was saying privately. Mr. Quigley stated that the council member owed apologies to many. Mr. Quigley was not asking for resignation. He imagined Council Member Fellows did not know many transgendered people. Mr. Quigley had learned a lot about his son and himself over the last few years. He did not want to cast Council Member Fellows out, he wanted to invite him in. He challenged Council Member Fellows to use his crises as an opportunity to learn and understand. Trans people were not an anonymous group to be made fun of. They were your neighbors, neighbor's children, and constituents. Mr. Quigley offered the first book he read after Zach came out. It helped him understand what Zach went through, and continued to go through. He included his contact information in the book. He invited Council Member Fellows to read it and reach out to him to discuss it. Some good could come out of the mistake and make for a better result for the council member and the community. Mr. Quigley handed the book Helping Your Transgender Teen to the council clerk.

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Council Member Fellows stated that he appreciated Mr. Quigley's comments. He also had a daughter who used the pronoun: "they." He had been close to the gay community a lot of his life. His college roommate came out as gay while rooming together. He had gay friends, worked for a gay doctor while in college. He had no animosity towards anyone gay or trans. Council Member Fellows regretted, to city staff and council, the attention this had brought to them. He stated that the post was his - not council's and not the city's.

Council Member Fellows read a statement - summarized as follows.

Society was divided on many social issues that deserved spirited and respectful debate. He recognized, for some, that his sharing of a satirical meme may not have been the best way to participate in this debate. He did not check his first amendment rights at the door because he was an elected official. He would continue, from time to time, to share his views, or views of others, on issues that impacted society and community, to contribute to a free and open public debate. He gave examples of other recent memes he shared – including 2 courageous American women who made a remarkable lasting impact on society. Disagreeing on issues was okay. There was no question in his mind that society's diversity made it stronger. It was the open acceptance of diversity of thoughts and ideas that allowed us to grow and become more understanding of one another. Council Member Fellows stated he welcomed Mr. Quigley's invitation. Council Member Fellows would be happy to meet with anyone to discuss this or any range of issues. People would likely find he and they had more in common than not, and come away more accepting for taking the time to listen and learn from one another.

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

PLANNING COMMISSION: No meeting.

PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD: No meeting.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: No meeting.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD: Council Member Kist stated that the SAB heard from Toby Thunberg, Vice President and General Manager at Axium Packaging, regarding the Vertex recycling facility. It was nearing completion and could be up and running in March. They were excited to have a facility located here. Recyclable material would be sourced in New Albany and beyond. Council Member Kist would let council know about a planned field trip. The facility was interactive and tour-friendly. Mr. Thunberg could give a short presentation to council. Chief Communications Officer Scott McAfee reviewed the resident survey results with the SAB. The SAB updated their plans.

IDEA IMPLEMENTATION PANEL: No meeting.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

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PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: No meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION:**

NONE

**SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:**

NONE

**INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:**

**ORDINANCE O-01-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE EXPEDITED TYPE 1 ANNEXATION OF 61.26+/- ACRES FROM JERSEY TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY TO THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY.

City Manager Stefanov stated this annexation was 1 in a series of annexations which the city started preparing for about a year ago. This was an Expedited Type I annexation. The property was covered by an 2015 annexation agreement with the township which spanned a larger area. The city had entered into road maintenance agreements in January of 2022 as required by Licking County. The landowner had filed a petition and the 60-day waiting period had been met.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.

**ORDINANCE O-02-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE EXPEDITED TYPE 1 ANNEXATION OF 6.15+/- ACRES FROM JERSEY TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY TO THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY

City Manager Stefanov stated the city entered into an annexation agreement covering this property in 2022. The landowner had filed petition with the Licking County Commissioners and the 60-day waiting period had been met. Council could take action at the next meeting.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.

**ORDINANCE O-03-2023**

AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE EXPEDITED TYPE 1 ANNEXATION OF 13.87+/- ACRES FROM JERSEY TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY TO THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY

City Manager Stefanov stated this was another Expedited Type I annexation. All of the requirements had been met with the annexation agreement and road maintenance agreement. Council could take action at the next meeting.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.



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### **ORDINANCE O-04-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE EXPEDITED TYPE 1 ANNEXATION OF 312.86+/- ACRES FROM JERSEY TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY TO THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY

City Manager Stefanov stated that the 60-day waiting period had been met. The related annexation agreement and road maintenance agreement were authorized in January of 2022. Council could take action at the next meeting.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.

### **ORDINANCE O-05-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE EXPEDITED TYPE 1 ANNEXATION OF 15.03+/- ACRES FROM JERSEY TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY TO THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY

City Manager Stefanov stated that, as with the other annexation ordinances, the 60-day waiting period had been met. All of the necessary agreements had been entered into between the township and county. Council could take action at the next meeting.

Mayor Spalding noted that the land that was being proposed for annexation under these many ordinances was within the boundaries that were disclosed by the city during the Intel announcement. This wasn't new ground, it was just now going through the process of annexation.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.

### **ORDINANCE O-06-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP TO REZONE 403+/- ACRES OF LAND GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF GREEN CHAPEL ROAD, WEST OF MINK STREET, EAST OF BEECH ROAD AND NORTH OF JUG STREET FROM AGRICULTURAL (AG) TO TECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURING DISTRICT (TMD) AS REQUESTED BY MBJ HOLDINGS LLC, C/O AARON UNDERHILL.

Planning Manager Steve Mayer stated this was a rezoning for 4 of the 5 annexations which were just presented to council. The properties were being rezoned to the Technology Manufacturing District (TMD) and were contiguous to existing TMD-zoned properties. The TMD district allowed for a variety of uses from the city's limited industrial district and added uses, like solar panels, gas storage, and water treatment facilities. The TMD established more restrictive setbacks, mounding, and landscaping requirements than nearby L-GE zoning districts. When the city updated its strategic plan and the first TMD zoning was in place, the city conducted traffic modeling with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). All of the traffic modeling recommendations were already in the city's capital improvement projects. The TMD included a Landscape Design Standards plan which included street trees, mounding, stormwater basins, and

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parking lot screening to help create a consistent streetscape throughout the district. This proposal matched the land use recommendations found in the city's Engage New Albany strategic plan. The Planning Commission (PC) reviewed and recommended approval at the December meeting.

Council Member Shull noted that the PC talked about 403 acres not technically meeting 500 acres needed, but, because the individual parcels were adjacent to the property already zoned TMD, they qualified for the zoning.

Mayor Spalding stated that the city was meticulous with zoning standards, and many features of the TMD zoning text were more restrictive for the developer than the city's traditional zoning for the business park. Planning Manager Mayer agreed.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.

### **ORDINANCE O-07-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 159 "RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS" OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES AS REQUESTED BY THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY.

Council Clerk Jennifer Mason stated that she and Deputy Clerk Christina Madriguera met with Community Development staff who support many of the city's boards and commissions, Law Director Albrecht, and Council Member Kist to review the standard board and commission rules. The result was the recommendations in this legislation. The proposed language would update the rules to reflect current practices. The city charter referred to the standard rules in Article X, Section 10.01 (B)(6) which stated that any board that didn't adopt its own rules would follow the standard rules. The rules were codified in Chapter 159. Some changes were just updating the designations, for example from "village" to "city." The Public Service Department was updated to the Public Service Complex. Organizational meetings could be held any time between January and June so that a board wasn't gathering just to organize with no other matters to attend to. There was language requiring an annual review of the attendance policy at the organizational meeting. Meeting schedules would be posted in the same locations as specified in council rules. Absences would be counted in a 12-month period, also matching council rules. There was language allowing for how agendas were distributed, since many were now being sent out electronically. A reference to strict rules of procedure was removed. There was more flexibility on the agenda format. A requirement for an applicant to follow up a request to table a matter in writing 7 days after the hearing was removed as the request was already on the record.

Council Member Shull asked and Law Director Albrecht replied that the current rules said that the strict rules of evidence shall not apply. Law Director Albrecht said he had yet to see any rules of evidence apply, so he was recommending taking out reference to the rules of evidence altogether and just say that the procedure would be established to provide for a fair hearing. That way, each board or commission would have the opportunity to set their own procedures to give the applicant a fair opportunity when presenting their case.

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Council Member Wilttrout asked and Clerk Mason responded that the only development boards that had their own bylaws were the Community Improvement Corporation and the Rocky Fork Blacklick Accord.

Council Member Wilttrout asked and Law Director Albrecht answered that, at Planning Commission (PC) and he believed other development boards, there was a formal motion to accept all the documents and records submitted to it. There was a procedure in place to make sure that whatever was presented for their consideration was on the record. Witnesses were sworn in at the start of every meeting.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.

**ORDINANCE O-08-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO RENEW THE APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT FOR 60 SINGLE FAMILY LOTS ON 38.09+/- ACRES AND ACCEPT RESERVES “A”, “B”, “C” AND “D” FOR THE WOODHAVEN SUBDIVISION LOCATED AT 7555 BEVELHYMER ROAD AND 7325 WALNUT STREET AS REQUESTED BY BOB WEBB GROUP C/O BRANDON BELLI.

Planning Manager Steve Mayer stated that the city’s subdivision regulations stated that if a plat was not recorded within 1 year of its approval by city council, it would become void. The plat for this subdivision was approved in November of 2021. It was not recorded. It was back before council for renewal. This was the same plat as council approved in 2021, with the exception of some utility easements that were tweaked in the engineering process. This plat contained the same number of lots, density, parkland, and street grid as previously approved. It was still in compliance with the Final Development Plan and the Planning Commission’s previous approval last year.

Council Member Fellows asked and Brandon Belli, Chief Operations Officer for Bob Webb Group, answered that they did not acquire the house to the northwest of their property. They tried, but the folks that sold them the property kept it. Someone talked about tearing the home down and building a new one there. It was not part of the Woodhaven development.

Council Member Shull suggested that the streets Woodhaven Loop and Woodhaven Drive be given less similar names - perhaps changing 1 of them. He noted the confusion similar names had caused in other developments. Council Member Fellows agreed. Mr. Belli said there was an opportunity to rename the streets and he was okay with that.

Council Member Kist asked and Mr. Belli answered that they were working on punchout items with the city. They hoped to have the models started 30-45 days. There would be 2 model homes, 1 was a 55+ generational home and the other was a single-family unit.

Council Member Kist asked and City Manager Stefanov confirmed that the widening of Bevelhymer Road terminated at the southern portion of the Woodhaven development for now, and there were plans to continue that at some point in the future. City Manager Stefanov could not recall if there was any unincorporated area left. If there was, the city could work out something with township. The biggest

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challenge would be the availability of right-of-way. Portions of Bevelhymer Road and Walnut Street would have leisure path installed. Council Member Fellows recommended finishing the Bevelhymer Road widening before the recreational leagues started up.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.

**ORDINANCE O-09-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO DETERMINE THE ANNUAL COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR, COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND ADDITIONAL SALARY FOR THE MAYOR, PRESIDENT PRO TEM, OR DESIGNATED COUNCIL MEMBER PRESIDING OVER MAYOR'S COURT

Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason stated this was the annual ordinance to consider council's compensation per Section 4.04 of the city's charter. This ordinance would increase council's salary by 5%, the same cost of living increase that city staff received. The adjusted salary would be effective January 1, 2023. These amounts were appropriated in the 2023 budget.

Council Member Shull noted that New Albany was not currently hosting mayor's court. The City of Gahanna's court was hosting New Albany's cases and this was still in a trial period. In Section 1 of the ordinance, it said that the mayor's court extra salary would not be paid unless a council member was regularly scheduled to preside in mayor's court, averaging 2 court sessions per month. Mayor Spalding concurred.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the January 17, 2023 council meeting.

**READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION R-01-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION TO PLACE FARMLAND LOCATED IN THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, JERSEY TOWNSHIP, AND LICKING COUNTY IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT FOR REAL ESTATE TAXATION PURPOSES PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE 929

City Manager Stefanov stated this resolution was being done at the property owner's request. Prior to an annexation, the property owner may have the property in a CAUV designation, which deferred a higher tax liability rate on property being used for agricultural purposes. When that was property annexed, Licking County required legislation from the municipality authorizing the CAUV tax status. If development occurred, the higher tax would be due from the property owner.

Mayor Spalding asked and City Manager Stefanov answered that the property was located on the west side of Beech Road - 1 was at the northwest corner of Ganton Parkway and Beech Road, and the other was further west, on the south side of Ganton Parkway. As long as the ground was being used for agricultural purposes, whether cattle or crops, the property owner could continue to maintain that tax definition.



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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 resolution. Council Member Wilttrout seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-01-2023.

**RESOLUTION R-02-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO APPROPRIATE PROPERTY AND EASEMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC PURPOSE OF MAKING, REPAIRING, IMPROVING OR CONSTRUCTING MINK STREET AS EXTENDED TO JOIN WITH INTERSECTING ROADS WHICH ARE AND SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WITHOUT CHARGE.

Engineering Manager Ryan Ohly stated this resolution declared the intent to appropriate the fee simple interest and easements to certain properties along the Mink Street corridor. This segment of Mink Street was a local unimproved roadway between Green Chapel Road and Worthington Road. Portions of the roadway were recently annexed to the centerline and were contiguous to the 900 +/- acre Intel campus. The planned roadway improvements would accommodate improved traffic flow in the area.

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 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-02-2023.

**RESOLUTION R-03-2023**

A RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO APPROPRIATE PROPERTY AND EASEMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC PURPOSE OF MAKING, REPAIRING, IMPROVING, OR CONSTRUCTING GREEN CHAPEL ROAD NW AS EXTENDED TO JOIN WITH INTERSECTING ROADS WHICH ARE AND SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WITHOUT CHARGE

Engineering Manager Ryan Ohly stated this resolution declared the intent to appropriate the fee simple interest and easements to certain properties along the Green Chapel Road corridor. This segment of Green Chapel was a local unimproved roadway generally between Clover Valley Road and Mink Street. The roadway was recently annexed to the centerline and was contiguous to the 900 +/- acre Intel campus. The planned roadway improvements would accommodate improved traffic flow in the area.

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 Fellows seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-03-2023.

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**RESOLUTION R-04-2023**

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO APPROPRIATE PROPERTY AND EASEMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC PURPOSE OF MAKING, REPAIRING, IMPROVING, OR CONSTRUCTING CLOVER VALLEY ROAD NW AS EXTENDED TO JOIN WITH AND EXTEND TO INTERSECTING ROADS WHICH ARE AND SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WITHOUT CHARGE

Engineering Manager Ryan Ohly stated this resolution declared the intent to appropriate the fee simple interest and easements to certain properties along the Clover Valley Road corridor. This segment of Clover Valley was a local unimproved roadway generally between Jug Street Road and Green Chapel Road. The planned roadway would improve traffic flow in the area. The roadway was contiguous to the 900 +/- acre Intel campus.

Mayor Spalding asked and Manager Ohly answered that the city submitted the bid request to the newspaper that day and the ad would run the following week. The city planned to open bids for the road work in February.

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 resolution. Council Member Wilttrout seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-04-2023

**RESOLUTION R-05-2023**

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

Director Staats stated the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) required a resolution each year to confirm the existence of sick and/or vacation leave conversion plans. OPERS would review the city's personnel policies in the codified ordinances and determine whether or not the converted time was pensionable. The city had traditionally permitted the conversion of a limited amount of sick leave. The code stated that each full-time non-union employee could receive a cash payment for a portion of unused accrued sick-leave hours provided they were entitled to those benefits during all of the year's 26 pay periods. The adoption of Ordinance O-15-2022 allowed full-time employees and officials to receive a payout for up to 80 hours of vacation leave provided they carried over a balance of at least 480 hours as of December 1.

Mayor Spalding asked and Director Staats confirmed that, before O-15-2022, the city didn't have provisions for a vacation leave cash-out. Now, the vacation cash-out was available and pensionable in the fiscal year.

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

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Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Fellows seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-05-2023.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- A. Safety Committee: No report.
- B. Public Utilities: No report.
- C. Service and Public Facilities Committee: No report.
- D. Planning and Economic Development Committee: No report.
- E. Administration Committee: No report.
- F. 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: Mayor Spalding asked and City Manager Stefanov answered that there was a follow-up meeting with further questions related to a recent township survey.

Public Information Office Josh Poland reported attending the Wreaths Across America campaign on December 17 at Maplewood Cemetery. There were more than 50 volunteers present to place over 500 wreaths on veteran graves. Everyone was appreciative of the fact that the city and township came together to make that possible. The veteran wreaths were purchased in part by the city, township, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Tri-Community Post 4719, and the event was organized by Boy Scout Troup 450.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:**

- A. Mayor: Mayor Spalding applauded the New Albany Public Service Department for the large leaf pick-up followed by a challenging snow event. The trucks were out 24/7 to plow and treat. The team did a great job. Council Member Kist asked and Director Barker answered that the 3 ½ day response counted as 1 snow event.

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Mayor Spalding recalled the Reverse Aesthetics ribbon cutting event on Jan 19 at 6:30 which we would miss due to the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Washington, DC. Council discussed the resident owners and possible attendance.

- B. Clerk of Council: Clerk Mason encouraged council members to complete their annual Ohio Ethics Commission financial disclosure forms and to send her the receipts.
- C. Finance Director: Director Staats reported her department was working hard to close the 2022 books and open the 2023 books.
- D. City Manager: City Manager Stefanov reported that the city was hoping to close on the 72 acres at Bevelhymer Road and Walnut Street by Friday. Following the closing, the city could work through agreements with other public entities. City Manager Stefanov recalled the Franklin County Public Health contract resolution from the December 13 council meeting and updated council that there were no substantive changes, only minor wordsmithing. Law Director Albrecht reviewed the final draft and City Manager Stefanov signed the contract. He told council that Chief Communications Officer and Marketing Director Scott McAfee was approaching retirement after 17 years with New Albany and that reception was being planned.
- E. City Attorney: No report.

### **POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:**

NONE

### **POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:**

Mayor Spalding welcomed Council Member Brisk back, and offered further support after the time she and her family had been through. Council was happy to have her back and looked forward to a productive 2023.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

NONE

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Kist seconded to adjourn the January 3, 2022 regular council meeting at 7:53 pm.

ATTEST:

  
Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council

  
Sloan Spalding, Mayor

  
Date