



Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

March 19, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of March 19, 2024 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, Development Director Jennifer Chrysler, City Engineer Kylor Johnson, Human Resource Officer Lindsay Rasey, Communications & Marketing Specialist Katie Allen, and Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason.

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	A
CM Kasey Kist	P
CM Matt Shull	P
CM Andrea Wiltout	P

Clerk Mason reported that Council Members Durik and Fellows could not attend due to travel and requested to be excused. Mayor Spalding moved to excuse Council Members Durik and Fellows from the council meeting. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to excuse Council Members Durik and Fellows from the council meeting.

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Council adopted the 3/5/24 meeting minutes by consensus.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

NONE

HEARING OF VISITORS:

NONE

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION: Council Member Wiltout reported that the PC approved a rezoning and conditional use application to allow Keim Lumber to set up their showroom and warehouse in the Business Park at 2278 Beech Road.

PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD: No report.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD: No meeting.

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BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: No meeting.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD: Council Member Kist reported that the SAB heard and update from the food compost subcommittee. That subcommittee reported that New Albany Plain Local School District met with EarthPeak Organics regarding putting compostable goods in the school’s cafeterias and discussed a potential pilot for curb-side composting. The SAB discussed the possibility of a New Albany business sustainability award. Council Member Kist stated that many New Albany businesses did good things around sustainability. An award would advertise this and encourage competition for more. The SAB heard from The Worthington Partnership Green Team which was similar to New Albany’s SAB. Some of their programs overlapped with New Albany, but others were new ideas. The SAB heard from Karen Seidel, SWACO Programs Administrator. Ms. Seidel stated 76% of waste was recyclable or compostable. The local landfill had less than 40 years left. SWACO opened a recycling convenience center for hard to recycle materials in Grove City. The center was open daily and accepted electronics and hazardous waste. The SAB heard their first presentation from the student sustainability grant recipients. Team Noel, two 8th Graders talked about their compost education program. They had increased sign-ups by 55 and were continuing work over the summer. They were shooting for over 100 new members. The SAB would send out a survey for feedback and to gauge interest in other programs, like curbside composting. Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly stated the survey would be featured that Thursday in the Connects e-newsletter and would be mailed out to compost subscription members. Earth Day to Arbor Day would take place the last weekend in April. The e-waste and hazardous waste drive was scheduled for April 27.

IDEA IMPLEMENTATION PANEL: Council Member Wiltrout reported on the successful EmpowerHER event. Approximately 130 were in attendance. She praised staff, particularly Administrative Services Director Joly and Community Programming Director Brooks. Council watched the promotional video prepared by the city’s communications department. Mayor Spalding appreciated the energy and hosts. Council Member Brisk thanked staff, many of whom showed up and stayed late to help with tear down. She observed that the IDEA Panel was putting on events for the first time, giving it a shot, and selling out every event.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: No meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION:

NONE

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE O-08-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTERS 1111.05, 1111.07, and 1113.05 OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO’S CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO UPDATE PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS AS REQUESTED BY THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY.

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Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason stated this ordinance was drafted because of a change in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 731.21 in October of 2023, which made a change to city code possible. Under the old state code, newspaper publication of a succinct summary of certain municipal actions, notices, and reports was required. Under the new version of the state law, the state authorized publication of a succinct summary of certain municipal actions, notices, and reports by selecting 1 or more of the 3 methods: (1) in a newspaper of general circulation, (2) the state’s public notice website, or (3) the municipal corporation’s website and social media account.

Currently, 3 New Albany Codified Ordinances sections (in the title) required newspaper publication of certain council, planning commission, and board of zoning appeals public hearings related to amending the zoning map, zoning appeals, and zoning variances. The city primarily used the Daily Reporter and, rarely, but expensively, the Columbus Dispatch. Under the new proposed New Albany code, the city planned to utilize self-publication. This would not change the other notification provisions of city code. Staff would continue to send out neighbor notice letters to property owners within 200 feet and put up signs at least 10 days ahead where a rezoning was pending. The proposed city code changes would bring the city in line with ORC. The new options could save money, make deadlines easier to meet, and make the published information easier for residents and the public to access. These code changes were workshopped with staff and the law director. Other municipalities, Dublin, Powell, and Upper Arlington, allowed for website publishing in their code.

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 ordinance. Council Member Wiltout seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to approve Ordinance O-08-2024.

ORDINANCE O-10-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE FINAL PLAT FOR 42 AGE RESTRICTED SINGLE-FAMILY LOTS ON 9.001 +/- ACRES AND ACCEPT RESERVES “H” AND “I” FOR PHASE 5 OF THE “NOTTINGHAM TRACE” SUBDIVISION GENERALLY LOCATED WEST OF STATE ROUTE 605, EAST OF SCHLEPPI ROAD, AND SOUTH OF WALNUT STREET, AS REQUESTED BY PULTE HOMES.

Planning Manager Stephen Mayer stated this legislation would approve the Final Plat for Nottingham Trace phase 5 of 6. As required, the developer had submitted the 55+ age-restriction deed which would be recorded with the plat. The plat accepted 2 reserves dedicated to the city per the plan. The reserves would be maintained in perpetuity by the homeowners’ association. This Final Plat conformed with the approved Final Development Plan and met the city’s subdivision regulations. The Planning Commission recommended approval in December of 2023.

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 Shull moved to adopt the ordinance. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to approve Ordinance O-10-2024.

ORDINANCE O-11-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE FINAL PLAT FOR 44 AGE RESTRICTED SINGLE-FAMILY LOTS ON 9.430 +/- ACRES AND ACCEPT RESERVES “J” AND “K” FOR PHASE 6 OF THE “NOTTINGHAM TRACE” SUBDIVISION GENERALLY LOCATED WEST OF STATE ROUTE 605, EAST OF SCHLEPPI ROAD, AND SOUTH OF WALNUT STREET, AS REQUESTED BY PULTE HOMES.

Planning Manager Stephen Mayer stated this was for Nottingham Trace phase 6, the final phase of the subdivision. The developer submitted the required age-restriction documentation which would be recorded with the plat with the county. This plat contained 2 reserves which would owned by city and maintained by homeowners’ association in perpetuity. The plat conformed with the approved Final Development Plan and provided all the required open space and street connections. The Planning Commission recommended approval in December of 2023.

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 ordinance. Council Member Wilttrout seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to approve Ordinance O-11-2024.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

NONE

READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS:

NONE

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

NONE

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:

- A. Council Representative to MORPC: MORPC representatives attended the National Conference of Regional Planning Commissions in Washington, DC. They participated in a nationwide panel on housing. They also participated in a passenger rail field trip. They were preparing a memorandum of understanding, along with Ft. Wayne and Pittsburg, and would be setting up an advisory committee to work through the next phase of the federal funding process. MORPC representatives were in Florida looking at models for public rail, including Amtrak and Brightline. MORPC announced a 20% tuition discount for members at Franklin University for associate and bachelor’s degrees, plus financial assistance for master’s degrees. MORPCs shared the results of the Leaders Listen survey. MORPC updated the 2024-2050

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Columbus Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). They received 1,300 projects, many for pedestrian- and bike-related infrastructure. Based on the available funding, MORPC believed they could advance 600 projects with around \$35 billion in total costs. MORPC would adopt the MTP in May 2024.

- B. Council Representative to Joint Parks and Recreation: Council Member Shull reported that the city's pickleball courts were open for the season. This year, there would be organized classes and clinics as seen on the New Albany Parks and Recreation website. 4 courts maximum would be used for programs, generally avoiding peak demand times. The city and Council Member Shull had received multiple requests to rent the courts out for fundraisers. Those requests were being deferred until the city had a chance to study this option. The first pickleball tournament was coming on July 20. Council Member Shull was working with the city manager and staff on communications and programing. They were trying to keep it simple, seeing how the event would go, and making adjustments in the fall. Council Member Shull talked about other pickleball facilities locating in central Ohio. He had heard Columbus was now in the top 5 cities for pickleball.

Mayor Spalding asked who at the city worked on things like food trucks. Director Joly described how food trucks had been arranged and said that calls could be forwarded to Community Program Director Abbey Brooks.

- C. Council Representative to New Albany-Plain Local Schools: Council Member Kist reported that the Ohio School Board Association was at the NAPLS board meeting. They honored Debbie Kalinosky and John McClelland for 10+ years of service. They talked about college and career pathways, including enlistment and work force. They appreciated their partnership with Innovate New Albany. They touched on job and career fairs and technical schools. NAPLS had a donor offering to build a tennis scoreboard for \$71,000 via the New Albany Community Foundation. It would be constructed later in the spring. The board promoted High School Principal Kraemer to Assist Superintendent of Business and Operations. The Finance Committee grew to 7 members due to many applications.
- D. Council Representative to Plain Township: Council Member Shull read Council Member Durik's notes from the recent township meeting. The township set daily pool rates. They would be offering a key fob as an ID for residents, enabling them to get the lower entry rate. Without the fob, a person would pay the regular, non-resident rate. There would be no reduced pricing after 4 pm. Steiner & Associates was allowing the fire department to use the buildings along SR 605 for a fire training burn. The building owner was removing asbestos and paying for the burn permits. Timing was not yet determined. The township approached New Albany Public Service Director Mike Barker about taking over township snow removal. Director Barker declined. Township plowing routes extended all the way to Hoover Dam. City Manager Stefanov stated that the city and township had occasionally discussed this over the years. He had a meeting scheduled with Trustee Ben Collins would discuss this item further.

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REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

- A. Mayor: Mayor Spalding reported that COTA hired their new Chief Executive Officer Monica Tellez-Fowler. COTA was seeking a substantial sales tax increase for Franklin County to pay for the LinkUs transportation program.
- B. Clerk of Council: Clerk Mason reported that the Sustainability Advisory Board had an opening and she would draft the advertisement and give it to the communications office to post. Other boards will be coming up for mid-year renewals, including the Sustainability Advisory Board and New Albany East Community Authority. Clerk Mason noted that the IDEA Implementation Panel terms would all be coming up June 30, 2024 and staff was looking to council for direction.
- C. Finance Director: No report.
- D. City Manager: No report
- E. City Attorney: No report.

POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE

POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:

Police Chief Greg Jones reported that the Hidden in Plain Sight event was well attended. It was put on with opioid settlement funds. This was the second year for the event.

Council Member Kist reported that he, City Manager Stefanov, Council Member Wilttrout, and some city staff met with the folks at Thrive Communities last week. The Thrive Communities project was not inside New Albany corporation limits, but had been pretty amenable and keeping the city in the loop with the development. He hoped to keep lines of communication open and would have more to share in the following weeks as they finalized the project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Spalding moved that council go into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(1) for discussion regarding appointment, employment, and compensation of a public employee and/or official, and pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(4) for preparing for or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to go into executive session at 7:09 pm. Council anticipated taking action after.

Council Member Shull moved that council come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes come out of executive session and



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resume the regular meeting at 7:33 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Board appointment

Council Member Kist stated council received great applications for the opening on Rock Fork Blacklick Accord. He moved to appoint Scott Siebenaler to the Rocky Fork Blacklick Accord Implementation Panel to complete the unexpired term ending 6/30/2025. Council Member Wiltout seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to appoint Scott Siebenaler to the RFBA for the term specified.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Kist seconded to adjourn the March 19, 2024 regular council meeting at 7:35 pm.

ATTEST:


Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council


Sloan Spalding, Mayor


Date