



Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

September 3, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of September 3, 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, City Engineer Kylor Johnson, Public Service Director Mike Barker, Public Services Engineer Justin Wilkinson, Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler, Economic Development Specialist I Alex Klosterman, Chief Marketing Officer Josh Poland, and Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason.

ROLL CALL:

The following Mayor/Council Members answered Roll Call:

Mayor Sloan Spalding	P
CM Marlene Brisk	A
CM Michael Durik	P
CM Chip Fellows	P
CM Kasey Kist	P
CM Matt Shull	P
CM Andrea Wilttrout	A

Clerk Mason reported that Council Member Brisk could not attend due to travel and Council Member Wilttrout could not attend due to a family emergency, and both requested to be excused. Mayor Spalding moved to excuse Council Members Brisk and Wilttrout from the council meeting. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to excuse Council Members Brisk and Wilttrout from the council meeting.

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Clerk Mason reported receiving 2 non-substantive corrections from staff which were fixed on the original. Council adopted the August 20, 2024 meeting minutes by consensus.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Clerk Mason reported that, with Council Members Brisk and Wilttrout out, the executive session to consider the IDEA applications could be postponed to the October 1 regular council meeting. City Manager Stefanov confirmed he did not need an executive session either. Mayor Spalding moved to strike the executive session, item 17, from the agenda. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to strike the executive session from the agenda.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Recognition of Officer Jake Steinbrueck as HSI Division 5 Task Force Officer of the Year – Mayor Spalding introduced Officer Steinbrueck who was receiving recognition for his work on child and human trafficking. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agent Matthew Stenz, described the HSI Division work which they couldn't do without their community partnerships. They investigated cyber and financial crimes, in addition to trafficking. Division 5 had hundreds of officers covering all of Michigan and Ohio. Their relationship with the New Albany Police Department (NAPD) task force officers was important. Each year, HSI selected 1 officer

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from each state to recognize as the best. This year, it was unanimously Officer Steinbrueck for his work on cybercrimes, particularly those against children. Because of Officer Steinbrueck's work, expertise, partnership, and commitment, citizens of Ohio and the country were protected. Agent Stentz talked about the significance of the piston trophy wherein the officer of the year was the piston that kept the engine going.

Mayor Spalding applauded Officer Steinbrueck for protecting young people who didn't have an advocate in their neighborhood to protect them. He further thanked Officer Steinbrueck's family. This was tough work and he knew Officer Steinbrueck had to travel long distances at time to do this job. Council Member Durik thanked Officer Steinbrueck for outstanding effort, taking care of those who couldn't take care of themselves. This award said a lot about him and the work he did every day. Council greatly appreciated all of the officers.

Chief Jones stated the NAPD was very proud of Officer Steinbrueck. He arrived with technological skills many didn't have. He volunteered for the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) course and his work grew from there. He had been a real force in New Albany and beyond for ICAC investigations.

Officer Steinbrueck thanked his wife, HSI, and New Albany for the support. Everyone had supported him, helped get the cases done.

Proclamation Declaring September as Hunger Action Month – Mayor Spalding stated the city had great community partners who helped with issues of food insecurity for the residents, the school district, and surrounding areas. Mayor Spalding read the proclamation aloud. Angie Ojeda-Kreiman, New Albany Food Pantry ELL Program Coordinator and, Shawn Duffy, Co-Founder of Garden for All, along with his wife Catherine Duffy, accepted the proclamation. Mr. Duffy stated Garden For All was in its 5th growing season. They grew on the grounds of All Saints Episcopal Church. They had already grown 800 pounds of fresh produce this season. They were supported by an amazing community and volunteers.

Greg Mantor, 6401 Kitzmiller Road, stated he was there with Joyce Browning, who also lived that that address. He had been trying to building a home on Kitzmiller Road for about 1 ½ years. He kept running into roadblocks. First, city staff said it was a major subdivision and he had to donate 20% of the land for right-of-way for street lighting - put in curbs and leisure trail. A lot of that was gone now. A few things were left, including trees and leisure trail. He was all for leisure trails. When this community first started, he helped Ben Hale promote them. He talked to neighbors who built new homes and they were required to put in money in lieu of trail. They asked why other people who lived on the road didn't have to pay. The answer was those people already lived there. Mr. Mantor had been living on that road for 25 years, 22-23 of those years across the street from where he was now. He wondered why putting up a different home than what was there - the land wasn't changing title, he was trying to put up a nicer house, get rid of an unsightly barn, improve the taxes, not put kids in the schools – and he kept encountering setbacks. He was now told that he had 2 choices for leisure trail: put it in or pay money in lieu. Then, he found out he wasn't allowed to put one in if there was a topographical problem or if there were no trails on the road and no plans for one in the near future. He'd been told by the city, and he'd looked at the city's plans, they showed no trail on the road. That meant he had to give the city money. To give the city money, he had to apply for permission to give the city the money to ask to be able to give money for a trail he couldn't put in. He hoped someone on council could make sense of that for him. When he applied to give the money, he had to go through different steps. He didn't understand. He was paying for something that didn't and wouldn't exist. The fee in lieu had to be approved. He had to request to pay a fee and then go ask for permission to give the money. He had to get 3 quotes. One of his neighbors got 3 quotes. The city picked the most expensive quote from his neighbor - he thought that was interesting. He had 5 acres. He was going to put up a house and tear down the old one. But if he

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tore down the old house, he had to do a leisure trail for the whole frontage of the property. But, if he didn't tear down the old house, if he divided and sold it off, then he only had to put in a trail for the new building. He didn't quite understand. He kept the same property, he put a different house on it, and had to do a leisure trail 430 feet long. If he divided the land, left the original house there, sold it off, put in a different house, still on the same lot, still under his name, he had to do a trail for just that part of it. To him, that was convoluted on how that worked out.

Mr. Mantor stated he was not allowed to get any permits to build until he had paid the leisure trail fee that he had to apply to ask to give the money. He couldn't get a permit to build until he gave the city the money. He had to ask to give it, and the if permits didn't go through after he gave the money, there was no stipulation that said what happened to the money he gave. If he gave the city thousands of dollars, and if permits don't go through – he had to give the money before he could get the permits, so who kept the money if he couldn't get the permit for some reason? He didn't know what that reason would be, but that's the way it was.

Mr. Mantor stated he'd lived on the road for 25 years. Mr. Mantor offered an option he didn't imagine would fly. There wasn't a leisure trail on the road. If there was ever a leisure trail on the road, he would be happy to pay his share of it when a leisure trail was there and if it abutted his land. He would put in the deed that he had to do it and would put that in the deed of whoever bought the land that they had to do that. If there was ever one there, they would be happy to contribute their share. That made sense to him. He didn't know if that would fly because of the codes. He'd like to see common sense prevail. Why did he have to apply for a fee to give the city money and he had to give it before he could get a permit? When it came to working with people, there was a phrase from military: rank has its privileges and rank has its responsibilities. He hoped people who worked at New Albany had a responsibility to have some good sense. He'd been at this a year and a half. He'd love to just build a house. He wanted to know anything that he could do to talk to anybody - anyway to expedite this so they could build a house and live in it and increase the taxes.

Council Member Durik asked and Mr. Mantor confirmed that one option was to tear down the old house and put in a new house. Council Member Durik asked and Mr. Mantor confirmed that if he built a new house on an existing property, city code required him to put in a leisure trail.

Council Member Shull asked about the proposed Kitzmiller Park which would go in down the street from Mr. Mantor. Council Member Shull asked and City Manager Stefanov confirmed, if the city moved forward with Kitzmiller park, there would be leisure trail to connect to the park. Council Member Shull expected the city would ask for a trail down to Kitzmiller Road in the near future. He didn't know if that would impact Mr. Mantor's property.

Mr. Mantor had heard of Kitzmiller Park and had no idea when that would be done. He had looked at the city plan for putting trail in, not the park. It said there was no plan. He understood, if there was a park, the city would probably want a trail there. If there's one there and on the road, he'd write the check.

Mayor Spalding stated the city had planned Kitzmiller Park for a while. The city was able to acquire the Taylor Farm property which took priority over the Kitzmiller site because of the timing of the transaction. The city wanted to get back to Kitzmiller Park in the near future. That trail would almost certainly be on the east side of Kitzmiller. Council could ask staff to talk to Mr. Mantor about this suggestion – if there was a trail connection on Kitzmiller Road and there was a deed restriction requiring the homeowner to construct a path – to allow for permitting to proceed. Mayor Spalding didn't know if the city had done in the past, so he could be speaking out of turn.

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Hopefully, the city had worked carefully with Mr. Mantor and a few other landowners regarding these unique lots and new-build houses. The city had made some progress in the quest to address those issues.

Mr. Mantor stated, if what Mayor Spalding stated came true, he would be elated. He could go in and get permits and start building a house. He would be happy to have the deed-, to do all of that.

Council Member Kist asked and City Engineer Johnson confirmed that, under current code, the permit could be approved, but it wouldn't be issued until Mr. Mantor paid the fee in lieu. The leisure trail construction was a code requirement, a variance would need to be approved prior to the city issuing a permit that showed the leisure trail not being constructed. City Manager Stefanov added that code required that council approve a fee in lieu of trail. He offered to go back and review the code as it had been some time since he'd reviewed it.

Council Member Kist recalled council's approval of fee in lieu applications. The application was not just the opportunity to pay the fee, but for the city approve the option to pay versus construction. Council Member Kist was not familiar with Mr. Mantor's property. Was city staff saying no to leisure trail in front of the new house?

Mr. Mantor responded that he was only speaking according to what he was sent in an email. It said there were 2 reasons that one could not build trail. If there was no trail in the area, on the road, and there were no plans for one in the near future, one was not allowed to put trail in. So, one would have to pay money for it.

Council Member Kist thought the city would have to do due diligence on this specific property. He wanted leisure path along all the roads and, typically, when 1 piece of trail was built, then other properties followed. If there was a first one and there was nothing currently adjacent, then, hopefully, as the properties turned over or got remodeled, the path would grow. He understood that was the intention of the code. If there was a specific reason that it couldn't be built, perhaps due to lack of easement or topography, that was a specific case. The principle of the code encouraged, as properties turned over-. A new house needed to comply to current code. That was the logic, when one tore a house down or built a new one. He recognized it seemed convoluted to put one in front of a new home, but not the existing home. He understood what Mr. Mantor was running into, and the city had worked to try to ease some of the other pains. Code wasn't always perfect and the city had to address the older properties 1 piece at a time.

Mr. Mantor replied that he understood and he was happy to have leisure trails done in front of the place when it was time. That was fine with him. He was happy to put it in the deed. He wanted to finally get started.

Mayor Spalding stated that either solution, a payment in lieu of constructing the leisure trail or a deed restriction, would still need council approval. He wanted staff to see which options were viable and pick it up at an upcoming council meeting.

Mr. Mantor thanked council for their time.

Jason Hoy, 5435 Aldie Mill, stated he wanted to see development and understood council's workshop was coming up. He had been a business owner on Zarley Street for 23 years. He was appreciative of New Albany - raised a family here, had a successful business. He wanted to bring Zarley Street up to the community's standard. He was also on the SR 161/US 62 Triangle Steering Committee. Mr. Hoy pointed out the white fences, street lighting, wider streets, curbs, drainage, leisure trail/sidewalk surrounding his area, but not on Zarley Street. The Via Tessora leisure trail had been repaved. There were 16 buildings and 25 businesses around him. They contributed to

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property taxes and city income tax as employers. People walking dogs and CrossFit exercisers were using the street. In the winter, it was dark at 5 pm and the Crossfitters were running up and down Zarley with no lighting or sidewalk and no protection. It was time to consider improvements to Zarley Street.

Mr. Hoy understood from City Manager Stefanov that Zarley Street had been around over 25 years. It had been redone 1 time. He understood there was consideration of a major improvement, but Zarley did not connect back to Forest Drive at the time, making it hard to get in/out during construction. Zarley had been connected for almost 10 years now. Mr. Hoy listed the many business in the area he had talked to directly. Most were in favor. The ones that weren't didn't have an opinion. He didn't know if they owned their buildings or not. He pointed out how many businesses on Zarley contributed to the city versus other areas that had improvements. He wanted council to consider spending money on Zarley Street, particularly for safety.

Mr. Hoy understood the road work on Zarley had been done 10-15 years ago. It had not held up as well as anticipated. Because there were no curbs, when it rained, there puddles for days after. That was making potholes bigger. There large trucks making deliveries to local businesses on narrow roads. They were driving on the edge of road, breaking down base, causing it to crumble more. In the winter, the water had nowhere to drain, so it got into a freeze/thaw cycle. The timing now was good because the street was surrounded by updates and there were 2 road connections. Zarley Street was in New Albany and didn't have the same aesthetic. He asked council to consider this at their upcoming workshop.

Council Member Shull stated he was at Willow Wood that day at 2:30 pm. He asked and City Manager Stefanov estimated Zarley Street was 22 feet wide. Council Member Shull described a semi driving down Zarley and the Willow Wood receptionist expressed surprised it was there. There was not a lot of room on the street. Council Member Shull suggested considering some options at the Capital Projects Workshop Plan. The city was already working on the US 62 Triangle area.

Mayor Spalding noted the limited space for Zarley Street with the established businesses there. It could be difficult to install trail on both sides. The city would have to work with the landowners to make the easements work.

Mayor Spalding asked and Mr. Hoy replied that, if a leisure trail were installed, Mr. Hoy would like it on his side of a road. As a business owner, it would mean less grass to cut and an increase to his property value. He was willing to give up some of his land to do it. He was 1 of 6 on the north side of the street. He'd talked to several on his side. He added that many of the business owners had pride in ownership. He'd improved his building. Trove did a lot to their property. Ralph Fallon had a beautiful building. Parts of New Albany were waiting for expansion to receive improvements, but there was no more room to expand on Zarley Street. It was a good time.

Council Member Durik agreed with Council Member Shull. He'd been down Zarley Street and traffic both ways was tight. He couldn't imagine a semi on there at the same time as a car, let alone walkers with medicine balls.

Mayor Spalding stated that the city had heard from other property owners back there about the need to examine updates. To the extent the city had resources, council wanted to consider improvements.

Michael Swanson, 7758 Westcross Drive, stated he was having difficult distinguishing the relationship between the City of New Albany and New Albany Master Communities Association and hoped city council could enlighten him.

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Mayor Spalding answered that the community association was like a homeowners association (HOA). It was not affiliated with city. The city didn't have control over HOAs. He hoped both entities maintained common standards so that homeowners and business owners had a sense of direction from both organizations. One did not control the other.

Mr. Swanson stated the New Albany Master Community Association website stated listed specific amounts of amenities including common acres, 4-rail horse fence, leisure trails, ponds, farms, a basketball court, access gates, common areas, goose control, doggie pots, trash cans, and common lighting. How many of these were owned by City of New Albany?

Mayor Spalding guessed that the community association website was not up-to-date. Some of those items had likely reverted to the city's ownership and responsibility. Generally, some properties maintained by HOAs would revert to the city over time. For example, the city had taken possession of some pocket parks which had then been updated by the city.

Mr. Swanson asked and Mayor Spalding answered that some leisure trails and horse fencing were on city property and some were not. Some of the common acres had likely reverted to the city's control.

Mr. Swanson asked, if they were city property, why was the city not maintaining them and paying for that through the tax base.

Mayor Spalding responded that when the city assumed responsibility for it, the city did pay for it.

Council Member Durik noted that the city maintained a park it took ownership of. The remainder stayed the responsibility of the community association.

Tom Rubey, Director of Planning, The New Albany Company (NACO), introduced himself and stated he was the president of the New Albany Country Club Homeowners Association as part of his job responsibilities. Generally, when NACO built a new subdivision, parkland and open space dedication were required. The HOA would maintain ground for a period of time, perhaps 20 years, after which time, it reverted to the city. Many of the recently upgraded playgrounds were all done by city, not the HOA. Mr. Rubey confirmed the numbers Mr. Swanson quoted from the community association webpage were woefully out of date.

Mr. Swanson stated all of these things were nebulous. For example, when we went to the Franklin County recorder's office, there was almost no daylight between New Albany Community Association and The New Albany Company. Almost every posting had both. All these things mixed together. It was confusing.

Mr. Rubey responded that he was happy to discuss this with Mr. Swanson in more detail after this meeting. The community association was comprised of 7 members, the majority of which were residents living in the community. There were also representatives of NACO.

Mr. Swanson replied there were only 3 residents.

Mr. Rubey stated there were 4 NACO representatives and 3 New Albany residents. Mr. Rubey identified himself as both a resident and an employee of NACO.

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Mr. Swanson stated it was confusing to someone trying to figure out why they were getting these bills from places, like the New Albany Homeowners Association and New Albany Community. He paid 2 HOA fees. He didn't understand why he should be paying 2. He was trying to unravel all of this. That partially answered his question. It was nebulous, trying to sort this out on the internet. He would go to the Franklin County Recorder's office and there was no daylight between NACO and New Albany Master Community Association. If 1 was on the paper, the other was on the paper.

Council Member Kist noted the City of New Albany and NACO were separate entities.

Mr. Swanson responded that he understood that. They were pretty intertwined.

Mr. Rubey stated there should be no confusion between the City of New Albany and NACO. He understood the confusion between the HOA and NACO and he was happy to explain that in more detail. As far as NACO's role and the city's role, those were entirely different and separate entities. Mr. Swanson said he understood.

Mr. Swanson stated he was a Rainbow and Vietnam veteran. He spent 2 years in Vietnam. Fortunately, he came home alive. Many lost their lives in what we now know as a highly immoral war. He was all for the memorial, but took offense at a picture displayed on the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society sign. He thought it was offensive to people who died in Vietnam, not just Americans, but Vietnamese - the highly immoral war we got involved in. He took offense at this type of picture, showing these guys drinking beers, smoking, playing cards, and having a good time. It wasn't that way. This was not what a memorial should be. A memorial should be to those who gave their lives and served at that time. Not this picture. He found this very offensive. This was not the Vietnam he spent 2 years in.

Council Member Kist referred to the yard sign Mr. Swanson was holding and stated he believed that was for an event being sponsored by the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society. It was not for a city event.

Mr. Swanson stated it was on the New Albany website. This picture was announcing the memorial.

Council Member Kist believed the event was taking place at the historic Ealy House, being put on by historical society. He recommended reaching out to the historical society with this issue.

Mayor Spalding asked and Mr. Swanson handed the sign to him. Mr. Swanson stated this was posted up and down the streets.

Mayor Spalding encouraged, if Mr. Swanson was okay doing this, going to the event and talking to Dennis Keese, the president of the historical society. Mr. Keese was all about history. Mayor Spalding was confident Mr. Keese would be open-minded to Mr. Swanson's concerns as he cared deeply about these issues. Mr. Keese had a notable collection of historical military equipment. He and Mr. Swanson had a shared experience as a veteran. Mr. Keese owned Eagle's Pizza. Mayor Spalding thanked Mr. Swanson for his service.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION: No meeting.

PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

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ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD: No meeting.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: Council Member Shull reported the BZA approved a variance for DSV’s signage on Briscoe Parkway. City staff was working on amending city code for signage sizes in the Licking County Business Park where the buildings were larger. The BZA got to give input on what the code update could look like. The BZA approved a detached garage in New Albany Farms to be larger than code with 3 conditions regarding gable siding, dormers and trim matching an existing garage, and the window proportions matching the home, subject to staff approval. The home was substantial and on a big lot.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

IDEA IMPLEMENTATION PANEL: No report.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: No meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION:

Council Member Fellows reported received communication regarding the lack of a trash receptacle on or near Raines Bridge at Rose Run Park. He walked there the week prior and spotted cups and paper on bridge, but not any trash bins from the bridge entrance to the library. Students passed over the bridge, there was nowhere to dispose of trash. There were many trash cans in the park, but none over the bridge area.

City Manager Stefanov stated, after speaking to Council Member Fellows, he drove the area. There were trash cans by the bike racks and behind the Heit Center. The city could add some more or make others more obvious. Council Member Fellows pointed to the student foot traffic and no visible cans on the bridge.

Public Service Director Mike Barker stated his team went through there 2x per day, morning and afternoon. Staff took pride in keeping Rose Run Park clean. The trash was on their radar. When they went out, they found trash there. Council Member Fellows stated a lot of people sat on the benches. Students were passing through. Things got left behind. There was no place right on the bridge or either end to throw anything away.

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE O-27-2024

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 11.44 +/- ACRES OF LAND LOCATED AT 7800 WALTON PARKWAY FOR AN AREA KNOWN AS THE “7800 WALTON PARKWAY ZONING DISTRICT” (FORMALLY KNOWN AS “COMMERCIAL VEHICLE GROUP ZONING DISTRICT”) FROM ITS CURRENT ZONING OF LIMITED OFFICE CAMPUS DISTRICT (L-OCD) TO LIMITED GENERAL EMPLOYMENT (L-GE) AS REQUESTED BY CITY OF NEW ALBANY.

Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler stated that staff was requesting the ordinance to be tabled until October 1, 2024, for more research.

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Mayor Spalding moved to table the ordinance. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to table Ordinance O-27-2024 to the October 1, 2024 regular council meeting.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

NONE

READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION R-39-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NEW ALBANY TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY.

Economic Development Specialist I Alex Klosterman stated the Franklin County Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) met on July 24, 2024, to review the Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) annual reports. A total of 15 agreements were recommended for continuance and approval. Notable items included the following. The CRA agreement for NACOT buildings I and II was revoked due to the sale of the properties to Cornerstone Academy School. This was not a use originally contemplated in the CRA. Thirty-One Real Estate, LLC did not meet its benchmark due to a large tenant moving out of the facility. The owners and city were working collaboratively to determine an accurate payment in lieu of taxes, known as a PILOT, to bring them into compliance. Last year, the Ohio Power Company Data Center agreement was recommended for conditional continuation and approval. The TIRC instructed city staff and the company to meet quarterly to ensure timely and accurate report filings. The quarterly meetings were beneficial for both city staff and the company. Due to the positive outcome of the quarterly meetings, the TIRC recommended the continuation and approval of the agreement with the condition that city staff and the company continue to meet quarterly to review the company's progress.

Mayor Spalding relayed that the Franklin County Auditor had complimented city staff for the program and report. Specialist Klosterman had done a great job marshaling the meeting. Mayor Spalding further praised former New Albany Mayor and City Council Member Colleen Brisk who still served on the TIRC, brought her experience, and was a great problem solver.

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 Kist seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to approve Resolution R-39-2024.

RESOLUTION R-40-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NEW ALBANY TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR LICKING COUNTY.

Economic Development Specialist I Alex Klosterman stated the Licking County Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) met on July 29, 2024, to review the Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) annual reports. All 24 of the agreements were recommended for continuance and approval. Notable items from the report included the following. Even though the AEP Ohio Transmission Company experienced a \$103,282

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shortfall out of its \$58,000,000 annual payroll benchmark, collectively, the American Electric Power entities on the New Albany campus experienced a significant payroll surplus of \$4,937,920. Due to that surplus, the TIRC recommended continuation and approval of the agreement with the condition that city staff and the company continue to meet quarterly to review the company's progress. This condition was a continuation of the previous year's TIRC recommendation and approval of the agreement.

Council Member Durik stated he sat on this TIRC and echoed Mayor Spalding's praise to staff regarding the preparation and detail made available to the council. Council Member Durik anticipated the city would benefit financially as several abatements rolled off in the next 1-2 years.

Council Member Shull stated he was glad to see progress with AEP. Compared to 2023, communication was better and there was a system in place to help separate everything out. He thanked Development Director Chrysler and City Manager Stefanov for answering a lot of his TIRC questions. The report was outstanding.

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 5 yes votes to approve Resolution R-40-2024.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Recommendations of Community Grants Subcommittee

Council Member Shull stated the Community Grants Subcommittee (CGS) met on August 23. Members were: himself, Council Member Fellows, and Council Member Brisk. They held their organizational meeting. He was elected as chair, Council Member Brisk was as elected vice chair, and Council Member Fellows was elected as secretary. Council Member Shull referred to the attached write-up that he distributed to council which contained their thought process as it related to the criteria, eligibility, and recommendations.

Council Member Fellows noted there was a slight increase in the grants budget to \$100,000. \$144,000 total in grants was requested. They had to do some trimming as they discussed the applications. This was the first time, since the application timeline had been changed to assist organization's annual budgeting, that the CGS had a full 12 months to analyze. He summarized the applications as follows.

- Founders Day met the eligibility and grant criteria. The event was planned for May 17, 2025. In 2024, they estimated 8,000 people in attendance. They reported \$10,289 in costs for city services. They requested \$10,000 and the CGS was recommending \$10,000.
- The Healthy New Albany Farmers Market met the eligibility and grant criteria. The market was in its 15th season. They hosted summer and winter markets. They typically got 1,500 people for the outdoor and 800 for the indoor markets. They requested \$5,000 and the CGS was recommending \$5,000.
- The Healthy New Albany Walking Classic hadn't happened yet this year, so the CGS looked at last years' event. They were in their 20th year. It brought ~1,500 participants and 1,000 volunteers and spectators from both inside and outside New Albany. They came from ~175 zip codes and 15 states. In 2023, event services rendered by the city cost \$13,129.06. They requested \$10,000 and the CGS was recommending \$10,000.

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- The New Albany Dance Festival met the eligibility and grant criteria. The New Vision Dance Company created the festival. The New Vision Dance Company was founded in Seattle in 2006 and established in New Albany in 2013. The festival took place July 26-28, 2024, their first time for a 3-day event. They also participated in an event at the amphitheater the day before. Total attendance included 2,588 in participants and crowd. They requested \$10,000 and the CGS was recommending \$1,500, a similar, but slight decrease, from last year's grant. Council Member Kist asked and Council Member Shull answered that the event was held in the amphitheater and also in the McCoy Center for weather, if needed
- The New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society met the eligibility and grant criteria. This was the only local institution trying to preserve the past for future generations. They were requesting funding for improvements and maintenance of the historic property. Their application did a good job of showing how they spent money from the previous year. They requested \$10,000 and the CGS was recommending \$10,000.
- New Albany Symphony applied for 5 events, 1 was sort of new.
 - The New Albany Symphony Series met the eligibility and grant criteria. They would perform 6 main concerts at the Hinson Amphitheater and McCoy Center. There were ~175 musicians from the orchestra and chorus. There would also be a 4-concert tour in southern France. Each season, ~10,000 people attended. They requested \$12,000 and the CGS was recommending \$5,000, the same as last year.
 - The New Albany Chorus met the eligibility and grant criteria. Next year, the chorus would participate in 7 performances at the Hinson Amphitheater and McCoy Center, and would also go on the 4-concert tour to France. The chorus consisted of ~90 singers ranging from 12-76 years old. They got between 600-1,000 people per event, including audience and participants. They requested \$5,000 and the CGS was recommending \$2,000.
 - The New Albany Symphony Sensory Friendly Series met the eligibility and grant criteria. He'd heard very positive feedback on this programming. The series was performed by the orchestra, often joined by the chorus. Next year, there would be 3 free sensory friendly concerts. The series consistently sold out with ~800 participants annually. They requested \$6,000 and the CGS was recommending \$5,000.
 - The New Albany Symphony Independence Day 5K met the eligibility and grant criteria. The race usually took place on July 4. Council Member Shull thought it may take place on July 3 in 2025. The event attracted over 1,200 participants. The event incurred \$4,000 in city costs and services in 2024. They requested \$5,000 and the CGS was recommending an amount not to exceed \$2,500 in city costs and services, the same as last year.
 - The New Albany Symphony Independence Day Concert met the eligibility and grant criteria. This event would replace the Rose Run Festival next year. It would be a patriotic concert at the Hinson Amphitheater would include the 85-piece orchestra and 95-member chorus. Estimated attendance was 750 inside the gate, possibly the maximum capacity. Council further discussed the need for ticketing large events and lawn space. The symphony requested \$10,000 and the CGS was recommending \$8,000, the same as was recommended for the Rose Run Fest last year.
- The New Albany Parks was requesting funding for 3 events, 2 returning and 1 new.
 - The Summer Movie Series met the eligibility and grant criteria. The series happened over June, July, and August in 2024. The first 2 movies were hosted in neighborhood parks and the final movie was at Bevelhymer Park. Attendance was ~1,500 people for all 3 movies. They requested \$10,000 and the CGS was recommending \$10,000, the same as last year.
 - Summer Slam Pickleball Tournament met the eligibility and grant criteria. July 21-22, 2024 was its inaugural event. Next year, they planned to expand to 3 days with a possible addition of a second

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- tournament. There were ~300 participants and 50-100 non-participants. They requested \$10,000 and the CGS was not recommending a grant award for 2025. Council Member Shull expected the event to continue to grow and the CGS could consider it again next year.
- o Trunk or Treat was happening in October at Bevelhymer Park. They anticipated 2,500 to 3,000 participants and over 70 trunks, mostly from New Albany residents or businesses. They requested \$10,000 and the CGS was recommending \$10,000, an increase from 2024. Council Member Shull recalled the 2023 weather was not great and the event was still packed. Council Member Durik concurred that the 2023 weather was terrible and attendance was high. The event was well-regarded in the community.
 - Pelotonia met the eligibility and grant criteria. The event was schedule for August 1-3, 2025. Pelotonia used Market Square/Rose Run/New Albany Schools area as the start/finish venue. In 2023 Pelotonia participants raised over \$25 million for cancer research. Attendance over the weekend was estimated at 8,000. City services rendered totaled \$16,936.28. They requested \$10,000 and the CGS was recommending an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in city costs and services, same as in previous years. Council Member Shull noted this was one of the best events in the community.
 - Project Hero/Honor Ride Ohio met the eligibility and grant criteria. It took place on May 25, 2024 and raised hundreds of thousands for injured veterans and first responders. Participants were estimated at 400-425 this year. In 2024, city costs were just over \$7,000. They requested \$6,000 and the CGS was recommending an amount not to exceed \$6,000 in city costs and services. The increase for 2025 was due to the increase in city costs in 2024.
 - The New Albany Charity Thanks For Giving 4-Miler met the eligibility and grant criteria. It took place each year on Thanksgiving Day in downtown New Albany. In 2023, it drew 3,200 participants from 32 states. The event’s goal was to promote wellness, giving, and family. In 2023, city services rendered cost \$9,545.35. They requested \$5,000 and the CGS was recommending an amount not to exceed \$5,000 in costs and services, the same as 2024.
 - Second Sole/White Castle 5-Miler did not meet the eligibility and grant criteria. They requested “full available” on the application. The CGS was not recommending a grant award.

Adding the amounts recommended to be awarded, it came to exactly \$100,000, staying within the allotted budget. Some council members expressed appreciation the CGS for their work.

Council Member Shull move to award the following grants.

Founders Day - \$10,000

HNA Farmers Market - \$5,000

HNA Walking Classic – an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in city costs and services

New Albany Dance Festival - \$1,500

New Albany–Plain Township Historical Society - \$10,000

New Albany Symphony Series - \$5,000

New Albany Symphony Chorus - \$2,000

New Albany Symphony Sensory Friendly Series - \$5,000

New Albany Symphony Independence Day 5K – an amount not to exceed \$2,500 in city costs and services

New Albany Symphony Independence Day Concert - \$8,000

New Albany Parks Summer Movie Series - \$10,000

New Albany Parks Trunk or Treat - \$10,000

Pelotonia – an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in city costs and services

Project Hero/Honor Ride Ohio – an amount not to exceed \$6,000 in city costs and services

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Thanks for Giving Charity Run – an amount not to exceed \$5,000 in city costs and services
Council Member Fellows seconded and council voted with 4 yes votes and 1 abstention (Kist) on the motion.
Motion passed.

Council Member Shull stated the CGS recommended a donation to the New Albany Food Pantry to continue to support them. He suggested alternate support account from the city’s budget appropriate for this. He recommended \$3,000, as the city had done in the last 2-3 years, but was open to more based on council discussion. Council Member Durik stated he would go a little higher. The cost of food and demand had gone up. The pantry did an incredible job for the kids in the schools and families. If it was \$4,000-\$5,000, he would support it. It was a great service to the community.

Council Member Fellows asked about the funds available. Director Staats stated that there was capacity in the hotel tax funds. Council members further discussed the source and possible amount.

Council Member Durik moved to approve a \$5,000 contribution to the Healthy New Albany Food Pantry due to the increased food costs and services that they provided. Council Member Shull commented that it could come from an alternate support account that would be appropriate for this type of request. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes to make the \$5,000 donation to the food pantry. Motion passed.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:

- A. Council Representative to MORPC: City Manager Stefanov reported that MORPC received the state auditor’s Award with Distinction. MORPC had had clean audits for years with an outsourced auditor and now the state auditor. MORPC’s 2024 Annual Salary and Fringe Benefits Survey would come out in September. The Ohio EPA designated MORPC as the 208 Area-Wide Agency for central Ohio. City Manager Stefanov described a 208 boundary, which was how one defined water and sewer boundaries. New Albany’s 208 boundaries were served by the City of Columbus. To the east of Mink Street, south of Jug Street, and down to Morse Road, that 208 area was served by Southwest Licking. MORPC had formed a committee and would set up rules and processes for any 208 disputes. City Manager Stefanov would serve on that committee. MORPC kicked off a passenger rail committee in July. MORPC’s Mid-Ohio Open Data website, a regional data support for member communities, had gone live. MORPC was leading a group of regional councils throughout the country to discuss housing shortage strategies. MORPC received the Economic Development District designation from the U.S. congress. MORPC would be putting things in place in support of economic development. MORPC’s Summit on Sustainability would happen on October 29.
- B. Council Representative to Joint Parks and Recreation: No report.
- C. Council Representative to New Albany-Plain Local Schools: Council Member Kist reported that the board discussed transportation. They were only 3 bus drivers short. The board gave a campus masterplan update. The reported meeting with the city and NACO regarding the land donation, site layout, and utilities for the transportation center at SR 605 and New Albany Road East. The board discussed the planned Swickard Woods Boulevard street improvements. The Franklin County Board of Elections had issued the school levy as “Issue 40.” Everett Gallagher was named as the

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levy chair. The board discussed at length the net cost to the taxpayer. The district website had calculator for specific properties. The state of Ohio issued the 2023-2024 local school report card. New Albany Schools received a 5-star overall rating, again, in all categories in the preliminary results.

- D. Council Representative to Plain Township: Council Member Durik reported that the township trustees voted for the fire department to join North Area Strike Team, a group of 11 departments in central Ohio who provided fire investigative services and supported responses for chemical, terrorist, and hazmat incidents. They also provided training to police officers to enhance the city's abilities in those areas. The township discussed the wreath program for veterans across the country. Last year, 563 wreaths were placed. Council Member Durik expected the township to approach the city to share the cost. The township's revenue for the pool season was \$500,000+ more this year than last year. The annual Fire Department Open House was scheduled for September 29.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

- A. Mayor: Mayor Spalding reminded council of the New Albany Chamber of Commerce Update on September 18.
- B. Clerk of Council: Clerk Mason reminded council of the Capital Projects Workshop on September 17 at the Public Service Complex. The regular council meeting that evening was canceled. Elliot's Wood Fired Pizza would cater lunch.
- C. Finance Director: Director Staats reported that the city priced the Bond Anticipation Notes the prior Tuesday and had a favorable outcome. The bonds would close on September 11.
- D. City Manager: City Manager Stefanov reported he would have a recommendation regarding the organizational analysis soon. He had met with Director Joly and HR Officer Rasey regarding a possible creative approach.
- E. City Attorney: No report.

POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE

POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:

Council Member Shull asked and Director Barker replied they served around 950 hot dogs at the Touch-A-Truck event. They estimated 1,700 were in attendance. The sensory friendly hour was well-received. Council Member Shull praised staff for a smoothly run event. Director Barker shared credit with Public Service Manager Hobart, Administrative Assistant Beck, and public service staff.

Council Member Shull asked and Council Member Kist answered that New Albany's hazardous waste drive happened annually. SWACO now had a year-round drop off site for hazardous waste by the Ohio State fair grounds.



Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

September 3, 2024

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NONE

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Spalding acknowledged that council didn't have any board appointments to make at this time.

Mayor Spalding moved to accept the city manager's letter announcing his desire to retire effective December 31, 2024 and, subsequently, be rehired for a defined term to help facilitate an orderly succession plan for the city manager's position. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 5 yes votes on the motion to accept the letter. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Shull seconded to adjourn the September 3, 2024 regular council meeting at 8:20 pm.

ATTEST:



Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council



Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor



Date

Adopted by council at 9-3-24 Council meeting. See minutes.

New Albany City Council - Annual Grant Funding for Organizations
2025-2021

Organization	2025 CGS Award	c&s	2025 CGS Request	2024 Award	Not to exceed c&s	2024 Request	2023 Award	2022 Award	2022 Request	2021 Award
Founders Day	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
HNA Farmers Market	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$5,000.00			
HNA - Walking Classic	\$ 10,000.00	*	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	*	\$ 10,000.00	amt not to exceed \$10,000 in c&s	amt not to exceed \$10,000.00 in c&s	\$10,000.00	amt not to exceed \$10,000 in city c&s
NA Dance Festival	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 10,000.00				
NA PT Historical Society	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$6,000.00
NA Symphony - Symphony Series	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 12,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00
NA Symphony - Chorus	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$2,000.00			
NA Symphony - Sensory Friendly Series	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$5,000.00	See also Symphony Series		See also Symphony Series
NA Symphony - Independence Day 5K	\$ 2,500.00	*	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	*	\$ 5,000.00	amt not to exceed \$1,000 in c&s	amt not to exceed \$1,000.00 in c&s	\$2,500.00	amt not to exceed \$1,000 in city c&s
NA Symphony - Independence Day concert (prev Rose Run Fest)	\$ 8,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,000.00		\$ 12,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$8,000.00
NA Parks and Rec - Summer Movies (aka NA Parks District)	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
NA Parks and Rec - Summer Slam PB Tournament	\$ -		\$ 10,000.00	\$ -		-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NA Parks and Rec - Trunk or Treat	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$8,000.00	None	\$10,000.00	
Pelotonia	\$ 10,000.00	*	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	*	\$ 10,000.00	amt not to exceed \$10,000 in c&s	amt not to exceed \$10,000.00 in c&s	\$10,000.00	amt not to exceed \$10,000 in city c&s
Project Hero/Honor Ride Ohio	\$ 6,000.00	*	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	*	\$ 8,000.00	amt not to exceed \$5,000 in c&s	amt not to exceed \$2,500.00 in city c&s	\$2,500.00	amt not to exceed \$2,500 in city c&s
Thanks for Giving Charity Run	\$ 5,000.00	*	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	*	\$ 5,000.00	amt not to exceed \$5,000 in c&s	no request	no request	amt not to exceed \$5,000.00 in city C&S
Second Sole/White Castle 5 miler	\$ -		\$ 10,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
TOTAL	\$ 100,000.00		\$ 144,000.00	\$ 98,000.00		\$ 125,000.00	\$96,000.00	\$75,500*	\$90,000.00	\$87,500*

In 2024 - appropriated \$225,000 for Donations and Contributions incl. funds allotted for the NA Community Events Board for July 4th of \$53,000 and Octoberfest of \$72,000.

In 2023 - appropriated \$225,000 for Donations and Contributions incl. \$65,000 allotted for the NA Community Events Board for Springfest/July 4th and \$72,000 for Octoberfest

In 2022, Springfest cost \$25,376, July 4th cost \$51,978 (incl. \$19,318 in NAPD & NASD invoices pd), and Octoberfest cost \$71,026 (incl. \$11,244 in NAPD & NASD invoices pd).

Note 1. The New Albany Community Events Board's and New Albany Food Pantry requests for funding were handled outside the CGS program in 2024. The pantry received \$3,000 in 2024.

Note 2. HNA Senior Programming does NOT come out of the funds appropriated for Donations and Contributions.

Note 3. *2020-2022 TOTALS includes amts to the NA Community Playhouse \$5,000 (2022) and \$10,000 (2021) who did not reapply

Appropriation	\$225,000
Chamber	\$125,000
Grant Budget	<u>\$100,000</u>

Second Sole/White Castle 5 Miler - \$0

The Second Sole/White Castle 5 Miler application did not meet eligibility and grant criteria. They requested "Full Available." We recommend a Funding of \$0.

Council Recommendations

Founders Day - \$ 10,000

Farmers Market - \$ 5,000

Healthy New Albany Walking Classic – an amount not to exceed \$ 10,000 in city cost and services

Dance Festival - \$ 1,500

Historical Society - \$ 10,000

New Albany Symphony Series - \$ 5,000

New Albany Symphony Chorus - \$ 2,000

New Albany Symphony Sensory Friendly Series - \$ 5,000

New Albany Symphony Independence Day 5K – an amount not to exceed \$ 2,500 in city cost and services

New Albany Symphony Independence Day Concert - \$ 8,000

Parks District Summer Movie Series - \$ 10,000

Parks & Recreation Foundation Trunk or Treat - \$ 10,000

Pelotonia - an amount not to exceed \$ 10,000 in city cost and services

Project Hero/Honor Ride Ohio - an amount not to exceed \$ 6,000 in city cost and services

Thanks for Giving Charity Run - an amount not to exceed \$ 5,000 in city cost and services

Parks & Recreation Summer Slam Pickleball Tournament - \$0

Second Sole/White Castle 5 Miler - \$0

Total Recommendation - \$ 100,000

Separate Motion- Continue funding the New Albany Food Pantry through an alternate community support account that would be more appropriate for this type of request at \$5,000.

Parks District (Summer Slam Pickleball Tournament) - \$0

The Summer Slam Pickleball Tournament application met eligibility and grant criteria. The pickleball tournament took place July 20-21st. In FY25, the event plans on expanding to 3 days with a possible addition of a 2nd tournament. Total participants approximately 300 and around 50-100 non player spectators. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend funding at \$0.

Parks & Recreation Foundation (Trunk or Treat) - \$10,000

The Trunk or Treat application met eligibility and grant criteria. Trunk or Treat 2024 is scheduled for October 19th and will again be held at Bevelhymer Park. Estimated participants are expected to be over 2500-3000. They are expecting over 70 trunks participating in this year's event, with most of them being in New Albany or owned by a New Albany resident. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend funding an \$10,000.

Pelotonia - an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in city cost and services

The Pelotonia application met eligibility and grant criteria. Pelotonia's Ride Weekend will be August 1-3, 2025, utilizing the Market Square/Rose Run/New Albany Schools area as a start and finish venue for both days of the ride. In 2023, Pelotonia participants raised over \$25 million for cancer research, bringing the fifteen-year total to over \$283 million raised. Estimated attendance over the course of the weekend is 8000+ individuals. In 2024, City event services rendered were \$16,936.28. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend funding an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in city cost and services.

Project Hero/Honor Ride Ohio - an amount not to exceed \$6,000 in city cost and services

The Honor Ride application met eligibility and grant criteria. Honor Ride 2024 took place on May 25th. The Ohio Honor Ride has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for injured Veterans and First Responders. The number of estimated participants in 2024 was 400-425. In 2024, City event services rendered were \$7,057.50. They are requesting \$6,000. We recommend funding an amount not to exceed \$6,000 in city cost and services.

New Albany Charity Run (Thanks for Giving 4 miler) - amount not to exceed \$5,000 in city cost and services.

The New Albany Charity Run application met eligibility and grant criteria. The Thanks for Giving 4 miler happens every year on Thanksgiving Day in downtown New Albany. Last year, the race drew 3200 participants from 32 different states. The event goal is to promote wellness, giving, and family on Thanksgiving Day. In 2023, city event services rendered were \$9,545.35. They are requesting \$5,000. We recommend an amount not to exceed \$5,000 in city cost and services.

New Albany Symphony Chorus –\$2,000

The New Albany Symphony Chorus application met eligibility and grant criteria. During FY25, the Chorus will participate in 7 performances at the McCoy Center for the Arts and Hinson Amphitheater. They will also embark on a 4-concert tour of Southern France. The Chorus is an ensemble of approximately 90 singers ranging in age from 12-76. Depending on the concert, between 600-1000 people per event will attend (which includes audience and participants). They are requesting \$5,000. We recommend funding at \$2,000.

New Albany Symphony Sensory Friendly Series - \$5,000

The New Albany Symphony Sensor Friendly Series application met eligibility and grant criteria. The Series is performed by the New Albany Symphony Orchestra and often joined by the Chorus. During FY25 the New Albany Symphony will present three FREE sensory friendly concerts. The Series consistently sells out at 1800 participants annually. They are requesting \$6,000. We recommend funding at \$5,000.

New Albany Symphony Independence Day 5K – an amount not to exceed \$2,500 in city cost and services

The Independence Day 5K application met eligibility and grant criteria. The race takes place the morning of July 3rd and attracts over 1200 participants. In 2024, City event services rendered were \$4,029.50. They are requesting \$5,000. We recommend funding an amount not to exceed \$2,500 in city cost and services.

New Albany Symphony Independence Day Concert - \$8,000

The New Albany Symphony Independence Day Concert application met eligibility and grant criteria. This event will replace the Rose Run Festival in 2025. The New Albany Symphony will present a patriotic concert at the Hinson Amphitheater. The performance will be an hour and 45 minutes with intermission and include an 85-piece orchestra and a 95-piece chorus. Estimated attendance for the July 3rd concert is 750 inside the gates plus overflow on the lawn and throughout Rose Run Park. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend funding at \$8,000.

Parks District (Summer Movie Series) - \$10,000

The Summer Movie Series application met eligibility and grant criteria. The Summer Movie Series took place over the course of 3 months (6/21, 7/19, and 8/10). In 2024, the first two movies (Luca and Trolls Band Together) were hosted in neighborhood parks (The Preserve and Windsor respectively) and the final event (Barbie) at Bevelhymer Park. Total attendance for all movie nights was approximately 1500. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend funding at \$10,000.

Healthy New Albany Farmers Market - \$5,000

The Healthy New Albany Farmers Market application met eligibility and grant criteria. The farmer's market is in its 15th season, hosting both summer and winter markets. The outdoor summer market runs every Thursday throughout the summer months and the indoor market occurs monthly on Saturday mornings in the fall and winter. An average of 1,500 people attend the outdoor, summer market each week. The indoor market attracts up to 800 per market. They are requesting \$5,000. We recommend funding at \$5,000.

Healthy New Albany Walking Classic – an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in city cost and services

The New Albany Walking Classic application met eligibility and grant criteria. The New Albany Walking Classic Event is in its 20th year and brings in over 1500 participants, 1000 volunteers and spectators from within and outside of New Albany. The participants come from 175 different zip codes and 15 states. In 2023, city event services rendered were \$13,129.06. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in city cost and services.

New Albany Dance Festival - \$1,500

The New Albany Dance Festival application met eligibility and grant criteria. New Vision Dance Company created the New Albany Dance Festival. New Vision Dance Company was founded in Seattle in 2006, and 2013 here locally in New Albany. This year the festival took place July 26th-28th. Total attendance for the 3-day event including participants and crowd was 2588. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend funding at \$1,500.

Historical Society - \$10,000

The Historical Society application met eligibility and grant criteria. The Historical Society is the only local institution earnestly trying to preserve the past for future generations, one piece of history at a time. The request for funding is for improvements to and maintenance of historic property. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend funding at \$10,000.

New Albany Orchestra Symphony Series - \$5,000

The New Albany Symphony Series application met eligibility and grant criteria. They will perform six main concerts in both the Hinson Amphitheater and McCoy Center for the Arts. The New Albany Symphony Orchestra and Chorus is an organization made up of 175+ musicians. During FY25, the Symphony will present a 6-concert season and a 4-concert tour in Southern France. Each season approximately 10,000 people attend the New Albany events. They are requesting \$12,000. We recommend funding at \$5,000.

Community Grants Subcommittee (CGS)

City Council Meeting 9/3/24

The CGS met on August 23, 2024. Council Member Shull was elected Chair, Council Member Brisk was elected Vice Chair, and Council Member Fellows was elected Secretary.

The City of New Albany community Grants Subcommittee was established to improve the quality of life for our residents, corporate citizens, and visitors. These funds are invested back into the community through designated activities and events that enhance visitor appeal and/or encourage overnight stays. The CGS committee reviewed the applications to make sure they met the following eligibility requirements, (1) applicant must be a federally recognized tax-exempt not-for-profit (include appropriate paperwork as part of application), (2) applicant must have ties to the New Albany community, (3) applicant must be in good standing from all prior funding applications, having paid all applicable fees and submitted all paperwork for all past activities/events, (4) application must be submitted prior to advertised deadline, and (5) availability of city funds.

Even if the eligibility requirements are met, the following are not eligible to receive funding, (1) individuals, (2) organizations that support political candidates, movement, and/or philosophies, (3) organizations whose primary purpose is to influence, promote or attempt to initiate legislation, (4) organizations desiring funding to travel outside of New Albany, (5) organizations that are for-profit, (6) organizations with budget deficits incurred prior to application, and (7) endowment funds.

Once eligibility has been determined, the applications must meet one or more of the following grant criteria, (1) beautification of public property, (2) improvements to and maintenance of historic property, (3) activities/events that appeal to a broad segment of New Albany residents, (4) cultural arts events, (5) to enhances New Albany's image/increased media coverage (local/regional/national), and (6) activities/events that bring customers to New Albany businesses.

The committee was unanimous in its recommendations for Council to consider:

Founders Day - \$10,000

The New Albany Founders Day application met eligibility and grant criteria. The event will take place on May 17th, 2025. Generally, multiple events take place throughout the day. Estimated attendance is 8,000. In 2024, city event services rendered were \$10,289.65. They are requesting \$10,000. We recommend funding at \$10,000.