



Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

December 3, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of December 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, Development Director Jennifer Chrysler, Police Chief Greg Jones, Deputy Finance Director Morgan Joeright, Financial Reporting and Project Manager Jeremy Gray, Development Director Jennifer Chrysler, Deputy Public Service Director Ryan Ohly, Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler, Human Resource Officer Lindsay Rasey, Chief Communications and 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 Wiltrout	P

Clerk Mason reported that Council Member Brisk could not attend due to work travel and requested to be excused. Mayor Spalding moved to excuse Council Member Brisk from the meeting. Council Member Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to excuse Council Member Brisk from the council meeting.

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Council adopted the November 19, 2024 meeting minutes by consensus.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Clerk Mason suggested to move Resolution R-53-2024, regarding the employment agreement of the city manager, to follow the executive session. Mayor Spalding moved to add Resolution R-53-2024 to Other Business under Item 18. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to move Resolution R-53-2024 into Other Business.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Grant Woelfle, a New Albany resident and Boy Scout, stated that he was in search of a service project to help earn his Eagle Scout award. He asked council if any help was needed in the community. Mayor Spalding thanked him for his offer and stated that council and staff would consider some potential projects. He also asked Mr. Woelfle to complete a speaker card and include any ideas he might have on it.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): No meeting.



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PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD: Planning Manager Steve Mayer reported that signs for 2 new businesses on High Street in the Village Center were approved.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: Council Member Shull reported that the BZA approved the QTS Datacenter requests for multiple variances for wall and directional signs. The signs were approved with modifications, including reducing directional sign square footage and resizing exterior wall signs to comply with code.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD (SAB): No meeting.

IDEA IMPLEMENTATION PANEL: No meeting.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: Mayor Spalding reported the PRC approved requests for document destruction per the retention schedule and retention schedule changes. Clerk Mason stated that the PRC reviewed a potential city code change which would be revisited at the May 2025 PRC meeting and then brought before council.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION:

NONE

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE O-45-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025.

Finance Director Staats stated this ordinance regarded the adoption of the 2025 annual budget. At the November 5 council meeting, she distributed a budget book with a detailed breakdown of revenues and expenses. City staff presented the operating and capital budgets at the council workshop on November 12 and at the November 19 council meeting. The proposed budget and amended appropriations ordinance reflected council's input, resulting in the additional appropriations of \$456,000. The legislative report contained the detailed the adjustments. General fund appropriations increased by \$206,000, with \$90,000 related to the relocation of the community development and administrative services departments to the Water's Edge facility, and a \$10,000 increase for digital storage software for police evidence in the IT sub-fund. In the various community investment programming sub-funds, there was a total net increase of \$106,000, which included \$80,000 for a McCoy Center maintenance increase related to the New Albany Community Foundation's phase-out. \$25,000 was added in the community events sub-fund, which was transferred from the IDEA sub-fund for Juneteenth. A \$15,000 increase was included for IDEA-related programs and initiatives. Senior Connections received an increase for class fees which would come with a revenue increase. The Sustainability Advisory Board's compost contract increased by \$3,000. The Capital Improvement fund increased by \$250,000 for municipal space planning.

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Director Staats stated that Section 2 of the ordinance authorized the city manager to enter into agreements related to appropriations. Section 3 authorized the finance director to allocate funding within appropriation line items. Section 4 authorized the finance director to transfer up to \$10,000 per quarter between appropriation line items, provided such transfers were within the same fund and department. This had provided flexibility for the finance department to manage funds on a day-to-day basis and not have to amend appropriations. Section 5 authorized the finance director to transfer appropriations between the General fund and various special revenue funds related to police operations and grants. This allowed the city, as it found costs and expenses that qualified, to spend the special revenue funds as they accumulated.

Mayor Spalding complimented the finance team on their work and observed that, under the direction of City Manager Stefanov, the city was conservative and transparent in the spending of tax dollars.

Director Staats thanked all departments for assisting with budget preparation.

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 Durik seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Ordinance O-45-2024.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE O-46-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND TO AUTHORIZE A TRANSFER FROM THE BLACKLICK TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FUND.

Director Staats stated this ordinance established the final appropriations and year-end 2024 budget. It ensured budgetary compliance with city code and Ohio Revised Code (ORC). Section 1 identified necessary increases to comply with budgetary requirements and appropriations. The detailed list of proposed amendments was attached to the legislative report. The General fund was increased for RITA fees and Auditor & Treasurer collection fees, which were due to increased revenue, and an increase in the insurance premium, totaling \$180,000, so far. Staff continued to review the General fund. Appropriation for the Economic Development –NAECA fund was increased by \$1,500,000 related to a distribution from the New Albany East Community Authority (NAECA) which could be put into the Special Revenue-NAECA fund or the Capital Economic Development fund. Various Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds were adjusted due to variances in auditor/treasurer fees and sharing from increased revenues received by the city. There were increases in the Severance Liability and Debt Service fund. There was a transfer related to the recently finalized Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan associated with the US 62/SR 161 project. Capital funds were increased to include the reimbursement for project costs related to the reimbursements in the Bond Improvement fund. There was also an increase to the Water & Sanitary Sewer Improvement fund to cover emergency repairs for a watermain break.

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Director Staats stated that additional language in the ordinance provided compliance tools for budgetary purposes. She would be able to transfer different appropriations between line items within each fund, but not increase appropriations. She would be authorized to decrease appropriations where necessary. Section 5 allowed her to match revenues and expenses for several “zero account balance” funds. Section 4 allowed for a \$100,000 appropriation contingency. The contingency was utilized in 2023 to increase the appropriation with the subdivision development fund, a special revenue fund that was previously an agency fund. That fund was in its second year and needed additional appropriations due to extra activity in December of 2023 related to community development projects and professional services. She had not used the appropriation contingency for the General fund.

City Manager Stefanov asked and Director Staats responded that an agency fund was a custodial fund utilized for collecting and distributing revenue. Custodial agency fund revenue did not belong to the city; it was spent according to entity using the fund. A payroll clearing fund was another example of an agency fund. Typically, the city didn’t need to appropriate or budget for those funds, however, there was an ORC change in financial reporting requirements which changed the purpose and recording of those funds. Now, they had to be budgeted.

Council Member Shull asked and Director Staats replied that the recent Cooperative Economic Development Agreement (CEDA)/Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) agreement with Jersey Township would probably use a custodial fund.

Mayor Spalding asked and Director Staats answered that the \$100,000 appropriation in Section 4 did not come from a designated fund. If cash was there to support it, the appropriation within that fund would be increased. The city did not allow funds to have negative cash balances and staff would check those for compliance.

Mayor Spalding asked and Director Staats confirmed that approval from the city manager was required if the contingency authorization was used. Any use of the contingency would be in the December finance report and presented to council in January.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the December 17, 2024 council meeting.

ORDINANCE O-47-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW ALBANY EAST COMMUNITY AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND FINANCING OF CERTAIN PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.

Director Staats stated that this ordinance established a cooperative agreement with the New Albany East Authority Community Authority (NAECA). NAECA was created in 2015 to facilitate private development and construct related public infrastructure. It assessed a 9.75 mills development charge, set annually according to infrastructure needs of the area, on companies located within the Licking County portion of the New Albany Business Park. The charge was currently supporting OWDA loan payments related to infrastructure development projects in the southeastern portion of the business park. NAECA also provided for municipal projects located outside of the business park, most often within Village Center.

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Director Staats explained, in preparation for the Rose Run II project, bond council advised that the city and authority enter into a cooperative agreement defining the use of the funds, the terms regarding the distribution of funds, the obligation to set the charge at 9.75 mills, and the notification of projects. The agreement also defined community facilities. A draft of this agreement was prepared in the fall of 2023 and NAECA adopted a resolution authorizing the agreement. With the delay of Rose Run II, staff also delayed presenting this legislation to council. Now, Rose Run II and a related bond issue were in the 2025 budget, so the city would need to enter into the cooperative agreement to ensure funds were set aside for this particular payment. The cooperative agreement addressed the obligations of both the city and NAECA related to the levy, use, and distribution of the 9.75 mills.

Director Staats explained the difference between NAECA and the original New Albany Community Authority (NACA). The city’s funding source from NACA was not the charge that the authority was created upon - the city no longer had any association with the NACA’s charge. The funding source that the city drew down from was the Economic Development fund, which was established by the \$0.30 on the dollar the city collected in the Business Park and sent to NACA. A resolution by the city and NACA was required to draw down those funds. By contrast, NAECA was set up as a municipal authority and with the intention of funding projects primarily for the city. The cooperative agreement permitted the city to draw down NAECA funds without having to meet with them, so long as the city approved and budgeted for the project. NAECA was already in agreement that the use of funds was determined by the city.

Council Member Shull asked and Director Staats confirmed that NAECA funds could be applied to projects such as the Market Street extension or anything in the historic Village Center. The funds were required to be used for community facilities, which were defined within the agreement as being located anywhere in the city.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the December 17, 2024 council meeting.

READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION R-47-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH COI NEW ALBANY 525, LLC.

Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler requested that this resolution be tabled indefinitely.

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

Mayor Spalding moved to table the resolution indefinitely. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to table Resolution R-47-2024 indefinitely.

RESOLUTION R-54-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH NAIC PARTNERS, LLC, AND MAKING RELATED AUTHORIZATIONS.

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Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler stated this resolution authorized the city manager to execute a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) agreement with NAIC Partners, LLC. The agreement provided for a 100% real property tax abatement for 15 years. Tenby Partners, headquartered in Columbus, was the sponsor and managing member for the NAIC Partners, LLC ownership entity. This project included the construction of 2 speculative buildings for industrial, distribution, and manufacturing uses. The buildings would total 315,000 square feet on approximately 23 acres. The expected project investment was over \$37 million. The project was expected to begin in March 2025 and be completed in February 2026. The benchmarks for compliance would be measured according to the revenue generation per square foot formula as established for the specific building type and previously approved by the city council.

Richard Schuen, CEO and managing partner for Tenby Partners and Tenby Construction, stated Tenby built a 130,000 square foot building in New Albany a few years ago for PPG and Banner Air Purification Systems, who hoped to become an Intel supplier. These new buildings were a shallower bay product that appealed to R&D and bioscience, not meant for distribution. Mr. Schuen appreciated council’s support on their first project and this project.

Mayor Spalding thanked Mr. Schuen and was excited to have repeat developers investing in the community. Mayor Spalding asked and Mr. Schuen answered this was a multi-tenant project. Mr. Schuen remarked that New Albany was great to work with, predictable, and no surprises which was refreshing. He thanked Manager Ziegler and her team for their partnership.

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

Council Member Durik moved to adopt resolution R-54-2024. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-54-2024.

RESOLUTION R-55-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH NEW ALBANY TOWNE CENTER LLC AND AMER AMAL TRUST.

Planning Manager Steve Mayer stated this agreement was between the city and a property owner who owned 9 parcels located in the historic Village Center. In 2023, council approved the purchase of 0.1 acres from Innovation Mortgage Company which set the background for this agreement. To create the street grid per the strategic plan, the city required 40% of the overall land. Therefore, there were provisions in this agreement wherein the property owner agreed to dedicate the property necessary for the public street and alleyways at no cost to the city in exchange for commitments from the city to build the infrastructure, including streets, alleys, water, and sewer. The agreement required the dedication be made before any public infrastructure began. The plan called for extending Second and Third Streets, building a new east-west public alley, and establishing a new street, temporarily named “Ginkgo Street,” connecting High Street to US 62. The city would commit to improvements to High Street including intersection improvements, relocating on-street parking, and a new public crosswalk on High Street with pedestrian beacons. Manager Mayer described the street character outlined in the both the city’s strategic plan and urban code which called for brick streets, parking on both sides of the street, 1 drive aisle, and tree lawn and sidewalks on both sides of the street.

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Council Member Durik asked if Ginko Street was considered a connector road from US 62 to SR 605, and if 1 lane was sufficient. Manager Mayer replied this street was designed to promote the pedestrian experience, serve as an amenity to the residents and businesses in the historic Village Center. Council Member Durik expressed concern about increased traffic flow related to the Market Street extension and more traffic on US 62. His initial understanding was this new street was going to be used a connector to break up traffic in that area.

Mayor Spalding recalled that Miller Avenue had been discussed as serving as the main connector between US 62 and High Street, and would be constructed as such. The concept for Ginko Street came after the Miller Avenue proposal. The city still needed to acquire property and do some engineering for the Miller Avenue project. If Miller Avenue wasn't going to serve as the connector, this new street had to be able to accommodate the traffic - and it looked like Ginko Street would not accomplish that.

Manager Mayer stated the city could limit parking to 1 side of Ginko Street to allow for 2 lanes of traffic. Staff had also done turning studies for the fire department. These were short blocks. If there was just 1 lane, there would be opportunities for people to yield so there wouldn't be conflicting traffic.

Council Member Durik stated 1 side of parking may be sufficient, however, based on his experience in German Village, he still had concerns about traffic issues.

Manager Mayer replied staff would come back to council to approve the plats and get authorization to bid the project and would follow-up with more at that time.

Council Member Durik asked if it was possible to widen the street and Manager Mayer answered the development agreement contained a maximum right-of-way within in the Village Center. Mayor Spalding stated widening the road would decrease the size of the development and the property owner had been generous with their donation.

Council Member Shull voiced concerns about the inclusion of on-street parking in the development plan. He hoped the private development would include self-parking for residents so it wouldn't add to the issues already being discussed. Parking was already tight for businesses in that area.

Manager Mayer stated the property owner and developer were present to answer questions. Based on timelines, roadway construction would come back to council for authorization to bid on January 21, 2025. The development would be going through the Architectural Review Board (ARB) where parking would be reviewed. Staff had been working with the developer to ensure they were meeting the same parking standard as the Market & Main development, which had 1 off-street parking space per bedroom, on-street parking was not included.

Council Member Shull asked if there was going to be parking in front of the new coffee shop that was planned for the former flower and wine shop. Manager Mayer replied that parking in front would be removed, however, additional parking could be added along High Street resulting in a net of no change in on-street parking. Council Member Shull frequented that area and observed on-street parking was regularly full. Council discussed increased activity in that area.

City Manager Stefanov stated staff would take another look at parking before presenting the project to the Planning Commission.

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Manager Mayer stated roadway construction could begin in April of 2025, probably running concurrently with the private development, with an estimated completion in April of 2026. The roadway network met the recommendations in the city’s strategic plan. This agreement ensured the street grid extension and established a walkable street plan. He found the first 1998 strategic plan which included this proposed street network.

Mayor Spalding thanked Manager Mayer for attending and for his and his team’s commitment to making sure the road network was sufficient. The land donation was substantial.

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 resolution R-55-2024. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-55-2024.

RESOLUTION R-56-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH PLAIN TOWNSHIP AND THE NEW ALBANY PLAIN LOCAL JOINT PARKS DISTRICT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTI-PURPOSE FIELDHOUSE AND COMMUNITY CENTER.

Deputy Public Service Director Ryan Ohly stated the New Albany Plain Local Joint Parks District (JPD) desired to construct a multi-purpose facility and community center to expand community programming. In November 2022, residents within the JPD voted to approve a bond and levy to pay for the construction and operation of the facility. The fieldhouse would be located on a tract of land owned by the city, generally located north of Walnut Street and west of Bevelhymer Road in Plain Township. The city was actively collaborating with the City of Columbus to amend the water and sanitary sewer service area boundary to include the unannexed land area adjacent to New Albany’s corporate boundary. The fieldhouse would be located within the proposed water and sanitary sewer service area boundary. When the collective legislative processes had been completed and the boundary adjustment became effective, the city would annex the land, enabling the fieldhouse to connect to public water and sanitary sewer. This memorandum of understanding (MOU) memorialized the commitments of Plain Township, the JPD, and the City of New Albany to advance the final design, permitting, and construction of the facility. The agreement committed the city to provide for the following public infrastructure improvements: construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Walnut Street and Bevelhymer Road, related roadway improvements along Walnut Street and Bevelhymer Road, and extension of public sanitary sewer and waterline infrastructure along the limits of the intersection improvement. Funding for this work was provided for in the 2025 Capital Improvement budget.

Council Member Shull asked and City Manager Stefanov could not recall whether the 12” water main would be on the east or west side of Bevelhymer Road. He stated it would head east on Walnut Road and north on Bevelhymer Road and connect to the 8” line at Bevelhymer Road and the public service garage drive. Deputy Director Ohly stated only 30% of planning had been done and staff would circle back with more information. Council Member Shull wanted to know more about future sewer taps and connections.

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 resolution. Council Member Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-56-2024.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

NONE

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:

- A. Council Representative to MORPC: No meeting.
- B. Council Representative to Joint Parks and Recreation: Council Member Shull reported that the JPD would be breaking ground on the fieldhouse in March and opening in the beginning of 2026, weather depending. The JPD was starting spring sports registration and continued building their data base as users created new profiles.
- C. Council Representative to New Albany-Plain Local Schools: Council Member Kist reported the state champion boys' soccer team was honored at the school board meeting. The school's production of A Chorus Line was fantastic. The Citizen Advisory Committee for Student Belonging launched an initiative to welcome, orient, support, and connect with each student over time. The campus master plan update was discussed with a focus on the new 102,000 square foot building. There was a conceptual plan with the orientation of classrooms. Ruscilli Construction Co., Inc. was officially retained as Construction Manager at Risk for the project.
- D. Council Representative to Plain Township: Council Member Durik reported the township approved expenses and approved the fire department to order a pumper truck for new substation given the possible 3-year lead time needed to fulfill the order.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

- A. Mayor: Mayor Spalding thanked the New Albany Chamber for a wonderful Tree Lighting Ceremony which drew a large crowd. He enjoyed the drone show and it was well received. He thanked the New Albany Police Department for their proactive traffic control. He had previously talked to the city manager about a possible drone show for the America's 250th celebration in July 2026.
- B. Clerk of Council: Clerk Mason polled council on New Albany liquor permit renewals in 2025. Council had no objections. The council group photo was rescheduled to January 21 due to the Community Improvement Corporation holiday party conflict.
- C. Finance Director: No report.
- D. City Manager: No report.
- E. City Attorney: No report.

POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE

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POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:

Council Member Kist reported, despite the weather, the Thanks for Giving 4-miler turned out to be the biggest event of the year with 3,500 registrations, and 2,500-2,600 showing. He thanked city staff and the police department for all their support on Thanksgiving Day. Public Service staff salted roads at 2 am in case of snow. The New Albany Charity Run made the largest donation ever of \$50,000 to the Mid-Ohio Food Bank which would double to \$100,000 with donation matching. Another \$50,000 was donated to Life Care Alliance and \$11,000 to the New Albany Community Foundation. Other race routes that could accommodate the increasing number of participants could be explored.

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, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee and/or official(s). Council Member Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to go into executive session at 7:36 pm.

Mayor Spalding moved that council come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council resumed the regular meeting at 8:20 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION R-53-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT JOSEPH STEFANOV TO THE POSITION OF CITY MANAGER EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025 AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT.

Human Resources Officer Lindsay Rasey, stated this resolution and the related public hearing were required under the Ohio Revised Code for employees directly appointed by a legislative body who wished to retire and be rehired by their current employer. The approval of this resolution would facilitate the orderly transition to a new city manager over the course of the next 24 months and enable the city to maintain continuity of leadership during this period of significant community growth.

Public hearing for resolution and pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 145.381

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 Wilttrout seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-53-2024.

Mayor Spalding stated, if there was no objection from council, he would put the city manager's 2024 bonus, severance payouts, and 2025 salary into one motion. Council did not object to a single motion.

Mayor Spalding moved to award City Manager Joseph Stefanov a bonus of 15% of his 2024 base salary for his performance in 2024 with the December 27, 2024 pay date; to pay City Manager Stefanov any severance payouts he was entitled to as a result of his retirement with the December 27, 2024 pay date; and



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to pay City Manager Stefanov a base salary of \$217,312.32, as budgeted in the 2025 city budget, beginning January 1, 2025. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to pass the motion

Mayor Spalding stated council had benefited from City Manager Stefanov’s sage leadership as the community had grown from a village into an economic development juggernaut. The city budget, with a healthy balance sheet, was approved under the city manager’s leadership. He felt staff reflected the city manager and his professionalism. Mayor Spalding stated that fairly compensating him was council’s way of thanking him for his service. Council members agreed and thanked City Manager Stefanov. Council Member Shull commented there wasn’t anything that City Manager Stefanov had not touched in New Albany during his 24 years with the city. His efforts were much appreciated by the residents and community partners.

OTHER BUSINESS:


City Manager Stefanov stated the naming of the new street, temporarily called “Ginko Street,” was still under discussion and would be presented at the next council meeting, if necessary.

Mayor Spalding reminded council about the Economic Development 411 event the morning of December 6 and the New Albany Chamber Delta Awards the evening of December 6.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Kist seconded to adjourn the December 3, 2024 regular council meeting at 8:27 pm.

ATTEST:


Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council


Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor

17 Dec 2024
Date