NEW ALBANY
COMMUNITY CONNECTS US

Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

August 18, 2026

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of August 18, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the New Albany Village Hall, 99 West Main Street, New Albany, Ohio. Staff attending were Deputy City Manager Adrienne Joly, Law Director Benjamin Albrecht, Director of Finance Bethany Staats, Deputy Director of Finance Morgan Joeright, Police Chief Greg Jones, Director of Development Jennifer Chrysler, Director of Public Service Ryan Ohly, Deputy Director of Public Service Steven Mayer, Director of Strategic Initiatives Abbey Brooks, Communications & Marketing Manager Adrienne Mayfield, Multimedia Communications Specialist Sam Fahmi, Communications & Marketing Specialist Alexandra Fox, Sustainability Programs Coordinator David Celebrezze, Community Programs Intern Janelle Brown, and Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason.

Mayor Spalding led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

The following Mayor/Council Members answered Roll Call:

Mayor Sloan Spalding	P
CM Marlene Brisk	P
CM Michael Durik	P
CM Kasey Kist	A
CM John McClelland	P
CM Matt Shull	P
CM Andrea Wiltrout	P

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

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Council approved the September 15, 2025, Capital Projects Workshop minutes by consensus.
Council approved the July 21, 2026, regular meeting minutes by consensus.
Council approved the August 4, 2026, regular meeting minutes by consensus.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

NONE

HEARING OF VISITORS:

NONE

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Council Member Wiltrout reported the PC approved a Woodhaven model home for 2 years or until the last lot in the subdivision was sold, whichever came first. The PC heard an informal review of the New Albany Links driving range. There was a proposal to turn it into a short golf course which would mean fewer high-speed drives affecting the neighbors. The PC provided notes regarding the need for increased buffering and additional trees, and the applicant was expected to return for a formal review.

PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD (PTAB): No meeting.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (ARB): Council Member Brisk reported the ARB approved the plans for a private home at 6915 Central College Road. The ARB approved the demolition of a home on Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road, submitted by the New Albany Company. The structure was determined to have no historical significance. There was no discussion of what would happen to the property next.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA): No meeting.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD (SAB): No report.

INCLUSION DIVERSITY EQUITY AND ACCESSIBILITY IMPLEMENTATION PANEL (IDEA): Council Member Brisk reported the panel did a 2026 business review. The November 7 Diwali celebration had received $21,500 in sponsorship thus far. In 2026, there were many accessibility initiatives including Culture City certification, creating a sensory tent, having an Accommodation Station and accessible parking for the July 4 parade, and offering a fully accessible mobile restroom for Oktoberfest. There was an intergenerational event. The New Albany 101 SOUPer Supper had outgrown the Heit Center and would be held at the New Albany Fieldhouse & Community Center for 2027. There were a total of 17 Community Connectors representing 15 neighborhoods, some had hosted events. The New Albany 101 Business Park tour and 'Appy Hour were announced for September 10. Budget and agenda planning for 2027 would begin soon.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (CRAB): No meeting.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: No meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS:
NONE

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:
NONE

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:
NONE

READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS:
RESOLUTION R-34-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH OUTDOORICERINKS.COM TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE AN OUTDOOR ICE RINK IN THE CHARLEEN AND CHARLES HINSON AMPHITHEATER AND TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT AGREEMENTS AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE OUTDOOR ICE RINK.

Director of Strategic Initiatives Abbey Brooks introduced Janelle Brown, the Community Programs summer intern, who gave council a box of donuts. The city wished to offer an outdoor ice rink to residents and visitors in the Charleen and Charles Hinson Amphitheater. Funds to support the construction and management of an outdoor ice rink were appropriated and approved in the 2026 budget. This programming aligned with the city's foundational pillars and would provide unique and memorable experiences for the community while driving business to local restaurants and nearby retail establishments.

Director Brooks outlined the key benefits of the proposal: it would expand programming into the city's off-peak months, extend the amphitheater season to approximately 9 months of operation, drive tourism and traffic to nearby restaurants and businesses, and position New Albany as only the second suburban community in central Ohio to offer this type of outdoor real-ice skating. The proposed operator was Outdoor Ice Rinks, a family-run business with 80-plus years of experience. The rink would be closed Monday through Wednesday, except for private rentals, and open Thursday through Sunday. Extended hours of were planned for December 19 through December 30 during the school holiday break. The season was proposed to run from the Sunday before Thanksgiving through February 28. The rink would be constructed between the stage of the amphitheater over the pit area on a platform and reach the surrounding concrete walkway. Entry would occur from the side of the amphitheater, with the existing ticket box office repurposed for skate rentals and admission payments. The chiller equipment and a small resurfacing machine would be housed near the restrooms and screened with fencing.

The agreement was proposed as a one-year term with two possible one-year renewals. Director Brooks provided a cost breakdown of the ice rink per the attached slides. Revenue from skate admissions and rentals would be split 50/50 between the city and the operator after operating expenses, with the operator's share effectively covering their labor costs. The operator's total revenue projection for the season was $150,000 to $200,000, described as highly weather dependent. Using the lowest projected revenue and highest projected operating costs, the city's estimated share of revenue at season's end would be approximately $26,500. Under the same assumptions, the capital investment was projected to be recovered in approximately 9 years, or 6 years at midrange projections.

Council Member Wiltrout asked and Director Brooks answered that, after 3 years, rates would be revisited. The current fee would be $15 per person, including skate rental.

Council Member Durik asked and Director Brooks replied that the company would store the platform and the entire ice rink when it wasn't being used. Storage and delivery were part of the city's annual cost. Council Member Brisk asked and Director Brooks confirmed that the city would own all of the pieces of the rink, but the company maintained and stored it.

Council Member Brisk asked and Director Brooks replied that the $167,000 capital cost to the city was just for the ice rink. The costs to modify the amphitheater were separate. The groundwork laid by this year's electrical and building modifications would reduce future costs for a full amphitheater HVAC retrofit.

Mayor Spalding asked and Director Brooks answered that the equipment was expected to last a long time. It was only used for a couple months at a time. If an item was damaged, there were clauses as to who would pay. The $15 entry fee was for 1 to 1.5 hours of skating depending on the day. The company's experience was that families rarely needed more time. The maximum skater capacity had recently changed, and she would get that number for council. No access would be granted to the amphitheater backstage area.

Council Member Shull asked and Director Brooks responded that the "licensed area" in the contract was the whole amphitheater. If council wanted to narrow that down, it could. Part of the rink would be on the stage. Council Member Shull understood they were responsible for damage to anything around the amphitheater. Director Brooks responded there had been a lot of conversations about protecting the stage with a layover of rubber mats. If there was damage, the contract could be canceled. Law Director Albrecht stated the licensed area was not defined by a formal exhibit in the current agreement and recommended that one be added to clearly delineate boundaries and associated responsibilities.

Council Member Brisk asked if the city could be a beneficiary of Outdoor Ice Rink's insurance. Finance Director Bethany Staats and City Manager Stefanov confirmed that the city's existing insurance policy would be reviewed and adjusted as needed. Law Director Albrecht noted that the agreement's minimum insurance requirement served as a baseline, but that actual coverage was anticipated to be higher.

Director Brooks reviewed what had been budgeted for 2026 and the 2026-2027 ice rink season estimated costs per the attached slides. There would be some modifications to the amphitheater to accommodate the rink. Restrooms would be rented. Seating could be purchased. The school was amenable to the plans.

Council Member McClelland asked about the $25,000 of building modifications to heat water on 1 side of the building. What would it cost to make the restrooms available, so the city wasn't renting restrooms? Director Brooks answered the quote to upgrade the existing restrooms was $100,000 and required substantial construction. Council Member McClelland expressed concern about ongoing rental costs. Director Brooks recommended evaluating the program after a year to see whether the rink was popular and would remain at this location. City Manager Stefanov understood it would be an additional $75,000 to heat and cool the amphitheater rooms.

Council Member McClelland asked and Director Brooks answered she would follow up with the actual dimensions. Deputy City Manager Joly estimated it was around 1/3 the side of a regulation hockey rink.

Council Member Shull understood and Director Brooks confirmed the company had no start-up costs. Those were paid by the city. The revenue was split after the city's costs and the company's labor. Per the contract, additional security would be split by the company and the city regardless of the reason for the security. The amphitheater site was enclosed and had gates. Council and staff discussed police answering a call to the rink versus additional rink security hires.

Council Member McClelland asked and Director Brooks confirmed the employees who sold tickets weren't necessarily security. Deputy City Manager Joly added that if security became an issue, the city would meet with the operator to discuss how to proceed.

Council Member Durik stated his experience with young families was good, but teenagers could be out of control on the ice. He expressed concern about someone falling off the side of the rink into the pit. He would want to see an employee on the ice, not just off it. Deputy City Manager Joly stated staff could clarify that with the company. She anticipated different needs depending on the day or time. Director Brooks understood that this company and their employees had a lot of experience with these rinks. She anticipated more staff on-site when public visits were higher.

Council Member Brisk asked and Deputy City Manager Joly stated the company had an outdoor ice rink in Dublin for 4-5 years and longer in Cleveland. The company also operated an indoor rink in Cleveland for much longer.

Council Member Shull asked and Law Director Albrecht confirmed licensing responsibilities such as set up and tear downs could go under obligations and responsibilities in the agreement.

Council Member Wiltrout liked the amenity and activating the amphitheater in the winter. She acknowledged the high cost for something the city was trying out. Council Member Shull asked for a basic cost estimate at the Athletic Campus site. Deputy City Manager Joly stated it couldn't happen in 2026, but staff could get cost estimates. Council Member McClelland asked and Deputy City Manager Joly answered the platforms alone cost around $50,000. A larger rink at the Athletic Complex would likely cost more. Ticketing and rental would likely need a building.

Deputy City Manager Joly and Director Brooks reviewed other considerations for the site including parking, snow plowing and removal around the ice rink, whether the Athletic Campus site was preferred, whether the rink would be moved, the rink being customized for the amphitheater, and ice rink festivities/programs including food trucks.

Council Member Durik noted that weekend activity at the McCoy Center for the Arts would increase parking demand around the amphitheater. Director Brooks stated staff had reviewed the school's event calendar and suggested signage to reserve parking for the McCoy during certain school events.

Council Member McClelland asked and Director Brooks confirmed that rink would be inside the city's Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA). There would be no drink or food allowed on the ice. In addition to BrewDog patrons bringing drinks over, regular popular food/drink trucks could be programmed.

Mayor Spalding asked and Director Brooks replied that staff had not planned to close any part of the amphitheater off. Skates were not allowed to leave the rubber matted area. The ice rink package included rubber matting for the floors and benches to put on skates.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing.

Charles Schumacher, 7171 Biddick Court, asked and Director Brooks answered that an ADA accessible restroom would be available at the rink. The rink would be accessible by wheelchair or device. She could ask about assistive skating. The standard trash and recycling bins would be available.

Council Member Brisk asked and Director Brooks answered that the deadline to approve this was fast approaching for amphitheater upgrade construction and to secure the mobile restroom reservation. She believed that waiting until the September 1 council meeting could work but was pushing the timeline.

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

Council Member Brisk moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-34-2026.

RESOLUTION R-35-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR THE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION AND DELIVERY FOR DISPOSAL OR PROCESSING OF RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE, RECYCLABLE MATERIALS, AND YARD WASTE GENERATED WITHIN THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO.

Deputy Public Service Director Steven Mayer presented the first of 3 waste-services resolutions, providing context that 2026 was the final year of the city's current 5-year consortium contract and that each of the 3 resolutions represented a separate service category bid through the consortium process. The legal review of all bids was conducted by Eastman & Smith on behalf of the consortium.

Deputy Director Mayer stated the city had solicited residential waste bids for 2 options, a volume-based trash service recommended by the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB), under which residents who disposed more waste would pay more; and the traditional core services model. No bids were received for the volume-based option, indicating that the market was not ready for that. Two bids were received for the traditional core services model. Rumpke submitted a bid with a base price of $26.79 per household per month. Waste Management submitted a bid at $50.00 per household per month. The current contract base price was $25.53 per month. The proposed 5-year contract with Rumpke would lock in a rate of $26.79 through 2031.

Deputy Director Mayer outlined service terms, which remained largely status quo. Rumpke currently provided the services. No changes were proposed for collection day, the 10% senior discount, bulk pickup, or recycling cart inclusion. Minor increases were noted in billing services, appliance recycling, carryout services, and the trash cart rental fee. Both Eastman & Smith and the Sustainability Advisory Board recommended the Rumpke bid.

Council Member Shull asked and Deputy Director Mayer answered seniors had to apply to Rumpke directly for the senior discount.

Mayor Spalding asked and Deputy Director Mayer stated the SAB had not previously reviewed and recommended trash collection and hauling bids. This was the first time since the SAB's establishment that said bid had been received by the city.

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 Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-35-2026.

RESOLUTION R-36-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND PROCESSING OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS GENERATED IN AND COLLECTED FROM THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO.

Deputy Public Service Director Steven Mayer stated this bid covered the processing of recyclable materials - a service the city paid for on behalf of its residents, separate from the curbside collection fee. The city paid approximately $32,000 in 2023, approximately $12,000 in the prior year, and was on pace to spend approximately $15,000 in 2026. Costs fluctuated based on commodities markets and total recycling volume. 2 bids were received. Rumpke proposed the same rate as the current contract: $35 per ton for processing, with a revenue share of up to $20 per ton if commodity values were high enough. Waste Management submitted a bid at a maximum of $135 per ton with an unlimited revenue share potential. While Waste Management's unlimited revenue share was theoretically attractive, its higher cost and reduced range of recyclable materials made it less favorable. Both Eastman & Smith and the Sustainability Advisory Board recommended the Rumpke bid.

Council Member Shull asked and Deputy Director Mayer answered the recycling revenue sharing component had been available for the last 5 years.

Council Member Durik asked and Deputy Director Mayer replied, this year, the city had been seeing costs at $5 a ton totaling $7,581 as of July. Last year cost $11,661.

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

Council Member Wiltrout moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Durik seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-36-2026.

RESOLUTION R-37-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR THE CURBSIDE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION, AND PROCESSING OF RESIDENTIAL FOOD WASTE GENERATED WITHIN THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO.

Deputy Public Service Director Steven Mayer described cited data from SWACO indicating that 76% of all curbside waste was potentially recyclable or compostable, and that food waste was the single largest material in the Franklin County landfill. Franklin County's overall recycling diversion rate of 51% exceeded the national average. The adoption of the 2020 Engage New Albany Strategic Plan led to the creation of the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) in 2021. Waste reduction had been a top 3 priority of the board since its inception. Recently, the city had implemented 2 food waste programs. The first was 4 community food waste drop-off locations which had collected 17.12 tons of food waste. The second was a curbside food waste pickup pilot program in the Windsor subdivision, which had been running for approximately 1 year. The Windsor pilot achieved an 18% household sign-up rate, with 63% of those households putting compost out in any given week. Of those who participated in a recent poll, 93% reported the program had met their expectations, and the program had diverted 5.1 tons of composted material over its duration. The pilot was scheduled to conclude at year's end.

Deputy Director Mayer stated three bids were received. The Compost Exchange, which operated the Windsor pilot, submitted the lowest bid at $2.16 per city household per month equating to a base fee of $103,000 for participation billed to the city. Go Zero submitted a bid at $10.61 per household per month. Local Waste submitted a bid at $15.00 per household per month. The proposed contract with the Compost Exchange was structured as a 3-year term with two 1-year renewal options, with the ability to exit without penalty after 2 1/2 years. The Sustainability Advisory Board voted 5-1 to recommend acceptance, with the stipulation that the city cover the full cost, including bucket liners, without reliance on grants. The dissenting board member supported composting in principle but did not see the value compared to existing programs.

Council Member Wiltrout asked and Deputy Director Mayer answered that all 3 bids were for service to a maximum of 4,000 homes no matter how many took advantage. Currently, around 3,8000 homes used Rumpke's services. The Compost Exchange would assume services for some future homes.

Deputy Director Mayer explained the cost structure of the Compost Exchange bid. The base fee for weekly curbside pick-up was $103,680 annually, charged regardless of participation rate—consistent with how the city's other consortium contracts were structured. The provision of compostable bucket liners, at 100% participation with weekly use, would total $32,640 annually, bringing total potential program cost to

$136,000 annually. At the Windsor pilot program participation rate of 18%, the estimated cost for service and liners would be approximately $110,000 annually. If the city adopted the program, SWACO offered free buckets for the first 30% of participating households and a $100,000 grant, with an additional $15,000 earmarked for educational outreach. The grant could be applied to liner costs, program administration, or a communications campaign. Compost Exchange agreed to provide each participating resident with up to four gallons of finished compost per year and and the option to purchase more. Deputy Director Mayer reviewed the cities of Bexley's and Upper Arlington's programs.

Council members asked for more specifics on Bexley's program which was partially reimbursed by residents through their water and refuse bills. Upper Arlington's bill was only for residents who signed up. Council and staff further discussed city and resident costs.

Council Member Brisk asked and Deputy Director Mayer confirmed that the only bids the city received were for all households together, not individual participants.

Council Member Wiltrout asked if the city could bid out 1,000 households. She didn't want to pay for people not using the service. Deputy Director Mayer anticipated, with that type of bid, the city would see an increase in per household costs. Council Member Wiltrout wanted to know that number.

Council Member Durik expressed concern about spending $130,000 for maybe 10% to 18% of residents using this service. He acknowledged the benefits of composting but had difficulty justifying the cost. The existing compost drop-off locations - and perhaps a few more could be added - were a lower-cost alternative for residents committed to composting.

Council Member Brisk asked and Deputy Director Mayer confirmed that the city's cost for recycling was around $10,000 per year.

Deputy Director Mayer stated participation rates tended to grow over time. Bexley had a 41% participation rate. He couldn't guarantee participation rates but expect them to grow. Council Member Wiltrout stated the city could start somewhere.

Deputy Director Mayer stated the Windsor subdivision pilot program had been running for about 1 year.

Council Member McClelland asked and Deputy Director Mayer responded there was messaging and outreach in Windsor when the pilot was launched. Council Member Durik added that the city provided free buckets. Council Member McClelland asked what happened after that.

Charles Schumacher, 7171 Biddick Court, stated the Sustainability Advisory Board spent 3-4 months conducting boots-on-the-ground outreach and asking participants to recruit neighbors in Windsor, ultimately reaching 74 households, up from the mid-to-high 30s at launch. SWACO was offering $15,000 each year for 3 years to do educational work.

Council Member McClelland asked about Windsor feedback. He understood 90% of program participants were happy with it. Five gallons was a pretty large size and 64% of program participants put it out weekly. Were people waiting until the bucket filled before putting it out? Did some decide they weren't using the program and stopped putting out buckets? Where did people put the bucket? Mr. Schumacher described how some people managed the bucket and their food waste over the week. Most kept their buckets in their garage or just outside of it.

Council Member Shull recognized the SAB's work around the city. He stated he would be more comfortable with opt-in/opt-out program from a cost perspective. He wasn't seeing the demand for a program like this with the 18% sample participation. He asked Mr. Schumacher's thoughts.

Mr. Schumacher stated Windsor was partially chosen for ease of pick-up, so he didn't know if it was representative of the city. People's use was intermittent; the 63% varied from week to week. He expected pockets of the city would participate more or less. Overall, 18% represented 700 residents, which was not a small amount, and the city paid for things that affected less than 700 residents on an annualized basis. The board wasn't looking to spend money. They audited the drop-off bins and pulled a third one from Taylor Farm which wasn't consistently being used. This service was one of those things that "we wouldn't know until we know." He realized this was a big expense to make that leap.

Council Member Shull stated the expectation in the contract showed 50% participation at the end of 3 years compared to the 18% usage in the pilot program. He didn't know if the city would meet those benchmarks, which then the cost came with, as well.

Council Member Wiltrout asked and Deputy Director Mayer replied that the SWACO grant was not contingent on the participation rate and they would not ask for reimbursement.

Council Member Brisk hadn't seen the city offer a service to residents and then take it back. The city would have to go into a contract cautiously. The city's population was growing. Was there enough of a demand to justify this commitment? She was not convinced the city was ready for a program like this yet and didn't like committing to the cost for all households. She was happy for the success of the drop-off bins. She wondered if the city should put more money behind those. If the compost service was adopted, the drop-off bins might be less utilized, thereby not netting as much as projected. She wanted to make it more convenient if there were enough people doing it, but she wasn't sure the population was there yet.

Mr. Schumacher stated the SAB agreed that running the bin and curbside pick-up parallel to each other was the best course of action until one proved to be better. The SAB would monitor the bins and city staff could adjust accordingly. He didn't know when a comfort level would come through. He pointed out that the city didn't start recycling until the early 2000s and it had grown since then. Offering pick-up was the only way to figure out where demand was going to be. People might not want to put food waste in their cars and haul it to a drop-off program.

Mayor Spalding thanked the SAB and staff for their hard work. He saw that the Compost Exchange offered individual residential services. He didn't know if the company had seen an uptick community interest. Perhaps the city could encourage that service based on staff and the SAB's research to this point. Staff could track participation in New Albany through that. People valued what they paid for. If they weren't paying for the service, perhaps they were less interested in buying in. Mayor Spalding didn't know if that was something that could be explored.

Deputy Director Mayer agreed staff could talk to Compost Exchange about that. The cost was different for city-provided versus individual cost. Any individual in central Ohio could sign up with the Compost Exchange today. Individual curbside pick-up was $19 per month. Council Member Wiltrout noted there room to work with between her suggested 1,000 homes and 4,000 homes. Deputy Director Mayer stated staff could bring the information back to council.

Mayor Spalding observed that composting companies were partnering with farmers and these business models were evolving rapidly. He had seen compost sales at Home Depot. He thought the city could start slowly, get some community buy-in with a selected partner and with a competitive process.

Council Member Wiltrout believed in the power of composting and she utilized the drop-off bins. She'd often wanted a program like the one proposed. She didn't feel comfortable signing up all 4,000 New Albany households at this time. She would be more interested in a program at a higher per household costs but with a unit rate closer to what was seen in the pilot program.

Council Members thanked Mr. Schumacher.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing.

Alan Vestal, 7533 Parkside Drive, introduced himself as a gardener and retired engineer who worked for some environmental companies. He stated composting was a passion of his. He moved here 2 years ago, and the HOA prevented him from having a compost pile. His family collected the waste they produced and took it to a small garage container and had to find a drop-off spot. It was messy and risky to put in the car. He would prefer to walk it out to the curb, and it would be more encouraging to participate if it was easier. It made people feel good about doing it. He would enjoy getting compost back. It was an easy entry to sustainability. He believed few people would pay $20 a month for the Compost Exchange opt-in program just to feel good. Curbside was the way to go.

Council Member Shull stated, applying the 18% rate, equating to 720 households, at a cost of $19 per household, that totaled $13,680 a month. It could be an option for the city to subsidize individual curbside pick-up for a time. City Manager Stefanov stated the food waste collection program proposal was a formal bid, and any adjustments would have to be re-bid.

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

Council Member Shull moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Durik seconded and council voted with 6 no votes (Spalding, Brisk, Durik, McClelland, Shull, Wiltrout) to approve Resolution R-37-2026. The resolution was not adopted.

Council members discussed alternatives options, perhaps grants to pay for a portion of the individual costs. If participation grew, the city could reconsider a city-wide bid.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:
NONE

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:

A. Council Representative to MORPC: City Manager Stefanov reported MORPC was awarded with the 2025 Auditor of State Award with Distinction. A LinkUS infrastructure update indicated that 51 miles of trail were currently in design, approximately 100 miles were proposed for design through 2031, and 9.6 miles were under construction. ODOT had been directed to conduct a feasibility study on a proposed State Route 23/I-71 connector with results to be reported to the General Assembly by October 1. A freight conference was scheduled for August 24-26. Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler participated as a panelist in a breakout session on data center development, and MORPC was preparing a resource guide that listed New Albany's website as a reference source. Air quality in July was noted as historically poor due to Canadian wildfires. MORPC introduced a first-ever Central Ohio Regional Trail Guide and updated its metro bike map for the first time in a decade. MORPC discussed population projections through 2055. Mayor Spalding noted the population trend was sharply up in the last decade.

B. Council Representative to Joint Park District (JPD): No report.

C. Council Representative to New Albany-Plain Local Schools (NAPLS): Council Member Wiltrout reported school started August 19 and 20. The board swore in new member Jeremy Nicholas, welcomed the baseball team, and received updates on transportation food services, safety and security, the campus master plan, career pathways programming connecting students to internships, and a 5-year fiscal forecast described as positive. New stop-arm cameras on buses were made possible by a grant in partnership with the New Albany Police Department

D. Council Representative to Plain Township: Council Member Durik reported the township adopted trash and recycling services on terms similar to those adopted by the city. The township also voted against the composting proposal. The fire department had begun initial site work on the new station. The board approved expenditure of $50,000 from opioid settlement funds for new heart monitors for the EMTs. The Ohio State Emergency Response Plan had been activated by the recent storms, resulting in a mutual aid request for a medic unit to be deployed to Crooksville, Ohio to assist local fire departments overwhelmed by flooding and storm damage. Mayor Spalding asked and City Manager Stefanov replied that New Albany had received a general mutual aid request from Upper Arlington but had been committed to the school district's tree removal. He offered the city's services for the next day, by which time Upper Arlington no longer required assistance.

OTHER BUSINESS:
NONE

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

A. Mayor Spalding: Mayor Spalding praised city staff for the Summer Concert Series.

B. Clerk of Council:

Liquor Permit Requests
Clerk Mason polled council about the Elliot's /Momma Dre and Harvest New Albany LLC liquor permit transfer requests. Council did not request a hearing for either set of permits.

Clerk Mason reported that there was an open seat on the Sustainability Advisory Board after a member had resigned and confirmed that she would be advertising the opening via the usual process. Clerk Mason discussed the current use of AI to start council minutes. She explained that the clerks had been testing several programs and asked council to look for mistakes that may be introduced by AI, including attribution and sentence completion errors.

C. Finance Director: No report

D. City Manager: Deputy City Manager Joly described a road closure during Rose Run 2 construction. There would be no Main street closure during school pick-up and drop-off, though there would be single-lane closures for worker safety and the undergrounding of utility lines. She described the recommended detours. The duration of the closures would be August 24 to October 9.

City Manager Stefanov deferred the Annual Easement Report to the next meeting.

E. City Attorney: No report.

POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:
NONE

POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:
NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
Mayor Spalding moved to go into executive session pursuant to pursuant to New Albany Charter Section 4.03 (E) for economic development purposes. Council Member Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to go into executive session at 9:03 p.m.

Mayor Spalding moved that council come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council Member Wiltrout 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 9:22 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS:
Motion to execute FOP agreement

City Manager Stefanov requested council authorization to execute a collective bargaining agreement between the city and the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Capital City Lodge.

Council Member Shull moved to authorize the city manager to execute the collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police Capital City Lodge. Council Member Durik seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to adopt the motion. Motion passed.

Mayor Spalding appreciated everyone's efforts and the collaborative nature of the negotiations. He expressed council's commitment to supporting strong management-labor relations.

ADJOURNMENT:
With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Shull seconded to adjourn the August 18, 2026, regular council meeting at 9:23 p.m.

ATTEST:

Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council   Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor   01 SEP 2026
Date

BACKGROUND

- Seasonal outdoor ice rink presented at last year's budget workshop
- Idea came from a resident request for an outdoor ice rink
- Expands and differentiates programming available for residents into off peak months
- Potential to drive tourism and traffic to nearby restaurants and businesses
- Extends the amphitheater season from five to nine months of operation
- Dublin in only other suburban community in Central Ohio to offer this type of outdoor seasonal amenity

NEW ALBANY

1

OPERATIONAL ASPECTS

LOCATION

- The Charleen and Charles Hinson Amphitheater

OPERATOR

- Outdoor Ice Rinks specializes in sales, rentals, and operations for a wide range of ice rinks across the United States. Ohio projects include the Bridge Park rink in Dublin and the Cleveland Foundation rink in Public Square. The family business is headed by father/son duo Mike and Zak Shockley and the seven-member team has over 80 years of experience running ice rinks.

HOURS OF OPERATION

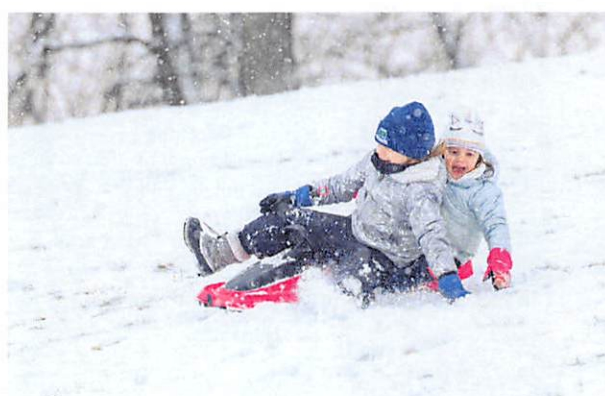
- Monday – Wednesday, closed for private rentals
- Thursday – Friday, 5 – 9 p.m.
- Saturday, Noon – 9 p.m.
- Sunday, Noon – 8 p.m.
- December 19 – December 30, Noon – 9 p.m.

STAFFING

- Minimum three staff during operating hours
- Outdoor Ice Rinks staffs the facility

INSURANCE

- Both the City and Outdoor Ice Rinks will carry insurance, the City's cost will be $158



NEW ALBANY

2

DEAL STRUCTURE

LICENSE AGEEMENT WITH OUTDOOR ICE RINKS

- One year term with two, one-year renewals possible

CITY PAYS ONE-TIME EXPENSE FOR CAPITAL COSTS

- $167,000

PROJECTED OPERATING EXPENSES

- $92,000 annually
  - Includes annual storage, construction, delivery and removal
  - Includes chiller, rental skates, rubber flooring, lighting, sound and Pinguino resurfacer
- Up to $5,000 for lighting maintenance

REVENUE SPLIT BETWEEN CITY AND VENDOR

- Outdoor Ice Rinks will split all revenue, less operating expenses, 50/50 with the City
- Revenue projection is $150,000 - $200,000 (dependent on weather)
- Using the lowest projected revenue and the highest projected operating costs, the City will receive $26,500 at the end of the season
- Using the lowest projected income and highest projected expenses, the City's initial capital investment will be recouped in nine years

The City of Dublin's outdoor rink

NEW ALBANY

3

BUDGET

2026 APPROPRIATIONS

- $200,000 – amphitheater to ice rink transition including additional fees for utilities and maintenance
- $92,000 – annual operating fees
- $10,000 – ice rink programming and supplies
- $75,000 – Misc. Council Initiatives

Total $387,000

2026–27 ESTIMATED COSTS

- $167,000 – one-time capital expense for platform, dashers, piping, etc.
- $34,300 – electric modifications to amphitheater
- $25,000 – building modifications to amphitheater
- $24,000 – restroom rental and servicing
- $92,000 – annual operating fees
- $10,000 – ice rink programming and supplies

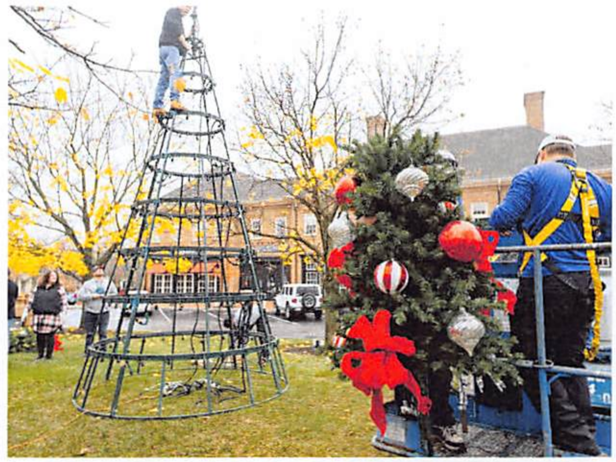
Total $352,300

NEW ALBANY

4

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Parking could be limited on certain dates. It will rely on the McCoy lot and the Heit Center lot
- Additional maintenance will be required at amphitheater including snow removal
- Is the new athletic campus a better location for a skating rink?
- The platform the rink is constructed on is custom to the location
- Parts of the rink can be used in an alternate location, should we choose to move it
- Ice rink festivities can be incorporated into tree and menorah lighting ceremonies



NEW ALBANY

5

Q & A

WILL WE RETAIN OWNERSHIP OF CAPITAL PURCHASES AFTER TERMINATING THE AGREEMENT?

- Yes

WILL THERE BE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL EXPENSES IN THE FUTURE?

- Maybe, additional rental skates could be needed ($3,500)
- To operate the ice rink at the amphitheater in future years, the HVAC system should be updated to heat the interior of the amphitheater, including restrooms

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF CAPITAL PURCHASES?

- City, if damaged due to vandalism, Outdoor Ice Rinks if damaged by employees

WHO CARRIES INSURANCE AND HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

- Both the City and Outdoor Ice rinks will carry insurance. The City's cost will be $158.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

NEW ALBANY

6