NEW ALBANY
COMMUNITY CONNECTS US

Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

October 20, 2026

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of October 20, 2026, 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, Deputy City Manager Adrienne Joly, Law Director Benjamin Albrecht, Director of Finance Bethany Staats, Finance Department Deputy Director Morgan Joeright, Police Sergeant Oren Nauman, Director of Development Jennifer Chrysler, Director of Public Service Ryan Ohly, Director of Strategic Initiatives Abbey Brooks, Communications & Marketing Manager Adrienne Mayfield, Communications & Marketing Specialist Konner Barr, Communications & Marketing Specialist Alexandra Fox, 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	P
CM John McClelland	P
CM Matt Shull	P
CM Andrea Wiltrout	P

ACTION ON MINUTES:
Council approved the September 15, 2026, Capital Projects Workshop meeting minutes by consensus.
Council approved the October 5, 2026, special meeting minutes by consensus.
Council approved the October 6, 2026, special meeting minutes by consensus.
Council approved the October 6, 2026, regular meeting minutes by consensus.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:
NONE

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Proclamation Celebrating Police Chief Gregory Jones on His Distinguished Service with the New Albany Police Department and Congratulating Him on His Retirement and Ohio Auditor of State Keith Faber's Commendation for Chief Gregory Jones
Clerk Mason stated that the proclamation and commendation had been postponed to the November 3 council meeting.

Proclamation Congratulating the 2026 Ohio State Champion New Albany Middle School Girls Track Team
Mayor Spalding read the proclamation aloud. He noted the team's success reflected both exceptional talent and the grit and determination needed to overcome challenges. Their experience illustrated the value of school athletics in teaching hard work and teamwork.

Patty Randall, middle school track coach, praised the athletes and their parents for their support. The team succeeded because the athletes were kind, genuine young women in addition to being talented, and she encouraged them to continue working hard because she knew they would accomplish great things.

Amy Maple, now retired middle school track coach, thanked everyone for having them there. She began working at New Albany in 1994 and was one of the first track coaches, before the school even had a track. She felt blessed to leave on top as state champions. She stated that New Albany Middle School Boys runner, Chase Rucker, placed first at the state track meet for the mile.

Council Member Kist thanked Coaches Randall and Maple for building a fun and motivating middle school program that coached boys and girls and created a pipeline into the high school sport. Coach Maple had coached for 32 years and was at every meet. He congratulated the athletes and thanked the coaches once more.

Healthy New Albany Request for Rent Holiday

Patty McClimon, resident, Healthy New Albany (HNA) board chair and employee of Nationwide Children's Hospital, presented on behalf of Executive Director Rachel Haulk. She requested an extension of the rent holiday the city had provided to Healthy New Albany over the previous 3 years. She presented the attached slides. In 2025, the community food pantry had seen a 74% increase in individuals served, with almost 250,000 meals served and more than 1,500 individuals served, including children during school breaks. The organization also operated programs and classes, the Taylor Farm Park community garden, and 18 Farmers Markets in 2025. It worked with partners including New Albany, Columbus State, the Mid-Ohio Food Collective, and Nationwide Children's Hospital. The rent holiday covered taxes, insurance, and common area maintenance expenses at the Heit Center, which were shared among three tenants, and that the city had waived them. The waiver allowed the organization to fund a search for a professional executive director with fundraising experience. The value of the waiver for 2025 was a little over $65,000. The organization had broken ground on a new food pantry, with a $6 million fundraising goal for construction and an endowment. It had raised $5.2 million since launching the campaign in May. A 2-year extension would allow HNA to complete construction, purchase furniture, fixtures, and equipment, and stabilize operations during the pantry's first year in a new building.

Mayor Spalding thanked Ms. McClimon and described council's participation in the groundbreaking. He stated that the relationship between the city and Healthy New Albany had always been a priority and that the city had supported a similar request in the past to help stabilize operations.

Council Member Kist asked and Ms. McClimon answered there was office space in the new food pantry building. How the offices and kitchen space at the Heit Center would be allocated remained to be worked out. The Heit Center would primarily be used for programming, particularly food classes, since a demonstration kitchen was not being built into the new pantry.

Council Member Brisk asked and Ms. McClimon confirmed she anticipated the pantry office users moving out. Ongoing storage needs would be negotiated. The lease might end early.

Council Member Shull asked and Ms. McClimon answered the target opening date for the new food pantry was summer of 2027.

Council Member McClelland stated, as a former school board member, he appreciated the pantry for supporting students during school breaks. He asked and Ms. McClimon responded that the pantry served anyone who attended school, lived, or worked in the greater New Albany school district zone and the township. A person from another pantry's zone would be served once and then referred to the appropriate pantry.

Council Member Shull asked and Ms. McClimon responded that a 2-year term had been requested rather than 1 or 3 years because the first year would reveal building costs that could not be accurately projected, and the second year would allow stabilization of the pantry and facilitate the move out of the Heit Center. Three years were not needed, but more than 1 year was.

Mayor Spalding moved that council authorize the city manager to negotiate a lease rate holiday for a duration determined by the city manager not to exceed 2 years. Council Member Wiltrout seconded, and council voted with 7 yes votes to pass the motion.

Plain Township Update

Township Trustee Kerri Mollard introduced Township Trustee Schell, Fire Chief Patrick Connor, and Township Administrator Ben Collins. She stated Trustee Jill Beckett-Hill couldn't be present. She recognized Council Member Durik as New Albany's liaison. She presented the attached slides. The township held its Fire Prevention Week Open House. New firefighters were sworn in, funded by a federal SAFER grant that allowed hiring and training ahead of the opening of the new fire station, and a new rescue engine had arrived. The new station was under construction, with thanks extended to The New Albany Company for the donated land and to voters for the fire levy. The station would house an engine and a medic and reduce run times to the northern part of the district. Runs to the city of Columbus decreased from 30 to 20% and were now at 10%, while runs within New Albany and Plain Township were up 8%. About 66.7% of calls were EMS calls, and calls to nursing homes were at their highest volume. The township reported that pool attendance was slightly down while membership, gate sales, and revenues remained strong, utility expenses were back in line, and more swimming lessons were offered. She also presented a preliminary rendering of Maplewood Cemetery improvements including columbaria and scattering gardens, and announced Wreaths Across America on Saturday, December 19, with over 600 veteran graves honored, and looked forward to the city's partnership on that. She recognized the scout master who did a lovely job reading the names. There was still time for the public to sponsor wreaths.

Council Member Shull thanked all of the township representatives for all the things they were doing. He congratulated the fire chief on the new station.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Council Member Wiltrout reported the PC approved the rezoning of 0.3 acres of land that was missing from a prior rezoning package. The zoning was changed from Agricultural (AG) to Limited General Employment (L-GE). Law Director Albrecht presented on board and commission procedures. The PC received an update on the fieldhouse, the athletic campus, and Kitzmiller Wetland Park. The PC discussed a proposed city code change to allow a public and institutional fleet facility as a permitted use in specific zoning districts to in contemplation of the new school bus garage and related projects.

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

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (ARB): The ARB approved a coffee shop sign on SR 605. The ARB postponed the application for Harvest Pizza because the horizontal sign above the door did not meet standards. The ARB approved changes to a residential property on US 62, including new windows and a balcony at the rear of the house.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA):

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD (SAB): Council Member Kist reported the SAB voted to elect Jeff Kocian as the new secretary after the previous secretary stepped down. He stated solar generation at the service department could now be monitored on the city website, that the panels were about 10-11 years into operation, and that return on the investment was expected in about 20 years, which was consistent with the original 20- to 25-year estimate. The Community Backyard program had issued 12 rebates with 11 remaining, and the Invasive Tree Trade In program had issued 15 rebates with 6 remaining. The SAB received an update that council had elected not to pursue curbside composting collection. The board looked forward to supporting composting efforts in the future. The SAB reviewed 2027 priorities, which included researching a year-round recycling center like the one recently opened in Worthington, a holistic community tree plan, engagement of apartments and senior living facilities, and community awareness. At the October 15 meeting, the board reviewed 2027 budget recommendations, which were similar to 2026 numbers. They discussed developing a sustainability action plan to help define asks of community partners. A sustainability stakeholders meeting was held with the school district, The New Albany Company, the New Albany Chamber of Commerce, and Plain Township. The fall waste collection event on October 10 served 242 cars and collected about 5,000 pounds of e-waste and about 200 pounds of textiles. The board discussed behind-the-meter power generation and requested staff identify experts to present.

INCLUSION DIVERSITY EQUITY AND ACCESSIBILITY IMPLEMENTATION PANEL (IDEA): Council Member Wiltrout reported the IDEA Panel reviewed the 2027 workplan, which would focus on accessibility and building on accessibility initiatives like ones at Oktoberfest. The panel would continue its Souper Supper, business park tour, and Diwali events, and add an international game night. The recent business park tour was very popular, with all 3 bus tours full. Everyone was excited for Diwali which would be held on November 7. It would include a community cultural wardrobe tent with donated saris in exchange for a donation to the New Albany food pantry.

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-43-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR.

Deputy Director Morgan Joeright stated this was the annual legislation required by the Ohio Revised Code. The resolution accepted the amounts and rates determined by the Franklin County Budget Commission and authorized the amounts generated by the necessary tax levies. The rate set was at 1.94 mils, which is what was included in the Tax Budget adopted at the July 2026 council meeting.

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 Durik seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to approve Resolution R-43-2026

RESOLUTION R-44-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR.

Deputy Director Morgan Joeright stated this was the annual legislation required by the Ohio Revised Code. The resolution accepted the amounts and rates determined by the Licking County Budget Commission and authorized the amounts generated by the necessary tax levies. The rate set was 1.7 mils, which is what was included in the Tax Budget adopted at the July 2026 council meeting.

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

Council Member Shull moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to approve Resolution R-44-2026.

RESOLUTION R-45-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE NEW ALBANY COMPANY LLC AND M/I HOMES OF CENTRAL OHIO, LLC.

Deputy City Manager Adrienne Joly stated this was a three-party agreement between the city, The New Albany Company (NACO), and M/I Homes of Central Ohio. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) established a coordinated framework for public and private projects southeast of the SR 161 and US 62 interchange in the Ganton Parkway area. These included the new east-west public street, Ganton Parkway, connecting Dublin-Granville Road to US 62 and Johnstown Road, with the first phase under construction behind the fire station. The agreement also included the extension of Rose Run Park, a stormwater basin, road improvements, wetland mitigation, landscaping, rights-of-way, and development infrastructure. Under the MOU, the city would build the primary street, a portion of the Miller Avenue extension, and Rose Run Park Phase 3, and it would pay its share of stormwater basin costs related to city streets. The timing of the Miller Avenue extension and Rose Run Park would be at the city's sole discretion, with no timing or funding commitments. The New Albany Company would dedicate road right-of-way and approximately 19 acres of parkland, contribute $1 million to the Kitzmiller Road and Dublin-Granville Road intersection as part of the Ganton Parkway project, and perform landscaping and grading. M/I Homes would build its portion of Miller Avenue to serve the subdivision, build the entire stormwater basin, and reimburse the city approximately $217,000 for waterline work. The MOU clarified the participating parties' responsibilities,

secured land and financial commitments from private partners, and preserved the city's authority over public infrastructure and future park planning.

Council Member Shull asked whether the 14 acres of parkland dedicated to the city included the stormwater basin, since he understood the park was only about 15 acres. He asked who would manage the basin. Deputy Director Joly responded that the basin was included in the labeled park area and that additional park space of roughly 4.5 to 5 acres along Dublin-Granville Road would also be dedicated, which would create a more continuous linear park path.

Tom Rubey, director of planning, The New Albany Company clarified that the total parkland dedication was more than 19 acres, including the park along Randall Road and the park on the inside extension. The stormwater basin would be maintained by NACO's master association.

Council Member Durik asked who would extend Miller Avenue and at whose cost. Deputy Director Joly explained that M/I Homes was obligated to build Miller Avenue from its subdivision's farthest entry to Ganton Parkway when the subdivision was platted and built. The city's strategic plan called for a connection from US 62 to Ganton Parkway, and the MOU committed the city to extend Miller Road, with no timing requirement.

Council Member Durik and Deputy Director Joly responded that there would be 2 ingress and egress points for the subdivision, both leading to Ganton Parkway, with M/I Homes building its portion of Miller Avenue.

Council Member Durik asked whether the access points would be signalized or stop-controlled. Deputy Director Joly stated that the final development plan and traffic study had gone through the Planning Commission and that she did not believe the points were signalized. Mr. Rubey stated that he believed they were not signalized but would need to review the traffic analysis to confirm. Council Member Durik expressed concern about the volume of homes, construction traffic, hospital access, and the absence of signals to manage traffic, as well as potential congestion with traffic accessing SR 161. He didn't believe stop signs would accommodate all of that traffic.

Council Member Shull noted that he had seen traffic backed up on Dublin-Granville Road from the light at Harlem Road back to Meadway Drive, also that traffic exited at Beech Road to bypass highway congestion. He asked whether the developer had considered extending a connection south to SR 161 as another entrance and exit.

Mr. Rubey explained the parcel was originally zoned in 1998 for about 350 units with a commitment that there would be no vehicular connection to that section of Dublin-Granville Road, and that traffic would be handled through a new arterial collector road, Ganton Parkway. The parcel was later rezoned to accommodate the hospital and medical office uses. The current configuration was approved by the Planning Commission (PC) and council with traffic analyses. The city's strategic plan assumed the Miller Avenue connection.

Council Member Wiltrout asked and Mr. Rubey replied that he did not know of a downside to connected it Dublin-Granville Road but that the plan reflected long-standing commitments, rights-of-way dedications, traffic studies, and cooperation with the city that exceeded initial commitments. Reevaluating the traffic and road pattern for a zoned subdivision was not something The New Albany Company was interested in pursuing. Council Member Durik asked what would happen if council requested it, and Mr. Rubey confirmed that the company had no interest in doing so.

Mayor Spalding asked whether a driver leaving the neighborhood could turn right on Ganton Parkway rather than left. Deputy Director Joly responded that a driver could turn right and reach a roundabout, from which a road connected to Dublin-Granville Road, so a connection existed though not at the immediate south end of the platted community.

Council Member McClelland asked how many units were planned, and Mr. Rubey confirmed 240 units, a combination of attached and detached product. Council Member McClelland asked and Mr. Rubey confirmed that the traffic study was based on 240 units. The original zoning allowed 340 units, with no nearly 20-acre green space dedication and no hospital use. The current parkland dedication far exceeded subdivision regulation requirements.

Council Member McClelland asked where the Nationwide Children's entrance would be and whether it would be the likely location of a light or roundabout. Deputy Director Joly stated that the entrance aligned with Miller Avenue. Ganton Parkway had some extra capacity near the interchange. She stated that, as the area was built out, the city would study the intersections to determine whether a roundabout, signal, or change in stop conditions was warranted, and that the service department and engineers continually monitored conditions.

Mayor Spalding asked whether the city had a more comprehensive traffic study covering the fire station, Marburn Academy, Nationwide Children's Hospital, and the new residential development. Deputy Director Joly responded that the study considered capacity and uses, projected about 20 years into the future with background growth, and supplemented by continuing monitoring and adjustments, as had been done at Smiths Mill, Kitzmiller, and Dublin-Granville roads.

Mayor Spalding commented that the MOU's flexibility on the Miller Avenue timing was reasonable but that the road should be built in time for the need, noting that a day early was acceptable but a day late was not. Deputy Director Joly agreed and stated that she expected to request a preliminary budget for traffic planning and engineering in next year's capital budget.

Mr. Rubey stated that M/I Homes' first phase was roughly 80 units, that the traffic analysis covered all 240 units and the hospital, and that about 7.5 acres east of the hospital could accommodate medical office use or an expansion.

Council Member Durik asked and Mr. Rubey answered that the traffic study was done in connection with the rezoning about 2 years earlier.

Council Member Brisk stated that tonight's matter was not about earlier commitments but that she shared Council Member Durik's concern that the city had not gotten ahead of traffic concerns, agreed with Mayor Spalding that it was better to be a day early than a day late.

Council Member Durik asked to see the study to understand its projections compared with the present, noting that additional hospital and medical buildings would add to the traffic. Deputy Director Joly stated that staff could obtain and summarize the study and present it to council. There were procedures and processes to get stop signs and signals warranted. City Manager Joseph Stefanov added that when the city extended Miller Avenue, it would also review the US 62/Miller Avenue intersection to determine the necessary traffic control device.

Mayor Spalding noted Miller Avenue would be getting more use in both directions. With the grid network forming with Second and Third Streets and Founders Alley, analysis would be important.

Council Member Wiltrout stated that the Miller Avenue extension appeared to be more effective than a Dublin-Granville Road outlet. She would be more comfortable with the plan if she knew when it would come online.

Council Member Brisk believed most residents coming out of the subdivision would be heading to SR 161, US 62, or the Village Center rather than south.

Deputy Director Joly noted that an earlier rezoning of an assisted living facility on Main Street included a commitment to dedicate right-of-way for the Miller Avenue extension, but the project had since changed hands and staff was still working to secure the right-of-way. Council's feedback to proceed on that sooner was helpful.

Council Member Durik asked whether the MOU had a deadline or urgency such that council could wait to see the draft study. Mr. Rubey stated that the decision was council's but clarified that the MOU addressed cost sharing agreements, land donation, landscaping, coordination of dirt work, road construction already underway, and M/I Homes' reimbursement for waterlines installed under Ganton Parkway so that a new road would not be torn up. Council Member Durik stated that he did not believe a two-week delay would make a difference.

Mayor Spalding asked City Manager Stefanov and Law Director Albrecht whether council could use the MOU to require additional road extensions or improvements beyond what was part of the plat. Law Director Albrecht responded that he did not believe so and that a different legal vehicle would be required.

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

Council Member Brisk stated that the MOU was a separate matter from the traffic concerns, that it provided benefits the city needed, and that the city should address council's other concerns separately.

Mayor Spalding stated that developers should expect extensive questions from council on traffic during and after construction, and he anticipated more interactive questioning during the planning process in boards and commissions or at council.

Council Member Durik stated that he did not move to change the MOU but wanted much more traffic information at the front end, before projects reached the PC.

Council Member Shull agreed, noting that the area was a hotbed of traffic concern and this project would add to that. He hoped putting the road in would help. This project was in the middle of the 500-acre growth area. The city needed help from its partners on the SR 62 and Central College Road situation. He expressed support for the MOU; it was just the whole area was the subject of hyperfocus right now.

Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to approve Resolution R-45-2026.

RESOLUTION R-46-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE, BID, AWARD, AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS RELATED TO THE GANTON PARKWAY PHASE 5 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

Public Service Director Ryan Ohly stated, after the resolution was distributed, staff made a revision to the total estimated project cost in one of the resolution's WHEREAS clauses. This project would extend Ganton Parkway

approximately 2,500 feet from its current terminus near the Nationwide Children's Hospital site to Kitzmiller Road. The Ganton Parkway boulevard section built in Phase 4 had two 11-foot travel lanes in each direction and 5-foot bike lanes, with two entry lanes at the first roundabout at Dublin-Granville Road. Between the first and second roundabouts there would be two 11-foot lanes in each direction, a 12-foot paved median, and bike lanes, terminating at Kitzmiller Road. Dublin-Granville and Kitzmiller roads would be realigned to the north, with a stop sign for northbound Kitzmiller traffic at the realigned East Dublin-Granville Road. A 12-inch water main would be extended and connected to an existing 16-inch main along Dublin-Granville Road.

Mayor Spalding asked and Director Ohly confirmed a leisure trail would run along both sides with bike exit ramps at the roundabouts.

Director Ohly stated that the total cost of $12 million comprised $10million for construction, $1 million for contingency, and $1 million for administration, management, and inspection, within the $14 million approved in the 2026 Capital Improvement Program. Bids would be advertised in November, construction would begin in December, and the roadway would be substantially complete and open to traffic by June of 2028, consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Tom Rubey, director of planning, The New Albany Company (NACO), confirmed the existence of 14-foot mounding with coordinated access, contemplated in the MOU, and a planned detention basin for the roadway. The dirt work was significant because of the drop-off between Dublin-Granville Road and Kitzmiller Road, and that spoils from the building of the M/I Homes subdivision would be used to facilitate construction of the roadbed and mounding.

Council Member Kist asked and Director Ohly confirmed the mounding was not part of the $12 million cost, and that the contractor would be required to coordinate with adjacent development to receive fill -which allowed the city to balance fill on site without a net import or export and save money.

Council Member Durik asked why Kitzmiller Road would be extended to Ganton Parkway rather than following the existing Dublin-Granville Road path. City Manager Stefanov explained that the old section of Dublin-Granville Road had to be realigned to avoid creating a 5-points intersection. He had requested that The New Albany Company terminate Dublin-Granville Road at Ganton Parkway so that residents and workers could reach the Village Center without turning left toward US 62, and the company had agreed. The original design had no direct connection to Ganton Parkway.

Council Member McClelland asked and Council Member Wiltrout replied that she understood the grade change was the issue. She was comfortable with this plan and NACO was committing $1 million. Council Member McClelland agreed, noting the road climbed uphill and a roundabout there would be difficult.

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 Brisk seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-46-2026.

RESOLUTION R-47-2026
Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY AND RELATED CONTRACTS FOR APPOINTMENT OF A SUCCESSOR CITY MANAGER.

Human Resources Officer Lindsay Rasey stated that council, through the executive search firm MGT, solicited city manager applications in July and August of 2026. MGT narrowed the pool, a working group of 3 council members reviewed materials and interviewed candidates, and the working group narrowed the pool for council's interviews. Following all council members' meetings with the candidates, Michael Stevens was recommended. This resolution authorized the mayor to negotiate and execute an employment agreement so that Mr. Stevens could begin employment in the coming weeks.

Mayor Spalding thanked the working group, the consultant, and city staff. He noted that the city had not undertaken the process in a long time because of City Manager Stefanov's long tenure and track record of building a strong team, which drew strong interest in the position. The 2 finalists were well equipped to serve and council chose the candidate it trusted for his experience and expertise. He congratulated Mike Stevens, who attended the meeting, and thanked him for taking on the commitment.

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

Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with 6 yes votes to approve Resolution R-47-2026.

COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:
NONE

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:

A. Council Representative to MORPC: No meeting.

B. Council Representative to Joint Park District (JPD): Council Member Shull reported the pickleball cameras were now operating, and a link would be available to the public on the city's website. Communications Specialist Konner Barr was working on integration with the city's website with IT. The timing was estimated within a few weeks. The image quality was good, and Council Member Shull was fielding interest from the public. Council Member Shull asked and Director Ohly stated that the city was working with Messer and would bring a GMP to council that would include the pickleball restrooms. They were hoping for authorization to target being open by spring. The fieldhouse open house happened that day and the mayor attended.

C. Council Representative to New Albany-Plain Local Schools (NAPLS): No report.

D. Council Representative to Plain Township: No report.

OTHER BUSINESS:
NONE

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

A. Mayor Spalding: Mayor Spalding reported attending the New Albany Parks Fieldhouse Open House. He congratulated City Manager Stefanov and city staff for partnering with the Joint Park District to secure the land. Mayor Spalding reminded council that Graeter's Ice Cream would hold its Grand Opening in New Albany the following Wednesday. Mayor Spalding stated he and Council Member

McClelland attended the CMH John Glenn International Airport announcement of the first international flight from Columbus to Frankfurt, Germany, via Lufthansa. Mayor Spalding credited JobsOhio, airport leadership, and the new airport CEO, and noted New Albany's landing of Bayer may have helped finalize the deal. Council Member McClelland stated that the announcement reflected the growth of the region and that many cities had competed for the flight. He added that airport CEO Darren Griffin would become a New Albany resident by the end of the year.

B. Clerk of Council: No report.

C. Finance Director: Director Staats reviewed the September report with council. General Fund income tax receipts totaled about $53 million through September, above prior years. Projections would be updated through the budget process and staff were evaluating how much of the growth reflected ongoing activity versus construction, net profits, and collection timing. General Fund operating expenditures were at 51.1% of the amended budget, or 64.5% including outstanding encumbrances. The remaining budget still had to cover fourth quarter obligations, so the difference should not be treated as year-end savings. She reviewed fund balances and investments and liquidity. The investment focus remained on preserving principal and coordinating maturities with operating and project needs.

D. City Manager: City Manager Stefanov reported an Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) representative would attend the November 3 council meeting to talk about the city's role in the board's decisions on matters such as behind-the-meter power and the approval of electric infrastructure. City Manager Stefanov reported that Beech Road was deteriorating faster than anticipated, and that staff had made spot repairs. Because of concern about the winter freeze-thaw cycle, Public Service Director Ohly asked the contractor from the Market Street extension project to hold its pricing for emergency repairs to Beech Road between Jug Street and Johnstown Road. The contractor agreed to a change order cost of $1,5 million funded by contributions from the business park. Law Director Albrecht found the change order permissible and requested a motion to create a legislative record.

Mayor Spalding moved to affirm the change order to the Market Street extension project in the amount of $1.5 million for the purpose of making emergency repairs to Beech Road from Jug Street to Johnstown Road. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to affirm the change order. Motion passed.

E. City Attorney: Law Director Albrecht reported that he conducted training for the Planning Commission on open meetings, the process for review, and keeping members focused on the task at hand, to minimize the risk of appeals to council. Other boards and commissions also required guidance on emails, public records, and motions for reconsideration had arisen. These issues could be readdressed with the boards and commissions so matters would not end up before council.

POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:
NONE

POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:
Council Member Kist reported that the PowerConneX hearing would be held that Thursday at the New Albany High School cafeteria.

Council Member Brisk acknowledged the unique moment with City Manager Stefanov not yet retired and the city bringing on Mike Stevens. She welcomed Mr. Stevens.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Spalding moved that council go into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(1) for discussions regarding appointment of a public official and employment of a public official; and for discussion regarding the investigation of charges or complaints against a public official unless the public official requests a public hearing; and pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(2) to consider the purchase of property for public purposes if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to go into executive session at 8:30 pm.

Mayor Spalding moved that council come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council resumed the regular meeting at 9:22 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Board Appointment

Council Member Kist reported that in executive session council considered the appointment of a new member to the Sustainability Advisory Board. He thanked the community members who volunteered for boards and commissions. Council Member Kist moved to appoint Noah Malik to the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) to complete an unexpired term ending June 30, 2027. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to appoint Noah Malik to the SAB for the term specified.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Kist seconded to adjourn the October 20, 2026, regular council meeting at 9:24 p.m.

ATTEST:

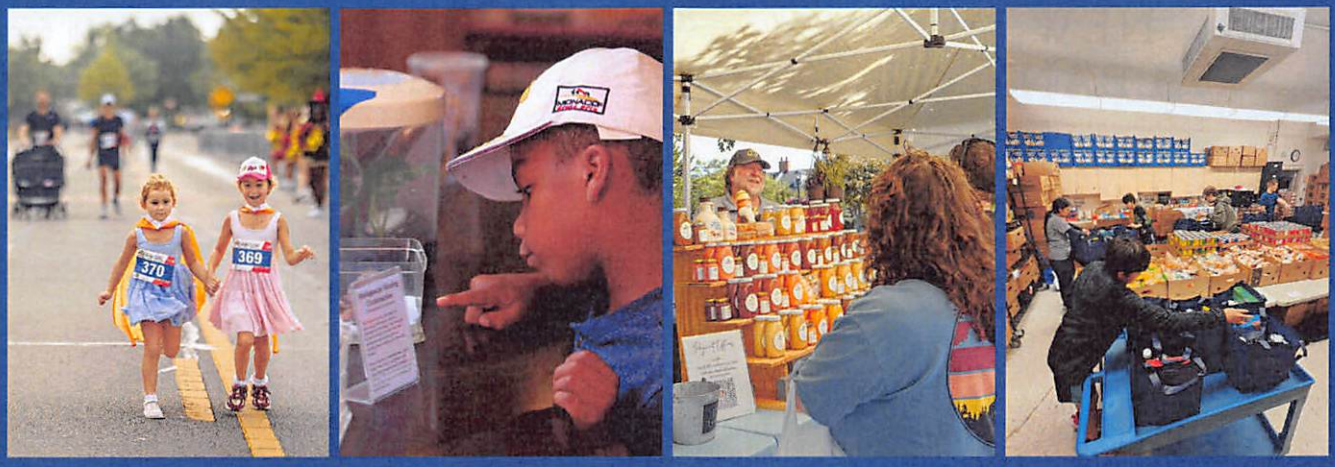
Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council

Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor

03 NOV 26
Date

HEALTHY NEWALBANY

Operating Cost (TICAM) Rent Holiday Extension Request



HEALTHY NEWALBANY

2025 Community Impact

FOOD PANTRY

74%
increase in individuals served since 2021

248,760
meals served

1,566
neighbors served

SCHOOL-BREAK MEAL SUPPORT

306 children served — Spring Break

257 children served — Winter Break

279 students served — Summer Meals

PROGRAMS & CLASSES

1,900
community members engaged

in 113 classes and programs

COMMUNITY GARDEN

86
garden plots rented

FARMERS MARKET

18 markets
13 outdoor · 5 indoor

1,200 average weekly attendees · 176 vendors

HEALTHY NEWALBANY

Community Partnerships

NEW ALBANY ESTABLISHED 1837

NEW ALBANY PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS

THE NEW ALBANY Community Foundation

mid-ohio food collective
foodbank | farm | farmacy | kitchen | market

COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MOUNT CARMEL A Member of Trinity Health

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.

NEW ALBANY Parks & Recreation

OhioHealth

CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY CENTRAL OHIO

CareSource

Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio

Ella Empowering Latinas Leadership Academy

NAWN New Albany Women's Network

neighborhood bridges

HEALTHY NEWALBANY

What the current rent holiday made possible

We are grateful for the City's partnership during a period of organizational transition and growing community need.

- **Leadership for the transition**
  HNA worked with a professional search firm to find and hire executive leadership with the nonprofit experience needed to guide the organization through change.
- **Planning for a permanent pantry**
  With experienced leadership in place, HNA managed planning and fundraising for a permanent pantry while sustaining existing programs and responding to growing needs.
- **A stronger focus on long-term sustainability**
  HNA evaluated programs for financial viability and community impact, ended programs that could not be sustained, and identified opportunities to grow community support for valued services.

HEALTHY NEWALBANY

The request

Continue the same lease arrangement for two additional years.



$67,667.32

Documented 2025 value

Additional Rent covered by the City includes property taxes, insurance, and common area maintenance.

HEALTHY NEWALBANY

A Permanent Home for the Food Pantry

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE · OCTOBER 2026





$5.2 million raised
$6 million goal

Since the quiet phase launched in May 2026

HEALTHY
NEW ALBANY

A two-year bridge through transition

The requested timing aligns with construction and the opening of HNA's new permanent Food Pantry.

- **2027: Complete construction and prepare to open**

  HNA will maintain current services while overseeing construction, procuring equipment and furnishings, developing operating procedures, and planning the transition. Construction is expected to finish in summer 2027.

- **2028: Stabilize the first year of operations**

  A larger, freestanding pantry will bring new costs and workflows. The extension will give HNA time to understand actual operating costs, establish sustainable funding, and adjust its budget based on experience rather than projections.

Requested extension: January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2028

Plain Township
New Albany City Council Update

October 20, 2026

Trustee Kerri Mollard
Trustee Jill Beckett Hill
Trustee Hans Schell

Plain Township
New Albany, Ohio
Est. 1810

www.plaintownship.org

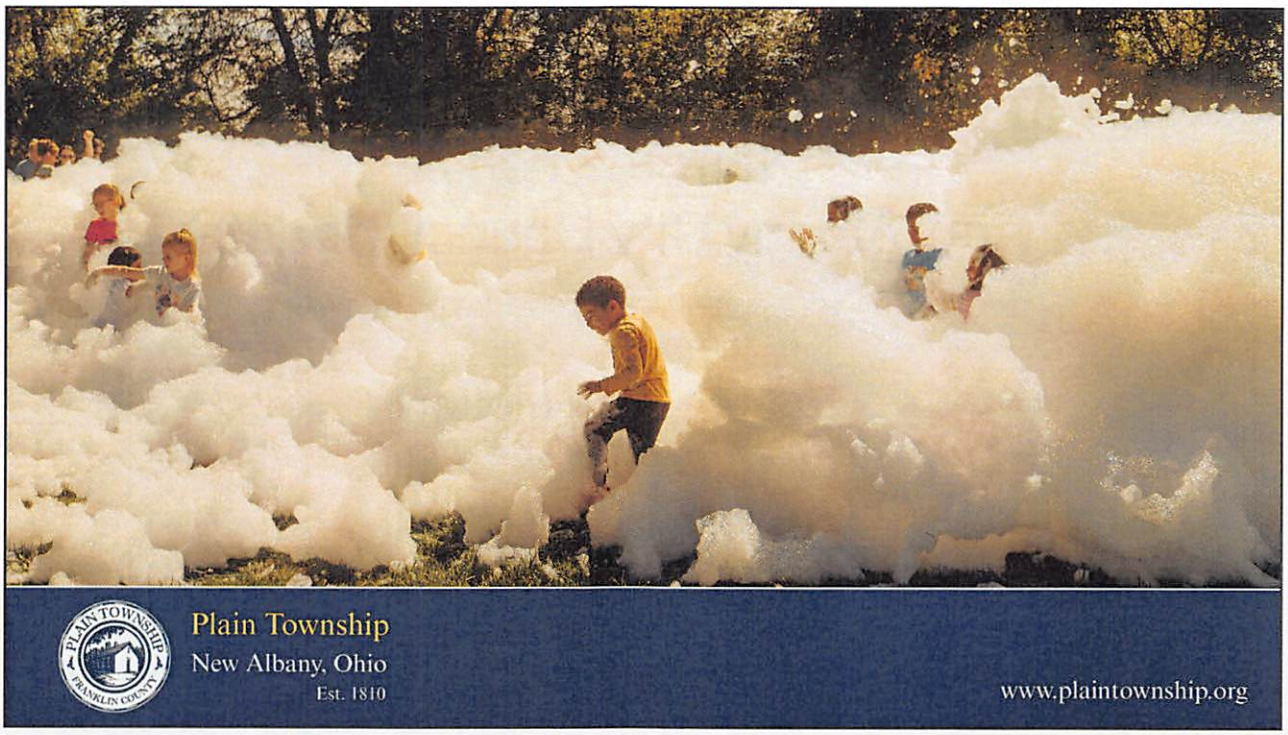
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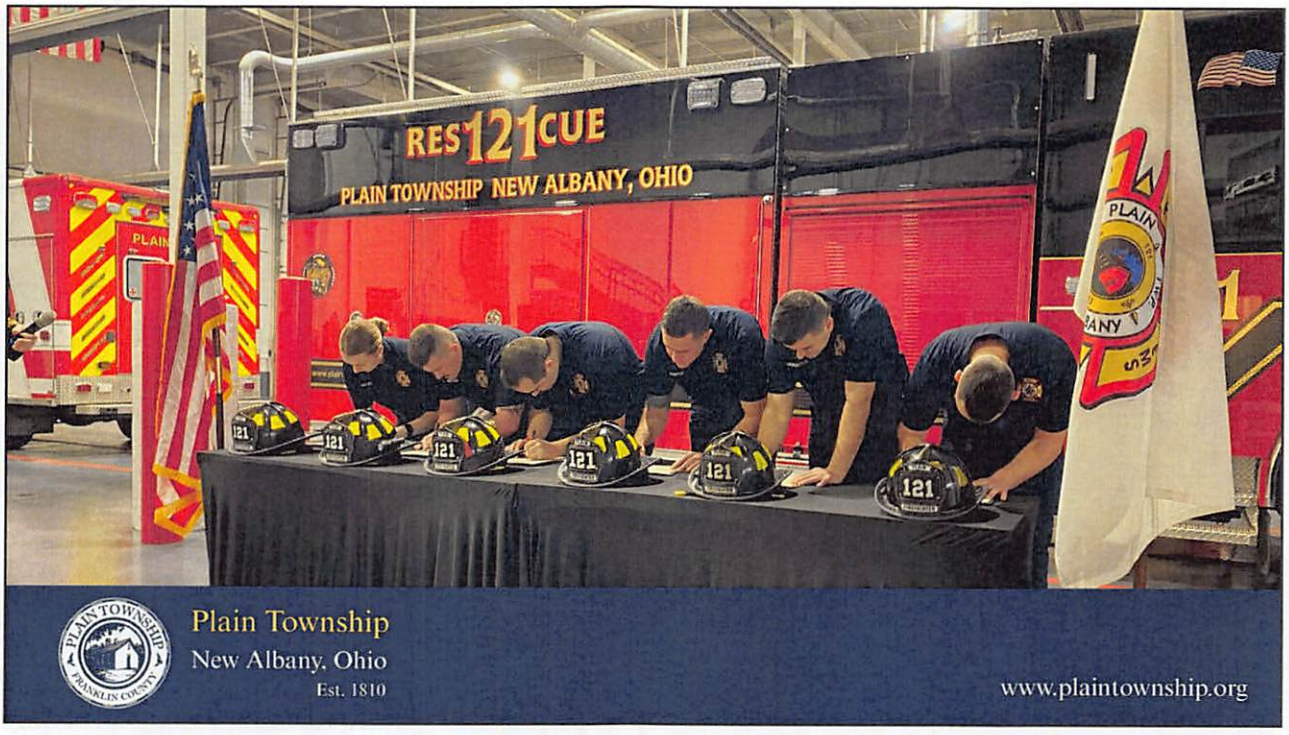
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New Albany, Ohio
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RES 121 CUE
PLAIN TOWNSHIP NEW ALBANY, OHIO
Plain Township
New Albany, Ohio
Est. 1810
www.plaintownship.org

4


PLAIN TOWNSHIP STATION 122
Plain Township
New Albany, Ohio
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Key Stats for 2026

- Run volume to Columbus has decreased from 30% in 2024, to 20% in 2025, to less than 10%.
- Runs within New Albany/Plain Twp are up 8%.
- 67% of calls for service are EMS calls.
- Most nursing home runs YTD since we began tracking.

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Pools Stats	2026	2025	2024
Attendance:	38,451	41,554	45,657
Daily Visits:	18,351	20,287	24,242
Member Visits:	20,100	21,257	21,415
Membership Sales:	$245,872	$234,116	$220,605
Daily Gate Sales:	$208,357	$212,820	$269,730
Pool Revenue:	$515,112	$501,519	$538,097
Total Expenses:	$470,482	$435,653	$495,534
Columbus Utilities:	$1,858	$1,857	$35,997
Pool Contract:	$245,373	$238,226	$231,288

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Reference Plan

Phase 1:
- **A** - Ceremonial Plaza
- **B** - Remembrance Garden

Phase 2:
- **C** - New Roadway Connection near Ossuary
- **D** - New 60' x 40' Pole Building
- **E** - New Covered Pavilion
- **F** - Expanded Ceremonial Plaza

Phase 3:
- **G** - Children's Memorial Garden
- **H** - Future Connection to Rose Run
- **I** - Remembrance Plaza



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Saturday, December 19, 2026

Ceremony at Noon

600+ veteran graves

Order cutoff is December 2



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

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New Albany, Ohio
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Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Q&A

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