

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY,
INDIANA, WILL HOLD A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING IN THE THIRD
FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members: Mrs. Collier, Mr. Phipps, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Turner, Mr. Aebersold, Mr. Applegate, Dr. Knable and President Caesar.

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Stein, Police Officer Ragland, Police Chief Bailey, Mr. Staten, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Hall and Ms. Milburn

President Blair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcome the new members to the council.

INVOCATION: Pastor Steve Burks

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT:

Mr. Blair stated that he is going to take all nominations first and after those are in they will take a vote by hand.

President

Mr. Turner nominated **Dr. Knable** for president. **Mr. Turner, Mr. Aebersold, Dr. Knable and Mr. Blair** voted yes.

Mr. Phipps nominated **Mr. Caesar** for president. **Mrs. Collier, Mr. Caesar, Mr. Phipps, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Applegate and Mr. Blair** voted yes.

Mr. Caesar was elected president.

Vice President

Mr. McLaughlin nominated **Mr. Phipps** for vice president. **Mrs. Collier, Mr. Caesar, Mr. Phipps, Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Applegate** voted yes.

Dr. Knable nominated **Mr. Blair** for vice president. **Mr. Tuner, Mr. Aebersold, Dr. Knable and Mr. Blair** voted yes.

Mr. Phipps was elected vice president.

Mr. Caesar thanked Mr. Blair for a wonderful 2019 and for his leadership and service to the City of New Albany throughout the year. He stated that he is excited about the New Year and new decade. He explained that there have been so many successes for their community in recent years including clean and safe parks that are being utilized by the entire community, a new City Hall that should be done this year, a new Marriott and other development, Breakwater Apartments, and a vibrant downtown that continues to grow. He gave a shout out to Caesars Foundation for the façade grant and the Market street upgrade which makes the downtown area a much nicer place to be in. He stated that other successes that they should be proud of are all the major paving, sewer and storm water projects and always having a balanced budget. He reported that this year they will begin work on the riverfront where Loop Island is located, they will work to clean up the Falling Run Creek Area for development, they will continue to be a leader for Rails to Trails and hope to make some progress on it this year, they will begin rental inspections to help code enforcement to make New Albany a cleaner and safer community. He added that he knows there are a lot more improvements to be made and they all need to work together to keep New Albany moving.

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for December 19, 2019, Mr. McLaughlin second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – COUNCIL:

Dr. Knable congratulated Mr. Caesar on his election. He reported that he received phone calls he got this week were regarding the litigation on the freedom of information lawsuits. He explained that he spoke with Mr. Gibson and is asking for a streamlined process with these requests regardless of motivation or perceived motivation. He stated that there should be a way to get information in a timely manner and it never should have gotten to a point where they had to have a lawsuit over it. He added that he would like to have a published way for the constituents to ask for information and a streamlined timeline for it to come back.

Mr. Caesar stated that from what he understands about it is that the paperwork was forwarded to their attorney and they should have everything they need at this stage. He added that he thinks this was an issue of bad timing and he doesn't think it would be a continuing problem.

Mr. Phipps reported that Barbara Anderson is asking to come to the next meeting to request \$25,000.00 for Haven House. He stated that in the past they have talked about moving forward with collectively thinking about how much money they want to spend per year on organizations like this and having a committee to review them. He asked if that is something they would like to start this year.

Mr. Caesar stated that he would appreciate if they could do that and thinks that it is long overdue to have a committee to write out guidelines for this. He asked for volunteers

Dr. Knable stated that tentatively they assigned it to the Rules and Finance Committee.

Mr. Caesar stated that the committee for this year will be himself, Mr. McLaughlin, Dr. Knable.

Mr. McLaughlin asked what Ms. Anderson's role is with the Haven House.

Mr. Phipps stated that she told him that Haven House is still a separate entity and she would explain further when she comes to talk to them.

Mr. Blair stated that he looks at it more as a collaborative effort between the tri-cities as far as the homeless shelter goes. He explained that there are several different agencies but he thinks it needs to be more of a broad-based effort and they need to work with other cities.

Mr. Applegate stated that it is very hard to pick just one organization to support.

Dr. Knable meeting this Thursday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the 300 Spring Building in Jeffersonville to talk about different approaches to the homeless situation.

Mr. Applegate stated that he was down at the riverfront with his daughter recently on a nice day and there were at least 60 people utilizing the new skate park. He added that he talked with a few of the individuals that were there and they told him that it is the best in the area. He stated that there are a few miscellaneous things in the work such as trash cans but it was great to see it being used for its intended purpose in December.

Mr. Caesar stated that there are a few more details that need to be done with the park and then there will be a grand opening when the weather breaks.

Mr. Blair reported that he attended the Board of Works meeting last week to present issues that the council collectively gathered in their districts. He stated that they were very receptive and willing to work with the council to make some improvements and solve some of the issues. He added that he wanted to be clear that they were not being critical but aiding in continuous improvement.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Mr. Hall stated that Mayor Gahan wanted to congratulate the new members of the council and welcome them. He explained that they are excited about the next four year and the growth and momentum going on in the city. He added that the mayor had tried to reach out to each of them individually to set up meetings and is looking forward to working with them.

COMMUNICATIONS – OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS OR CITY OFFICIALS:

REPORTS – COMMITTEES, BOARDS OR OTHER OFFICIALS AS REQUESTED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE COUNCIL:

CAESAR’S BOARD – Mr. Caesar and Mr. Aebersold

Mr. Caesar stated that there was no meeting in December. He added that he has visited the new casino and encouraged others to do so as well because it is very nice.

Mr. Aebersold added that they have a meeting scheduled for next Wednesday.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

READING

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

STANDING COUNCIL COMMITTEES

BUDGET – Council as Whole

DEVELOPMENT & ANNEXATION – Blair, Turner, McLaughlin

RULES & FINANCE - McLaughlin, Caesar, Knable

PUBLIC UTILITIES & TRANSPORTATION - Collier, Phipps, Knable

POLICE DEPARTMENT - Blair, Aebersold, McLaughlin

SCHOOL & LIBRARY - Collier, Phipps

PUBLIC WORKS – Turner, Collier

PUBLIC SAFETY & TRAFFIC - Applegate, Aebersold, Phipps

FIRE DEPARTMENT - Turner, Phipps, McLaughlin

COMMISSION & BOARD APPOINTMENTS

CAESARS FOUNDATION - Aebersold, Caesar

PLAN COMMISSION - Phipps

BUILDING AUTHORITY Board of Trustees – Diane Benedetti (Expires December 2020)

ZONING APPEAL BOARD –

DEVELOP NEW ALBANY - Applegate

SOLID WASTE – Sam Charbonneau

URBAN ENTERPRISE – Mara Schmidt, Zone Resident & Morgan Sprigler, Business Owner

REDEVELOPMENT – **Collier, Applegate**
ONE SOUTHERN INDIANA – **Applegate**

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS):

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Bob Caesar, President

Mindy Milburn, Deputy City Clerk