

**Albion Town Council
Tuesday, August 9, 2016, 6:00 pm
Albion Municipal Building
211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN, 46701**

CALL TO ORDER: Town council president John Morr called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE: John Morr, President
Vicki Jellison, Member
Chris Magnuson, Member
Don Shultz, Member

ABSENT: Max Weber, Vice-President

OTHERS: Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer
Stefen Wynn, Town Manager
Matt Getts, KPC Media
Tom Lock, Police Dept
Casey Myers, Parks Dept
Brad Rollins, Fire Dept
Shane Coney, Fire Dept
Aaron Knight, Fire Dept
Gregg Gorsuch, Fire Dept
James Cureton
Brenda Cureton
Bill Etzler, ERI

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Morr asked for approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on July 26, 2016. Shultz motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Jellison, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Downtown Cleanup – September 7, 2016, 5:00 pm

The Albion Chamber of Commerce will be coordinating volunteers for the annual clean-up downtown around the courthouse square.

2. In memory

Town council member Vicki Jellison extended condolences to retired town employee Bob Wilson on the recent passing of his wife, Mary and to park employee Stanley Tipton on the sudden loss of his wife, Mary Kathryn.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

1. N York Street property – Morr asked about property on N York Street that has tall weeds/grass. Wynn reported the property will be mowed this week and a fine issued.

2. Traffic Issues – Jellison reported with tree work being done in preparation for water main installation, people are driving the wrong way down Cherry Street. Wynn will address the traffic control issues at the pre-construction meeting scheduled for tomorrow morning.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Community Center Update – Shultz, who serves as the liaison between the Albion Town Council and Community Center Committee reported the Albion Park Board voted to not have a proposed community center located at Hidden Diamonds Park. The committee is continuing to explore other options.

2. Tornado Siren – Work has begun on installing an additional tornado siren at the corner of Liberty & Washington Streets.

3. Paint Striper – Paint has been ordered for the new paint striper.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request to amend ordinance to allow chickens – James & Brenda Cureton

Council heard a request from local residents James & Brenda Cureton to amend the town's ordinance regarding prohibited animals in order to allow chickens within the town limits. Mr. Cureton said he has 10 hens he keeps for eggs, and does not intend to have any roosters. He reported he contacted his neighbors for approval prior to getting the

chickens. He was not aware having chickens within the town was prohibited until receiving an ordinance violation notice. Council discussed concerns regarding odor, noise, chickens getting out, attracting predators such as coyotes, etc. It was also noted raising your own chickens for eggs/meat is a popular trend right now, and many communities are allowing it. After discussion, council members agreed to revisit this topic at the meeting on October 25, 2016. Council also extended the deadline for Mr. Cureton to get rid of his chickens until that time. Motion made by Shultz, seconded by Jellison, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

2. Consideration of ADA Plan – Ordinance No. 2016-18 - 2nd Reading

Council voted to adopt Ordinance No. 2016-18, An Ordinance Adopting the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Designating the ADA Coordinator, and Adopting Procedures on its second reading as follows.

Second Reading – Magnuson caused Ordinance No. 2016-18 to be read for the second time by title only. Magnuson motioned to approve the adoption of the ordinance on its second reading, seconded by Jellison, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

3. Consideration of Nighttime Optical Thermal Imaging Camera purchase

Council voted to approve allocating \$1,600 toward the purchase of (1) Noptic NV3 Thermal Camera for the Albion Police Department. Motion made by Shultz, seconded by Magnuson, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. The quote received also includes a camera for the Noble County Sheriff's Department. Total cost for both cameras is \$7,450. The Noble County Prosecutor's Office is contributing \$4,250 toward the purchase and the Noble County Sheriff's Department is contributing \$1,600.

4. Update on Fire Department Bylaws – Brad Rollins

Fire chief Brad Rollins along with other members of the Albion Volunteer Fire Department were present to discuss proposed updates to the Fire Department Constitution and Bylaws. Several recommendations were made to amend verbiage. An amended version will be provided to council at a later date.

5. Town Attorney Vacancy

Council voted to appoint a special committee consisting of John Morr, Chris Magnuson, Stefen Wynn, and Tom Lock to hire a replacement attorney. The committee will solicit proposals and make a recommendation to council.

6. Consideration of Cemetery Deeds/Transfers

Council voted to approve the following cemetery deeds. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Jellison, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Paul and Carrie Dearing – Section M, Lot 74, Graves 1 & 2

Gari T and Gun M Gatwood – Section H, Lot 109, South Pathway

7. Consideration of Amending Ordinance No. 2001-18 regarding Agenda procedures

– Council members discussed the possibility of changing current procedures for drafting meeting agendas, including having a council member provide final approval of the agenda, and changing the deadline for submission of items to be addressed. The current deadline is noon the Wednesday prior to the meeting. After discussion, Council took no action to make any changes at this time.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Casey Myers, Parks Dept

Myers provided a summary of his monthly report. Master Plan Update- approximately 80 surveys have been received, and of those the #1 request is for more trails. (A strip of land around the perimeter of the agricultural ground at Hidden Diamonds Park will be developed into a walking trail next year. Splash Pad- has seen a lot of use this summer and was listed as the #1 spot to visit for summer activities in an article printed in the Kendallville News-Sun. Disc Golf- is taking off, and signs are being made to show the course layout. Hoosier Basketball Court- Tracy Cooper will be donating his services to trench and bore a water line for an ADA drinking fountain at the new basketball court.

Tom Lock, Police Dept

Council acknowledged receipt of the dept's monthly report. One roll bar prisoner cage is in, and one expected to be here soon for the squad cars. Officers are receiving safety training. It was noted the town is divided into quadrants with an officer assigned

to monitor and issue ordinance violations occurring within their quadrant. Traffic interruptions are anticipated with upcoming construction of water mains.

Stefen Wynn, Town Manager

Wynn provided a summary of his monthly report. An insurance claim is pending on a streetlight and hand railing damaged by an unattended vehicle that rolled from its parking space on W Jefferson Street. One Automated External Defibrillator (AED) will be ordered and paid for with Noble REMC Roundup Grant funds. Water tower inspections are done and the department is waiting on results. Loose ends need cleared up with pending litigation prior to attorney Mike Yoder's departure. Council consensus was to forego a request by an employee to provide monetary sponsorship for the FOP Land O' Lakes Lodge #126 golf outing. Morr recommended adding a link to the town's Website and/or Facebook page for Nixel. Architect Terry Barnsworth has visited the Albion Municipal Building and will create design ideas for remodeling the building entrance to make it ADA Compliant. Barnsworth will provide his design services for free, and will submit a bid to act as a Design/Build General Contractor utilizing local contractors to complete the work.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS: After discussion, Jellison motioned to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Vouchers as of August 4, 2016 and August 9, 2016. Seconded by Shultz, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, submitted and reviewed, attested by Carol A. Selby.

OTHER COMMENTS:

- 1. **Sure Trac trailer** – The trailer recently purchased to haul equipment is too steep for the mini excavator's rubberized track to climb up. Wynn has contacted the vendor and is researching other options.
- 2. **Tree Removal** – Several trees are being removed in conjunction with installation of new water mains. A tree located at 203 S York Street, at the residence of Jonathan Beckley was mistakenly taken down. The wrong tree was removed by contractors. Wynn is working with the homeowner and contractor to remedy the situation.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before the council in regular session, Morr asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m., so moved by Shultz, seconded by Jellison, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. A special meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2016 and the next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on August 23, 2016 at the Albion Municipal Building, 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN.

JOHN D. MORR, PRESIDENT

MAX C. WEBER, VICE-PRESIDENT

VICKI E. JELLISON, MEMBER

CHRISTINA K. MAGNUSON, MEMBER

DONALD J. SHULTZ, MEMBER

ATTEST: _____
CAROL A. SELBY, CLERK-TREASURER