

Albion Town Council
Tuesday, August 27, 2019, 6:00 pm
Albion Municipal Building
211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN, 46701

CALL TO ORDER: Town Council President Vicki Jellison called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE: Vicki Jellison, President
Chris Magnuson, Vice-President
John Morr, Member
Don Shultz, Member
Darold Smolinske, Member

OTHERS: Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer
Stefen Wynn, Town Manager
Steve Clouse, Town Attorney
Kevin Kelly, Our Hometown News
Matt Getts, KPC Media
Scott Cole, Police Dept
Sharon Leitch, Chain O' Lakes Festival Committee
Jeremy Sponseller, Triad Associates, Inc

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 13, 2019 were approved. Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Shultz, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Wastewater Utility Rates – Final Phase of 3-year incremental increase effective with Sept 1st bill – For comparison purposes, a customer with 4000 gallons of usage will see their monthly water & wastewater bill increase from \$67.22 to \$70.75 which is an increase of \$3.53.

2. Park Board Presidential Appointment – Erika Dean – Council President Vicki Jellison appointed democrat, Erika Dean to fill a vacancy on the Albion Park Board.

3. Updates to Town's Website – albion-in.org

Town Manager Stefen Wynn outlined changes to the Town's website. New pictures have been added, a "Contact Us" page, a Community Calendar, Board & Commission agendas and minutes, and a "News & Announcement section. A job search section is expected to be added in the near future.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

1. INDOT Paving – State Road 9/Orange Street

INDOT will be milling and laying asphalt downtown from the "old" Town Hall/NCEDC building to Doc's Hardware this week.

2. Insurance Committee

The Insurance Committee recently met to discuss the employee health insurance renewal effective October 1, 2019. Information will be provided to council members soon for consideration at a future meeting.

3. Parking & Traffic Ordinance

Council Member Darold Smolinske asked about weight restrictions outlined in the Town's existing Ordinance. It was noted the weight of vehicles today, including those towing campers may exceed those limits. The Parking & Traffic Committee will review the limitations.

4. Noble County drainage tile

It was noted Wynn and/or Street Superintendent Brian Stimpson will be monitoring installation of a county drain being installed by Noble County on the southwest side of Town.

5. Sink Hole near Dollar General Store

Concerns regarding a proposed quote in excess of \$100,000 to repair a sink hole, prompted council members to delve into alternative options for addressing the problem. Council Member Darold Smolinske shared information he learned from viewing drawings/plans and talking with those involved with the original installation of the now collapsed storm drainage pipe near Dollar General Store in North Ridge Village. It appears the pipe was installed according to the design specifications at that time. However, later, when the Dollar General building was constructed, excavation at the site resulted in additional soil being compacted on top of the drainage pipe. Council member John Morr said he recently discussed the sink hole issue with someone familiar with drainage installation and that person recommended having it engineered. After discussion, Wynn said he would take the lead in getting the matter resolved by considering alternative solutions and formulating a plan.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Fleis & Vandenbrink – Consideration of Supplemental Agreement No. 1

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

2. Parking & Traffic Committee – Proposed Ordinance Updates

Town Manager Stefen Wynn referenced a draft ordinance he sent out recently to council members regarding an overhaul of the Town's Parking & Traffic Ordinance. He noted it is a working draft, and asked council members to review the information and provide feedback to the committee. Once amendments are completed, council will consider an updated Ordinance at a future meeting.

3. Consideration of Sale of (4) aerators to Town of Churubusco for \$2,000

Council voted to approve the sale of (4) aerators to the Town of Churubusco for \$500/each for a total of \$2,000. Motion made by Morr, seconded by Shultz, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. It was noted with recent improvements at the wastewater ponds the aerators were no longer needed. Wynn said because the amount is under \$1,000 for a single item, and under \$5,000 for multiple items, IC 5-22-22-6 allows for the sale without advertising.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Fire Dept - Council acknowledged receipt of the monthly report. Fire Chief Bob Amber and Assistant Fire Chief John Urso were working their full-time jobs, and unable to attend tonight's meeting. Council members questioned why some of the firefighters have "0" hours logged for training. Wynn said Chief Amber previously indicated that not everyone is participating in the offered training. It was noted the new truck has been ordered.

Police Dept - Council acknowledged receipt of the monthly report. Town Marshal Scott Cole reported July as a relatively calm month. Ordinance violations are down, with more people complying with town policies on tall grass, weeds, etc. Cole also thanked Council for the approval to hire Deputy Marshal Matt Fought, adding that he is working out well, and a good fit for the department.

Town Manager - Town Manager Stefen Wynn provided a summary of his monthly report, highlighting the following items: A recent meeting with Jim Higgins, London Witte, John Sampson, NEIRP, members of RDC, and the Town Council regarding Residential TIF Districts was productive. He intends to seek an appraisal to be paid for out of TIF funds. As allowed per Indiana Code, a future executive session may be scheduled to discuss real property acquisition. Information was given to council on costs for a Brine applicator. Consideration of the proposed purchase will be considered at the September 10, 2019 meeting. Wynn ordered road salt for the upcoming season through the Online State Bidding process. A recap of the Town's "Life's Better Here" segment will be aired on WANE TV later this week. A Public Meeting will be held on September 3, 2019 at 5:30 pm in the Albion Municipal Building to share information with residents on the W Hazel Street Project. This year's sidewalk projects will coincide with W Hazel Street Project improvements since the same contractor will be doing both. Wynn ordered a large format printer for maps, drawings, etc. A "Punch List" was sent to council showing the progress made on the Ammonia Project at the Wastewater ponds. The engineer is pushing for Kokosing to give a substantial completion date. A Change Order will be needed for the W Hazel Street Project to connect a drainage outfall to the rest of the town's storm water system. Wynn will meet with the resident at the corner of York & Highland Streets to explain plans for the ADA compliant ramp that will be installed there. It was noted the Albion S.T.A.R. Team membership is dwindling, and the remaining members are working to update their mission. In an effort to avoid damaging the decorative asphalt installed as part of the Alley Activation Project near Pizza Depot, "No Trucks" signs have been placed to deter trucks from entering the alley.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS:

Magnuson motioned to approve Payroll and Accounts Payable Vouchers as of August 15, 2019 & August 27, 2019, seconded by Morr, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, submitted and reviewed, attested by Carol A. Selby.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before council in regular session, Jellison adjourned the meeting at 7:13 pm, motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Morr, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. The next meeting is to be held on September 10, 2019 at 6:00 pm, at the Albion Municipal Building, 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN.

VICKI E. JELLISON, PRESIDENT

CHRISTINA K. MAGNUSON, VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN D. MORR, MEMBER

DONALD J. SHULTZ, MEMBER

DAROLD R. SMOLINSKE, MEMBER

ATTEST: _____
CAROL A. SELBY, CLERK-TREASURER