

**Albion Town Council**  
**Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 6:00 pm**  
**TELECONFERENCE via GoToMeeting**  
**(Meeting ID# 280137509)**  
**Albion Municipal Building**  
**211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN, 46701**

AS A RESULT OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S DECLARATION OF A GLOBAL CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, (aka CoVid-19) AND AS AUTHORIZED PER STATE OF INDIANA GOVERNOR ERIC HOLCOMB, VIA EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-09, DATED 3/23/2020, "RELATING TO THE CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS OF GOVERNMENT, PAGE 2, ITEM 4 (A) "OPEN DOOR LAW," THE ALBION TOWN COUNCIL HELD THIS MEETING VIA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION. THE MEETING WAS HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH GOVERNOR HOLCOMB'S EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-08, DATED 3/23/2020, "DIRECTIVE FOR HOOSIERS TO STAY AT HOME," AND EXTENSIONS THEREOF.

**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 (Present)  
Don Shultz, Vice-President (Present)  
Darold Smolinske, Member (Present)  
Chris Magnuson, Member (Present)

**ABSENT:** John Morr, Member

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer	Matt Getts, KPC Media
Jacob Ihrie, Town Manager	Scott Cole, Police Dept
Steve Clouse, Town Attorney	Casey Myers, Park/Cem Depts
Corey Miller, Street/Cem Depts	Terry Forker, Water/WW Depts

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from the regular meeting on September 28, 2021 were approved. Motion by Shultz, seconded by Smolinske, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Albion Municipal Building Corporation – Board of Directors – (2) Vacancies need filled**

This item was tabled to allow council members time to come up with potential candidates for consideration at the next meeting. Once the vacancies are filled, the members will need to hold a brief reorganization meeting to elect officers.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

**1. Subdivision Control Ordinance** – The Albion Plan Commission has completed updates to the Subdivision Control Ordinance. Consideration of the Ordinance will be on the November 9, 2021 Town Council Meeting agenda. It was noted Plan Commission members have worked for approximately two years on the plan, which is around 150 pages.

**2. Solar Panel Zoning Ordinance** – Jellison reported Albion Plan Commission members have been closely following Noble County Plan Commission members' work on drafting rules for solar fields. Town of Albion Plan Commission members are working on a plan that would govern areas within the Town's jurisdiction.

**3. Downtown flowers and fountain** – Magnuson reported the flowers downtown still look nice, but once they start to die, she will ask for the planters to be picked up. She will also coordinate closure of the fountain on courthouse square.

**4. 9/11 Tree Dedication Ceremony**

The Albion Fire Department was the recipient of a tree that came from a seedling of a tree that had been located at the site of the 9/11 terrorist attack at the Twin Towers in New York City. A

dedication ceremony was held on October 10, 2021. Jellison said it is an honor for Albion to be selected to receive one of the trees.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Park/Cemetery Depts** - Council acknowledged receipt of the department's monthly report. Superintendent Casey Myers provided an update on the wetland project. The Splash Pad used about 1.2 million gallons of water this season costing \$4,631.75 which is in line with the average. The Park Board voted to move forward with pursuing a Skate Park. Myers said the next step is to put a "structure" in place for fundraising. He said a meeting has been set up with Brad Graden, Noble County Community Foundation to discuss fundraising options. The proposed cost of the Skate Park is \$100,000 - \$150,000. Myers reported he's received some feedback on removing the fence between Valley View Park and Rose Hill Cemetery. He said it's about 50/50 with half ok with not replacing the fence, and the other half wanting it replaced. After discussion, council agreed with the park board's suggestion of removing the fence, and then monitoring the situation before deciding whether or not to replace it.

**Street/Cemetery Depts** – Council acknowledged receipt of the department's monthly report. Superintendent Corey Miller provided an update of department activities. Leaf equipment is ready, and road salt has been delivered. This year's 50/50 Sidewalk Program projects are about 50% complete. The CCMG East Hazel Street Project is about 75-80% complete, with milling and paving yet to be done.

**Consideration of Quotes for 2022 Ford F-600 Truck & Bed w/Hoist**

Miller explained five quotes were solicited for a new truck and three quotes were received. Quotes received included City Ford, Columbia City - \$47,064.77, O'Daniel Ford Inc., New Haven - \$45,137.35 and Max Platt Ford-Lincoln, Inc., Kendallville - \$45,399.25. Burnworth-Zollars and Bob Thomas Ford did not submit a quote. Miller recommended purchasing the truck from City Ford since they have a truck in stock, allowing for the installation of equipment to occur sooner, which would get the truck in service before winter weather arrives. The other dealers do not have a truck in stock. Miller said if they have to wait to have a truck built, it could take months. Although, City Ford submitted the highest quote, since they have a truck in stock and available now, they were deemed the most responsive and responsible bidder. After discussion, Council voted to approve Miller's request to purchase a 2022 Ford F-600 Truck from City Ford, Columbia City in the amount of \$47,064.77. The motion included a contingency that should the truck from City Ford be sold prior to Miller contacting the dealership in the morning, Miller may order the truck from low bidder O'Daniel Ford Inc, New Haven. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Shultz, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Miller reported three quotes were solicited for the truck bed and two quotes were received. Quotes received (including the hoist option) were Kalida Truck - \$12,000 and H&H Sales (\$13,085.00). W. A. Jones did not submit a quote. Miller said the street dept deliberated on whether or not to purchase the optional hoist which converts the flatbed to a dump bed. However, having the dump bed capability would allow the new truck to be used as a back-up truck for leaf pickup, etc., so it was determined to be the best option. After discussion, Shultz motioned to approve purchasing the Truck Bed w/Hoist option in the amount of \$12,000 from Kalida Truck. Seconded by Smolinske, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Plans are to finance the truck through Ford Credit Municipal Finance, and pay for the truck bed in full with this year's appropriations. Street, CEDIT, Cemetery, and TIF funds (if approved by RDC) will be allocated for the purchase.

**Water/Wastewater Depts** - Council acknowledged receipt of the department's monthly report. Superintendent Terry Forker reported finish work (grass seeding, etc.) has been completed under the East Industrial Park Water Tower. Utility infrastructure (fire hydrant, service line, storm tile) done in conjunction with the East Hazel Street CCMG Project is done. Quarterly samples for wastewater are complete. The windshield was replaced in the 2015 Truck due to a stone chip. The dept will be asking the RDC for funding assistance with the purchase of a new sewer camera. The Noble County Sheriff's Dept had work done on a sewer grinder at their facility which has helped to reduce debris entering the town's wastewater system. A second discharge at the jail needs done. The WWTP Committee will meet on October 18, 2021 at 4:00pm to open bids for aeration equipment at the wastewater ponds. In regards to a question about a letter received from IDEM regarding equipment calibration, the matter has been resolved. Forker explained the staff gauge at Croft Ditch is affixed to a concrete structure, and since there are no moving parts, there is nothing to calibrate.

**OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Special Event Applications – Albion Chamber of Commerce**

Council member Chris Magnuson, who also serves as Albion Chamber of Commerce President, provided information on the below listed Special Event Applications.

**a. Halloween Party – October 31, 2021, 7:00-8:30pm (Albion Fire Station)**

The required Certificate of Insurance and signed Indemnification form was received. After discussion, Smolinske motioned to approve the Special Event Application, seconded by Shultz, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. If the County moves to "red" status due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the event will be cancelled.

**b. Christmas in the Village Light Parade – December 3, 2021, 6:00-8:00pm**

The required Certificate of Insurance and signed Indemnification form was received. After discussion, Shultz motioned to approve the Special Event Application, seconded by Smolinske, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

**2. 2022 Proposed Budget Estimates – Ref. Ord# 2021-14 (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

The total 2022 proposed budget is estimated at \$4,712,371. The proposed 2022 Levy has been advertised at \$1,123,783 which is just under the estimated maximum levy allowed, and represents a 4.3% increase over this year's levy for property tax supported funds. Council voted to approve the proposed 2022 Budget and Ordinance 2021-14 on its second reading as follows.

**Second Reading**

Shultz caused Ordinance 2021-14, *An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates*, to be read for the second time by title only. Shultz motioned for adoption of the ordinance, seconded by Magnuson, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

No objecting opinions were filed regarding the proposed budget. The adopted budget will be submitted to the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) through the state's "Gateway" website, and will be available for review by the public online.

**3. Approval of ADA Plan Update - Ordinance No. 2021-15 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

This item was tabled. Town Manager Jacob Ihrle is working with INDOT to update the Town's ADA Plan. Once, the necessary changes have been made, council will consider them at a future meeting.

**4. Noble County Sheriff's Dept – Indemnification Agreement**

Council voted to sign an Indemnification Agreement requested by the Noble County Sheriff's Department. The County requires execution of the agreement in order for Town Marshal Scott Cole to employ full-time Noble County Sheriff Deputies as part-time Albion Police Department Officers. It was noted, Town Attorney Steve Clouse reviewed the agreement. Magnuson motioned to sign the Agreement, seconded by Smolinske, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS:**

Magnuson motioned to approve Accounts Payable & Payroll Vouchers as of October 7, 2021 & October 12, 2021. Shultz seconded, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, attested by Carol A. Selby.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to be brought before council in regular session, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm. Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on October 26, 2021 at 6:00 pm, at the Albion Municipal Building, 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN. Should the Town continue to be under a public emergency, the option to join the meeting electronically will be available.

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VICKI E. JELLISON, PRESIDENT

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DONALD J. SHULTZ, VICE-PRESIDENT

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CHRISTINA K. MAGNUSON, MEMBER

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JOHN D. MORR, MEMBER

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DAROLD R. SMOLINSKE, MEMBER

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
CAROL A. SELBY, CLERK-TREASURER