

**Albion Town Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 6:00 pm
Albion Municipal Building
211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN, 46701
Teleconference via GoToMeeting
(Meeting ID# 280137509)**

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
Don Shultz, Vice-President
Abby Lindsey, Member
John Morr, Member

ABSENT: Zane Gray, Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer	Scott Cole, Police Dept
Jacob Ihrle, Town Manager	Casey Myers, Park/Cemetery Depts
J. Darrick Brinkerhoff, Attorney (Electronically)	Terry Forker, Water/Wastewater Depts
Matt Getts, KPC Media	Corey Miller, Street/Cemetery Depts
Nicholas Gonzalez, Nick's Tree Care	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the regular meeting on February 14, 2023 were approved. Motion by Morr, seconded by Gray, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Zane Gray was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Noble County Suicide Prevention is sponsoring Hope Walk 2023 - Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 401 E Diamond St, Kendallville, IN for anyone that would like to participate.

OPEN DISCUSSION: NONE

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Park/Cemetery Depts - Superintendent Casey Myers provided a summary of his monthly report and answered questions on his department's activities. Council gave Myers permission to proceed with obtaining quotes for a new addition to the park barn at Hidden Diamonds Park. At their March 8, 2023 meeting, the RDC approved using TIF #1 funds towards the project. Ihrle reported CCD and CREDIT funds may also be used if needed.

Street/Cemetery Depts – Superintendent Corey Miller gave a summary of his monthly report. Council then addressed the following action items.

Disposal of Equipment - No bids were received on the 1990 Ford F800 Dump Truck. Miller said he would like to drop the reserve price, and readvertise for sealed bids. After discussion, Council recommended checking in to the cost of listing the vehicle with an online auction company.

Tree Trimming & Removal Projects – Miller reported receiving five quotes for this year's tree work. He reported the lowest quote from Kapp's Tree Service did not include all of the trees listed on the RFQ. As such, Attorney J. Darrick Brinkerhoff said a determination could be made that the quote is not responsive because it did not include all the trees in the project. After discussion, Council voted to approve the second lowest quote in the amount of \$14,560.00 from Taylor Specialties Tree Service as the most responsive and responsible quoter for this year's tree work. Motion by Morr, seconded by Shultz, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Other quotes included: Kapp's Tree Service - \$8,505.00; Matt West Tree Care LLC - \$17,500; Snyder's Tree Service - \$26,365.56; Nick's Affordable Tree Care - \$39,840.00.

Water/Wastewater Depts - Council acknowledged receipt of the department's monthly report. Council approved a request from Superintendent Terry Forker to purchase (27) Radio Reads for water meters from EJP in the amount of \$5,373.00. Motion by Shultz, seconded by Morr, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Forker gave an update on ammonia treatment at the wastewater ponds. He reported the Town exceeded its ammonia limitation in February. Colder temperatures and excessive rain inhibited treatment. Forker provided Council with a graph illustrating average ammonia test results from 2021-2023 YTD. The data shows ammonia levels trending down in effluent water. And, while the town exceeded its limit in February, the months of January, February, and March typically have the highest levels of ammonia. So far, 2023 results are significantly lower than ammonia results for the same months in 2021 and 2022. Forker and Town Manager Jacob Ihrie are working with WET Engineering, and are planning a trip to meet with IDEM officials to discuss the Town's challenge in meeting the strict ammonia limitations, and to learn more about the formula used by the EPA in setting those limitations. IDEM knows the Town is working to address the issue, and has not yet imposed fines for non-compliance.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Façade Grant Policy Updates – Council President Vicki Jellison and Councilmember John Morr attended the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) meeting on March 8, 2023 and reported RDC members put a lot of time and compromise into coming up with the revisions for the façade grant policy. Revisions were made to clarify project eligibility and documentation required to navigate the application process. Changes also include increasing the maximum annual grant amount per property from \$10,000 to \$15,000. The amount allowed for roofs is capped at \$5,000. After recommending a few changes to correct a typo and improve formatting, Council voted to approve the updated Façade Improvement Matching Grant Program. Motion by Shultz, seconded by Lindsey, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS: Shultz motioned to approve Accounts Payable & Payroll Vouchers as of March 9, 2023 and March 14, 2023. Morr 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 6:51 pm. Motion by Shultz, seconded by Lindsey, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on March 28, 2023 at 6:00 pm, at the Albion Municipal Building, 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN.

VICKI E. JELLISON, PRESIDENT

JOHN D. MORR, MEMBER

DONALD J. SHULTZ, VICE-PRESIDENT

ABIGAIL E. LINDSEY, MEMBER

ZANE M. GRAY, MEMBER

ATTEST: _____
CAROL A. SELBY, CLERK-TREASURER