

Albion Town Council
Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 6:00 pm
TELECONFERENCE via GoToMeeting
(Meeting ID# 280137509)
Albion Municipal Building
211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN, 46701

CALL TO ORDER: Town Council President Vicki Jellison called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer	Matt Getts, KPC Media
Jacob Ihrie, Town Manager	Scott Cole, Police Dept
J. Darrick Brinkerhoff, Town Attorney	Trince Hursey, Police Dept
Robert Amber, Fire Dept	Terry Forker, Water/WW Depts
Karl Tanner, WET Environmental	Dustin Wuis, WET Environmental
Wade Hale, WET Environmental	Tammy Luce, Brick Arc Inn
Jerome Ratkiewicz, Foundation for Fair Contracting	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the regular and executive meeting on March 8, 2022 were approved. Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. Condolences** – Jellison extended sympathies to Councilmember Don Shultz on the recent passing of his father.
- 2. Albion Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Dinner – April 28, 2022**
The event will be held at Blessed Sacrament Church beginning at 5:00pm. The Town pays the \$15.00 fee for Councilmembers to attend. RSVP to the Clerk-Treasurer ASAP.
- 3. TIF Report** - Council acknowledged receipt of the April 15th Report from the Redevelopment Commission. The report will be submitted in the TIF Management section in Gateway. (Reference IC 36-7-13-13.)

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Albion Chamber of Commerce - Flag Sponsorship

As has been done in prior years, Council agreed to participate in the Albion Chamber of Commerce's flag program. The Town will pay the \$50 sponsorship fee for a Flag to be flown on a light pole in Memory of former Town Marshal Robert F. Korte, and council members will personally donate for a Flag to be flown in Memory of former Town employee Robert Wilson.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Fire Dept – Fire Chief Robert Amber provided a summary of his monthly report. The department has had 110 Runs already this year. Amber said he is pleased with the new software training system, noting it is user-friendly, easily accessible for firefighters to access, and provides monitoring/documentation of the training. He reported the new Ford truck has

been delivered. Payment to the dealer, Larkin will be slightly less, since the push bumper that came with the vehicle is being returned. The department will be opting for a bumper more conducive to the department's needs. Also, the Invoice from J&K Communications for radio equipment for the new truck will be less than originally quoted, and CopsGear's Invoice will be more because CopsGear will be doing the radio installation rather than J&K Communications. The radio installation will be done in conjunction with installation of other equipment (sirens, lights, etc) provided by CopsGear.

Police Dept – Town Marshal Scott Cole provided a summary of his monthly report. He reported less traffic activity last month. Council voted to approve a recommendation by Cole to promote Deputy Marshal Charles Lewallen from 2nd Class Deputy Marshal to 1st Class Deputy Marshal effective April 3, 2022. Motion by Shultz, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. The promotion comes with a \$.50 per hour wage increase, and take-home vehicle. It was noted Deputy Lewallen completed Law Enforcement Training in 2010, and has several years' experience in law enforcement. Cole expressed appreciation for his officers' success with recent cases, and thanked KPC reporter Matt Getts for the positive newspaper article covering the cases. Cole, and Town Manager Jacob Ihrle are working with Noble County officials to address visibility issues at the intersections of W Jefferson Street/Oak Street and W Main Street/Oak Street. The placement of traffic mirrors is being considered as a way to address visibility issues created when vehicles are parked on the far west end of the angle parking areas around the new County government building. Councilmembers also commented on the deteriorating condition of Oak Street and asked about the County helping with repairs. Ihrle reported he, and Street Superintendent Corey Miller are in discussions with County officials regarding potential options for repairing the road.

Town Manager – Town Manager Jacob Ihrle provided a summary of his monthly report. A pre-construction meeting was held for the recently awarded CCMG Project - E Hazel Street (1st to 5th Streets), and S Liberty Street (E Main to Washington Streets). The purpose of the meeting was to provide the public with information on the project. Ihrle sent letters to 52 property owners/occupants within the project area. Approximately six individuals impacted by the project either came to the meeting, or made contact with Ihrle about their questions. Ihrle noted 18 trees are scheduled for removal out of about 100 trees within the scope of the project. He suggested the possibility of making some low-cost replacements by transplanting trees from the tree nursery in Hidden Diamonds Park. A Public Hearing has been scheduled and advertised for the April 6, 2022 Albion Plan Commission Meeting for the purpose of hearing public comments on proposed Solar Ordinance Amendments prior to making a recommendation to Council. It was noted site and natural gas work has started in the Village of White Oaks for the next section of residential homes to be built. Ihrle thanked Cole for setting up a ride-along with Deputy Chuck Lewallen, noting he is very knowledgeable and professional.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of Bids for Lagoon Aeration Equipment Installation in Cell No. 1

Council voted to approve a recommendation by WET Environmental Engineering, design engineers for the project, and the WWTP Committee to issue Notice of Award to Clean Infusion LLC, the lowest most responsive and responsible bidder for the Lagoon Treatment Facility Aeration Project in the amount of \$485,083. Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. WET Environmental Engineering will prepare the necessary documents. Other bids included Mason Engineering and Construction - \$506,000 and R.E. Crosby Construction - \$639,936. (TIF, Sewer and ARPA funds are assisting with the cost of the project.)

2. Consideration of Bids for Hazel Street Water Main Extension Project

Council voted to approve a recommendation by VS Engineering, Inc design engineers for the project, and the Public Works Committee to issue Notice of Award to Pulver Asphalt Paving, the lowest most responsive and responsible bidder for the E Hazel Street Water Main Extension Project in the amount of \$135,000. Motion by Shultz, seconded by Morr, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. VS Engineering will prepare the necessary documents. Other bids included API Construction Corp. - \$182,000. (Water funds will be used for the cost of the project.)

3. Consideration of 50/50 Façade Grant for Brick Ark Inn – Tammy Luce

Brick Ark Inn owner, Tammy Luce was present to answer questions on the proposed façade grant application. She reported soliciting three quotes. She received one quote from SL Home Improvements, and provided written documentation that Jeff Nelson Construction and 323 Service declined to quote the work. After discussion, Council voted to approve a recommendation by the Redevelopment Commission to approve a 50/50 Façade Grant for gutters, facia, and soffit work for the Brick Ark Inn in the amount of \$3,700. Motion by Smolinske, seconded by Shultz, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

4. Consideration of Special Event Applications

The applications were reviewed at the last Department Head meeting. After discussion, Council voted to approve the following Special Event Applications as indicated below.

a) Noble House “Color a Brighter Future” 5k/1mi Run – October, 15, 2022

Magnuson motioned to approve the Special Event Application, seconded by Shultz, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

b) Chain O’ Lakes Festival 2022 – June 3, 2022 – June 12, 2022

Shultz motioned to approve the Special Event Application, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

5. Outstanding Warrants & Delinquent Customer Accounts

In accordance with IC 5-11-10.5, Council acknowledged the voiding and reissuing of outstanding checks in the amount of \$224.99, and voted to approve receipting outstanding checks in the total amount of \$138.63 back into the funds from which they were originally drawn (Water Fund = \$45.05; Sewer Fund = \$93.58), and approved Cancellation of Debt from delinquent water/wastewater accounts in the amount of \$881.73. Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. The delinquent water/wastewater accounts will be turned over to a collection agency.

6. Approval of Cemetery Deed(s)

Council voted to approve the following Cemetery Deed. Motion by Shultz, seconded by Morr, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. **Mitch & Carrie Thompson – Section N, Lot 184, Graves 1, 2, & 3.**

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS: Morr motioned to approve Accounts Payable Vouchers as of March 10, 2022 and March 22, 2022, Smolinske seconded, carried 5 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 7:05 pm. Motion by Shultz, seconded by Morr, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on April 12, 2022 at 6:00 pm, at the Albion Municipal Building, 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN.

VICKI E. JELLISON, PRESIDENT

DONALD J. SHULTZ, VICE-PRESIDENT

CHRISTINA K. MAGNUSON, MEMBER

JOHN D. MORR, MEMBER

DAROLD R. SMOLINSKE, MEMBER

ATTEST: _____
CAROL A. SELBY, CLERK-TREASURER