

**Albion Town Council**  
**Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 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)  
Darold Smolinske, Member (Present)  
Chris Magnuson, Member (Present)  
John Morr, Member (Present)

**ABSENT:** Don Shultz, Vice-President

**OTHERS:** Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer (Electronically)  
Matt Getts, KPC Media (Electronically)  
Steve Clouse, Town Attorney (Present)  
Scott Cole, Police Dept (Electronically)  
Trince Hursey, Police Dept (Present)  
Bob Amber, Fire Dept (Present)  
Kerry Leitch, B&J Specialty Inc (Present)  
Danielle Gray, Village of White Oaks (Present)  
Don "Duber" Merriman, Doc's Hardware (Electronically)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from the meeting on August 11, 2020 were approved. Motion by Morr, seconded by Magnuson, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Council Member Don Shultz has a family commitment and will not be at tonight's meeting.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

The CSX Railroad crossings at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and State Rd 9/S Orange Street are being worked on this week. The York Street crossing remains open. Traffic from State Road 9/S Orange Street is rerouting down Weber Road, presumably unknowing that the 7<sup>th</sup> Street crossing is closed which is creating an issue with semi traffic having to turn around. It was suggested additional signage may help; however, this is not a town project, but the responsibility of the railroad, and work on the intersection is expected to

be completed tomorrow. It was also reported parked vehicles near the intersection of S York and E Hazel Streets are creating a traffic hazard and may be blocking access to a fire hydrant. The police dept will check into the matter.

**OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Tax Abatement – B&J Specialty, Inc (Declaratory Res. No. 2020-16)**

Kerry Leitch from B&J Specialty, Inc was present to provide information and answer questions on the request for tax abatement on new equipment. The addition of the three new machines valued at a total of \$1,183,707 is expected to add an additional (3) three employees. After discussion, Council voted to approve the recommendation by the Tax Abatement Committee and Redevelopment Commission (Reference RDC Resolution No. 2020-03) to approve the 5-year personal property tax abatement as outlined in Resolution 2020-16. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. A Public Hearing will be held on September 8, 2020 to hear any remonstrances and objections after which Council will take final action by considering the Confirmatory Resolution, complete the Findings of Fact, and execute the Statement of Benefits.

**2. 50/50 Façade Grant Request – Doc’s Hardware**

Don “Duber” Merriman, Doc’s Hardware was available to answer questions regarding the proposed project which includes installation of a new energy efficient roof on the upper stories of the hardware store located at 122 & 124 N Orange Street. Merriman intends to come back next year to seek an additional Façade Grant for the lower roof portions. After discussion Council voted to approve the recommendation made by the RDC to grant \$10,000, toward the lowest most responsive and responsible quote from Royalty Roofing. The total amount of the quote is \$21,699 and includes installation of gutters. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Morr, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

**3. Consideration of Special Event Application – Village of White Oaks Block Party**

Council discussed a Special Event Application submitted by Ashleigh Schalinske to hold a small neighborhood Block Party for the residents of the Village of White Oaks Subdivision. Danielle Gray was present to answer questions regarding the request. The request includes blocking off a portion of Taylor Lane on September 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-9pm to allow for family friendly games, food tables and a bounce house. They are requesting barricades to assist with blocking the road. It was noted access for fire/emergency vehicles should be maintained, along with adherence to the Town’s noise ordinance. Mrs. Gray reported each household in the subdivision had been notified and invited to attend the block party. Council discussed waiving the \$100 application fee; however, the Town’s policy only allows waiving the fee for charitable collection event permits, and not-for-profits are exempt from the fee. After discussion, Council voted to approve the special event, but did not waive the required \$100 fee. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Jellison, carried 3 Ayes, 1 Nay per Morr. Council indicated further discussion regarding broadening the criteria for fee exemptions may be warranted.

**Department Head Reports:**

Council acknowledged receipt of written reports for the Fire and Police Departments, and the Town Manager's Report. Council approved of pursuing a USDA Grant for replacing a generator at the fire station. The existing generator is 20-30 years old and does not power everything at the station. Chief Amber also reported that 2021 Public Safety LIT budget appropriations will include funds for replacing the Fire Command Vehicle. Town Marshal Scott Cole thanked Chief Deputy/Captain Trince Hursey and Investigator/Sergeant David Thieme, Jr for assisting while he is out. CSX Railroad has responded to requests, and has done some weed whacking around the railroad tracks in town. Council voted to approve a request by Cole to enter into an Annual Agreement with Lexipol to update Police Policy and Procedures, including 50 Best Practices. Magnuson motioned to approve the purchase in the amount of \$4,200, seconded by Morr, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. It was noted the fee is charged annually, however the Police Dept may opt out for future years. Cole also reported entering into a 1-year agreement with "Go to Meeting" so the Town may continue to use its teleconferencing platform for meetings. The cost was \$192. Jellison reported Town Manager Tena Woenker is on vacation. Plans are to have additional work completed on the HCI Alley Activation Project in time for the September 10<sup>th</sup> Mural event. Funds are still available through the NCEDC for local businesses effected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Magnuson encouraged everyone to contact their State Representatives to stress the importance of keeping CCMG Funds available for street improvements, rather than diverting them elsewhere due to the Pandemic.

**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS:** Smolinske motioned to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Vouchers as of August 13, 2020 and August 25, 2020. Seconded by Magnuson, carried 4 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 by consensus at 6:56 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on September 8, 2020 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