

**Albion Town Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 27, 2022, 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
Zane Gray, Member
John Morr, Member
Darold Smolinske, Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer	Robert Amber, Fire Dept
Jacob Ihrie, Town Manager	Everett Newman, Newman & Newman
J. Darrick Brinkerhoff, Town Attorney	Mary Ann Troutner, Albion STAR Team
Matt Getts, KPC Media	Gregg Leatherman
Scott Cole, Police Dept	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the regular meeting on September 13, 2022 were approved. Motion by Smolinske, seconded by Shultz, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Introduction of newly appointed Council member Zane Gray

Council members welcomed Zane Gray as a member of the Albion Town Council. Gray fills the seat vacated by Chris Magnuson whom moved out of Town. Gray was born and raised in Albion, is a Ball State graduate and served in the military and reserves. He is a past member of the Albion Park Board. Gray also initiated a project to honor Veterans by placing flags on their graves in Rose Hill Cemetery.

2. Acknowledge receipt of Notice for upcoming Plan Commission Hearing on Minor

Subdivisions: Hermann Estates and Eling Subdivision. Council acknowledged receipt of a notice regarding two proposed subdivisions. Town Manager Jacob Ihrie provided a summary of the petitioners' requests and overview of the subdivision process. It was noted the Albion Town Council receives notice as part of the "Checkpoint" phase of the subdivision process. The Plan Commission will hold a public hearing regarding this matter.

OPEN DISCUSSION: NONE

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Fire Dept – Council acknowledged receipt of the monthly report. Council voted to approve a request by Fire Chief Robert Amber to purchase a 60 hp Mercury boat motor from the lowest most responsive and responsible quoter, R&S Boats in the amount of \$7,200.00. Motion by Morr, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Public Safety LIT Funds will be used for

the purchase. Quotes were also received from Protech Marine and West Lakes Boat Mart. The motor will replace the old motor on the rescue boat.

Police Dept - Council acknowledged receipt of the monthly report. Town Marshal Scott Cole reported the new 2022 Dodge Durango is now in service. He reported sending out RFQs for a Ford Police Interceptor vehicle. However, dealers are waiting until Ford releases manufacture dates before quoting. Cole reported the Law Enforcement Conference he attended provided a wealth of information.

Town Manager - Council acknowledged receipt of the monthly report. Town Manager Jacob Ihrle reported he is cataloguing vacant properties in Town as possible housing opportunities. Council gave their blessing for Ihrle to join the International City/County Managers Association. A change in how the dues is calculated drastically reduces the price of membership which is anticipated to be \$76.70.

OLD BUSINESS:

Monarch Development request for assistance with infrastructure – Village of White Oaks

Town Attorney Darrick Brinkerhoff reported he did not find any statutory prohibition on the Town providing monetary support to Keith Leatherman, Monarch Development for Phase 4 in the Village of White Oaks, and therefore believes it is within the discretion of the council to approve the request. Leatherman had asked for assistance to cover some of the infrastructure costs associated with construction of new homes in the housing addition. Council decided to approve paying for costs for a fire hydrant, curb stops, and service boxes, because costs should be recouped, at least in part, by tap fees charged by the Town's water utility. Council declined to cover additional costs requested by Leatherman for customized manholes. Council emphasized this would be limited to a one-time expenditure, and justified the expense, noting it was not a lot of money compared to the value additional housing adds to the Town, which in turn, promotes economic development. After discussion, Shultz motioned to approve the request in the amount of \$6,246.34. Smolinske seconded, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Water and/or CEDIT funds are available for the expenditure.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Change Order – Clean Infusion (Extension for date for project completion)

Council voted to approve Change Order No. 2 which extends the completion date for Clean Infusion to complete the Wastewater Lagoon Aeration Project to October 18, 2022. Motion by Morr, seconded by Shultz, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. The contract time extension was due to difficulty in obtaining electrical equipment and concrete on a timely basis.

2. Consideration of Special Event Applications:

Council approved the following Special Event Applications as indicated below.

- a. Albion Chamber of Commerce – Halloween Party, Albion Fire Station, Oct 31st, 7-8:30pm
Motion to approve by Shultz, seconded by Gray, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.
- b. Noble County Prosecutor's Office – Candlelight Vigil for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Celebration Station Alley, Oct 7th, 7-9:00pm – The location of this event was changed to the Noble County Annex Plaza. Therefore, they withdrew their application.
- c. Albion STAR Team – Scare on the Square, Courthouse Square, Oct 28th, 5:30-7:30pm
Motion to approve by Shultz, seconded by Morr, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.
Mary Ann Troutner was present to provide information on the event. Council gave the okay to attach scarecrow decorations to downtown streetlight poles, as long as they do not use tape or other means of attaching them that would damage the poles.

3. Consideration of RDC recommendation for Façade Grant Application – Newman & Newman, Everett Newman (107 and 109 W Jefferson Street)

Everett Newman was present to provide information on his request for Façade Grant funds for a project to stabilize and secure the historical brick building that was formerly known as the Opera House and currently houses the Newman & Newman law office. After discussion, Council voted to approve a recommendation by the Albion Redevelopment Commission to award \$10,000 towards the project. Newman reported receiving three quotes ranging from \$26,810 - \$53,929, and one declination to quote. The maximum allowable grant per the Façade Grant Policy is \$10,000.

4. Approval of Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Ordinance No. 2022-10 (2nd Reading)

The Ordinance includes the addition of **Subsection 7.8(6), Destruction or Damage to Buffers.** This section requires replacement of a buffer within 90 days of damage occurring. The Albion Plan Commission recommended the change to require timely replacement of damaged buffers (i.e., fences, etc.) between properties. Council voted to approve Ordinance No. 2022-10 on its second reading as follows.

Second Reading

Shultz caused *Ordinance No. 2022-10, An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Albion, Indiana* to be read for the second time by title only. Shultz then motioned for adoption of the ordinance, seconded by Smolinske carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

5. Approval of 2023 Proposed Budget Estimates – Ordinance No. 2022-11 (2nd Reading)

In a memo previously submitted to council members, department heads, and the town manager, Clerk-Treasurer Carol Selby provided an overview of the \$4,768,236 proposed 2023 budget. The proposed budget is \$55,865 more than the current year's advertised budget. The proposed 2023 Levy has been advertised at \$1,182,497 which is slightly over the estimated maximum levy allowed, and represents a 5.0% increase over this year's levy for property tax supported funds. Should reductions be necessary, plans are to reduce unexpended appropriations from the 2022 budget to help minimize cuts to the 2023 budget. Council voted to approve the proposed budget and Ordinance 2022-11 on its second reading as follows.

Second Reading

Shultz caused Ordinance 2022-11, *An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates*, to be read for the second time by title only, and motioned for approval of the ordinance, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 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.

6. Approval of Cemetery Deeds

Council voted to approve the following Cemetery Deeds. Motion by Gray, seconded by Shultz, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Buddy & Beverly Todd – Section N, Lot 99, Grave 2

Kevin Todd & Nanc Taylor – Section N, Lot 99, Grave 1

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS: Smolinske motioned to approve Accounts Payable & Payroll Vouchers as of Sept 22, & Sept 27, 2022. Morr 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 6:48 pm. Motion by Gray, seconded by Morr, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on October 11, 2022 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

DAROLD R. SMOLINSKE, MEMBER

ZANE M. GRAY, MEMBER

ATTEST: _____
CAROL A. SELBY, CLERK-TREASURER