

Albion Town Council
Tuesday, September 28, 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)
John Morr, Member (Present)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer	Matt Getts, KPC Media
Jacob Ihrie, Town Manager	Scott Cole, Police Dept
Steve Clouse, Town Attorney	John Urso, Fire Dept
Corey Miller, Street/Cem Depts (Electronically)	Alice Baxter, The Strand

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the regular meeting on September 14, 2021 were approved. Motion by Morr, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. Leaf Pickup is tentatively scheduled for October 11th – December 10th**
- 2. Albion Municipal Building Corporation – Board of Directors – (2) Vacancies need filled**
Jellison asked council members to come up with potential candidates for consideration at the next meeting. Attorney Steve Clouse said once the vacancies are filled, the members will need to hold a brief reorganization meeting to elect officers.
- 3. Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Committee Meeting – October 18, 2021, 4:00pm**
The WWTP Committee will hold a public meeting on October 18, 2021 at 4:00pm at the Albion Municipal Building to open sealed bids for Lagoon Aeration Equipment. The council will consider the committee's recommendation at their meeting on October 26, 2021.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- 1. 3rd Quarter Overtime Report**
Jellison acknowledged receipt of the overtime report prepared by Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Shannon McFarland. Jellison thanked department heads for doing a phenomenal job keeping overtime figures down.
- 2. Salary, Benefits Package, & Insurance Committee – Need to schedule meeting**
Ihrie will email committee members tomorrow to set up a meeting to discuss wages for 2022.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Fire Dept - Council acknowledged receipt of the department's monthly report. Deputy Fire Chief John Urso was present to answer questions. Council acknowledged a change in officers; Conner Marks is filling the "Captain" position vacated by Brian Peterson. The department is still waiting on the new truck, which is waiting on a "chip." Unless the CoVid Pandemic prohibits such gatherings, the Chamber of Commerce is planning on holding a Halloween Party at the Fire Station on October 31, 2021 from 7:00pm-8:30pm. In response to a question about emergency calls, Urso explained the radio tone for medical runs is different than the tone for fires. This allows a first responder to distinguish between medical and fire runs, so they respond only to those calls applicable to them. Jellison reported a family lost everything in a recent fire and expressed appreciation to firefighters for all they do.

Police Dept – Council acknowledged receipt of the department's monthly report. Town Marshal Scott Cole asked and received council permission to proceed with the RFQ process for the purchase of a new Durango. The purchase is in line with the department's vehicle replacement schedule as outlined in the Capital Improvement Plan. Cole reported he received an officer's resignation, and will begin the hiring process. As per town policy, the vacancy will first be posted internally. The condition of a couple vacant properties was discussed. The department addresses those situations as legally allowed. In response to a question about the Town's cell phone service, Cole reported only a couple cell phone companies service our area that offer first responder priority. Of those, Verizon has a tower nearby, and as such offers the best service for the Albion area.

Town Manager - Council acknowledged receipt of the monthly report. Town Manager Jacob Ihrle reported he has spent the last month getting accustomed to the job. Council thanked him for getting around in the community and introducing himself. As required per his employment agreement, he has completed Employee in Responsible Charge (ERC) training and received certification. He provided an update on building permit activity. A Certificate of Occupancy has been issued for the Bosch expansion project.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. RFQ process for Truck purchase for Street Dept – Corey Miller

Street Superintendent Corey Miller asked and received council permission to proceed with the RFQ process to purchase a new truck for the street department. The purchase is in line with the department's vehicle replacement schedule as outlined in the Capital Improvement Plan. Miller said he is looking for a truck similar to the Ford truck purchased last year. So, the vehicles would use the same parts, oil, fuel, etc. This truck will eventually replace one of the older trucks. He said with the addition of this truck, he believes it will help prolong the need for replacing the older trucks that cost \$100,000+ to replace.

2. 2022 Proposed Budget Estimates – Ref. Ord# 2021-14 (2nd Reading)

The second reading for the 2022 Budget was advertised for the October 12, 2021 meeting. It was placed on the September 28th council meeting agenda in error, and as such was tabled until the next meeting.

3. Approval of ADA Plan Update - Ordinance No. 2021-15 – 1st 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. Special Event Application – Ladies Night at The Strand – October 8, 2021

Alice Baxter, The Strand, was present to provide information on the Special Event Application to hold a “Ladies Night at The Strand” on October 8, 2021. The Strand provides salon and tanning services. It was noted, department heads and the town manager reviewed the application. The required Certificate of Insurance and signed Indemnification was received. An alcohol permit is pending, and subject to approval by the Town Marshal. After discussion, Shultz motioned to approve the Special Event Application on the condition that the alcohol permit gets approved and Baxter coordinates the placement of the Boutique trailer and pop-up tents with surrounding business owners, seconded by Magnuson, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Baxter noted the alcohol is to be served inside, and not outside of building.

OTHER COMMENTS:

Council discussed the condition of N Oak Street from W Main to W Jefferson Streets. Because of construction on the new County Building, N Oak Street has temporarily been designated one-way, and is receiving a significant increase in vehicle traffic. There are several deep potholes, and the condition of the road is deteriorating. Ihrie will reach out to Noble County Commissioners to discuss the condition of the road and plans for getting it fixed.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS:

Shultz motioned to approve Accounts Payable & Payroll Vouchers as of September 23, 2021 and September 28, 2021. Magnuson 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 6:37 pm. Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on October 12, 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.

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