

Albion Town Council
Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 6:00 pm
Albion Municipal Building
211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN, 46701

CALL TO ORDER: Town Council President Vicki Jellison called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

OTHERS: Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer
Stefen Wynn, Town Manager
Matt Getts, KPC Media
Kevin Kelly, Our Hometown News
Casey Myers, Park/Cemetery Depts
Brian Stimpson, Street/Cemetery Depts
Terry Forker, Water/Wastewater Depts
Randy Gunder, Gunder Leasing
Frank Deaton, Top Notch Tree Service, LLC
Jake Fillenwarth, Manufacturing Engineer Manager, Dexter Axle
Daren Hudson, Manufacturing Engineer, Dexter Axle
Billy McKeown, Corporate Paint Process Engineer, Dexter Axle
Sharon Leitch

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the Regular & Executive Meetings on February 26, 2019 were approved. Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Condolences to the Robert Wilson Family

Council members expressed sympathy on the passing of former town employee Robert “Bob” Wilson. He worked for the town for 25 years. A gathering of family and friends is scheduled for March 15, 2019, 2-4pm and 6-8pm. Services are March 16, 2019.

2. Albion STAR Team

Dates for this year’s events have been finalized and are available on their website.

3. #Makeityourown

A rural talent attraction program has been initiated to motivate individuals to help build a community they want to come back to.

4. Opera House Open House

A ribbon cutting ceremony and open house is in the works for the former Opera House building. Details will be communicated at a later date.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

“Portrait of a Graduate” event - Jellison reported the Town of Albion was well represented at this event.

OLD BUSINESS:

IDEM Meeting - Ammonia Project

Town Manager Stefen Wynn provided a summary of his written report to council regarding a recent IDEM meeting held in Indianapolis on the status of infrastructure improvements to treat ammonia in the Town’s wastewater. Data collection in December 2019 will help determine if the improvements will be sufficient to treat ammonia. If not, additional improvements may be necessary in order to comply with IDEM limitations on ammonia.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of Dexter Axle request for Town to accept Industrial Wastewater

Dexter Axle officials Jake Fillenwarth, Daren Hudson, and Billy McKowen were present to provide information on Dexter Axle’s request for the Town to accept discharge of pre-treated industrial wastewater into the town’s sewer system. Mr. McKeown explained customer demand for a better paint job on axles prompted the switch from a solvent-based paint process to a powder-coated process. He provided a brief summary of the process which would produce approximately 9,000 gallons of industrial wastewater per day which Dexter would pre-treat before discharging into the Town’s system. The automated system allows for monitoring pH levels, with the intent to have the pH level neutral when the discharge enters the town’s wastewater system.

Results from a sample of discharge from Dexter’s sister company located in Shawnee, OK that utilizes a similar powder-coating process were provided to the Town by Dexter Axle. The test results were discussed with IDEM at a recent meeting in Indianapolis. In order to accept the discharge, IDEM will require the Town to modify its NPDES Permit and begin testing influent and effluent wastewater for metals. Superintendent Terry Forker said metals settle in pond sludge and may prohibit land application if not at acceptable levels. He noted the sample from Shawnee looked clean, other than the Copper level, which IDEM indicated may trigger a limit within the Town’s NPDES Permit. It was noted acceptable limits on metals are determined by IDEM on a case-by-case basis, and are based on multiple factors including the size of the system, etc.

After discussion, Council voted to proceed with modifying the Town’s NPDES Permit for the purpose of accepting industrial wastewater from a new powder-coating process at Dexter Axle’s 7th Street facility. Motion made by Shultz, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Permit modification will result in additional testing requirements from IDEM. The Town will need to update its Ordinance to allow for the billing of Dexter Axle for the increased testing costs. According to IDEM, the process for modifying the Town’s NPDES permit may take 90 days. Dexter Axle will need to haul the wastewater away to an approved facility until IDEM approves the Town’s acceptance of the discharge.

2. Consideration of 50/50 Matching Façade Grant – Randy Gunder

Council voted to approve a recommendation by the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) to grant a 50/50 Façade Grant to Randy Gunder, Gunder Leasing in the amount of \$2,045 in TIF #1 funds for window replacement. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. It was noted Burdette Renovations submitted the lowest quote of \$4,090.

3. W. Main Street Project – Change Order No. 1

Council learned Frontier Telecommunication lines were discovered within the Town's ROW requiring adjustments in the placement of storm sewer infrastructure associated with the W Main Street Paving Project. Three inlets will be added to the project and three inlets will be moved to the center of the sidewalk. After discussion, Council voted to approve the Change Order, from Pulver Asphalt Paving, Inc in the amount of \$2,250. Motion made by Shultz, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Street funds will be used to cover the cost.

4. 509 N York Street property – Consideration of waiving \$7,565 lien

Town officials and the Town Attorney attended the Noble County Commissioner's meeting held on 3/11/2019 and expressed the Council's desire to try to recoup a lien placed on the property located at 509 N York Street. The lien was filed by the Town in 2013 after incurring costs for demolition of a residential home located on the property. Subsequent to the demolition, the town has incurred costs for mowing the vacant property in addition to attorney fees. After unsuccessful attempts to sell the property during a Tax Sale, the County is considering offering it to an adjacent property owner. Should that occur, the Town would not be able to collect on the lien. Town Attorney Steven Clouse reported he is working with Noble County's attorney to possibly negotiate a transfer of ownership to the Town.

5. Consideration of Quotes for Streetlight Maintenance

After discussing the only proposal received for streetlight maintenance from Dunn-Rite Electric LLC for \$50/hour labor, and \$10/hour bucket truck equipment usage, Council voted to approve the proposal upon the condition the proposed contract be amended to include verbiage on liability insurance and safety, and meet the approval of Town Attorney Steve Clouse. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Wynn noted, he advertised for proposals twice in the newspaper. It was noted, AEP/I&M Power are no longer servicing the Town's streetlights which prompted the search for an independent contractor to perform the work. CEDIT appropriations are allocated for streetlights.

6. Consideration of Quotes for Tree Trimming/Removal

Superintendent Brian Stimpson reported he solicited several vendors for quotes on this year's tree work. He received one proposal from Frank Deaton of Top Notch Tree Service, LLC for \$10,300 for Tree Trimming & Removal. Mr. Deaton was present to answer questions. Stimpson said Top Notch also does work for the City of Ligonier and is very reputable. After discussion, Council voted to approve hiring Top Notch Tree Service for \$10,300, and gave 90 days for completion on the work. Motion made by

Magnuson, seconded by Shultz, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Corporation General and Cemetery appropriations are allocated to cover the cost. Stimpson requested that the trees in Rose Hill Cemetery along W Main Street be removed first in preparation for an upcoming paving project.

7. Consideration of RDC recommendation to use TIF funds for HCI “Alley Activation Project”

Council voted to approve a recommendation by the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) to use up to \$13,124.22 in TIF #1 funds for an alley pathway project, with the understanding that all of those funds would only be necessary if no further funding could be secured. Motion made by Shultz, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Wynn reported a donation has already been received from the Albion Township Trustee and more donations and grants are being solicited. As additional donations are received, the amount needed from TIF funds will be reduced. The project consists of decorative asphalt depicting railroad tracks, and the installation of benches, and Railroad cross arms that will allow for closing the alley to vehicle traffic during events.

8. Approval of Cemetery Deeds

Council voted to approve the following Cemetery Deeds. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Smolinske, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Larry D. Hague – Section G, Lot 63, Grave 2

Casey Isaac – Section M, Lot 175, Graves 1 & 2

John D. & Diana K. Morr – Section M, Lot 115, Graves 1, 2, 3, & 4

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Park/Cemetery Depts

Council members acknowledged receipt of the department’s monthly report. Superintendent Casey Myers reported he expects to take possession of the Batwing Mower and UTV within the next couple weeks. The overhead door has been installed on the maintenance building at Hidden Diamonds Park and works great. A Boy Scout working towards Eagle Scout status will take on the section marker project at Rose Hill Cemetery. He will present his plan at a future council meeting. Another proposed Eagle Scout project involves new playground equipment at Hidden Diamonds Park. Myers plans to install solar lighting at the playground area at Valley View Park. He is researching options for a solar radar sign to deter speeding. The County Surveyor and a contractor are working on a plan to address erosion along Croft Ditch. New umbrellas were ordered for shade around the Splash Pad.

Street/Cemetery Depts

Council members acknowledged receipt of the department’s monthly report. Superintendent Brian Stimpson reported it’s been a busy time for burials in the cemetery. The holes for brackets in the new streetlight poles are drilled and will be put up soon. The Brine maker is finished; however, an applicator is needed in order to apply the mixture to streets. Pulver Asphalt Paving has begun preliminary work on the W Main Street Paving Project by installing drain pipe. Work is also being done by Pulver at the entrance to the Village of White Oaks to finish up work on the Village Drive

Patching Project. There was some discussion by council members about aesthetics and visibility regarding trees and signs at the entrances to the Village of White Oaks. Wynn recommended that no action be taken without input from Village of White Oaks residents.

Water/Wastewater Depts

Council members acknowledged receipt of the department's monthly report. Superintendent Terry Forker reported a lift station in the east industrial park has issues. Undergarments, gloves, etc. are being lodged in the pump which is over 20 years old. He would like to upgrade the system with something that would chop up debris before reaching the pump. After discussion, it was recommended Wynn and Forker discuss the matter with industries in the area and seek their assistance with resolving the issue. Forker provided an update on the Ammonia Project at the wastewater ponds. Once ice has melted, the disks for the aeration system can be installed in the ponds. A new pump was installed at the lift station near Parker Hannifin. Forker reported the design is very nice.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS:

After discussion, Shultz motioned to approve Payroll and Accounts Payable Vouchers as of February 28, 2019 and March 12, 2019 seconded by Morr, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, submitted and reviewed, attested by Carol A. Selby.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before the council in regular session, Jellison adjourned the meeting at 8:14 pm, motion made by Smolinske, seconded by Magnuson, carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on March 26, 2019 at 6:00 pm, at the Albion Municipal Building, 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN.

VICKI E. JELLISON, PRESIDENT

CHRISTINA K. MAGNUSON, VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN D. MORR, MEMBER

DONALD J. SHULTZ, MEMBER

DAROLD SMOLINSKE, MEMBER

ATTEST: _____
CAROL A. SELBY, CLERK-TREASURER