

**Albion Town Council
Tuesday, October 25, 2016, 6:00 pm
Albion Municipal Building
211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN, 46701**

CALL TO ORDER: Town council president John Morr called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE: John Morr, President
Max Weber, Vice-President
Vicki Jellison, Member
Chris Magnuson, Member

ABSENT: Don Shultz, Member

OTHERS: Carol A. Selby, Clerk-Treasurer
Stefen Wynn, Town Manager
Matt Getts, KPC Media
Terry Forker, Water/Wastewater Depts
Kevin Todd, Street/Cemetery Depts
Brad Rollins, Fire Dept
Tom Lock, Police Dept
Derek Frederickson, ERI
Bill Etzler, ERI
Sharon Leitch
Bernie Lawson
James & Brenda Cureton
Roberta Elser

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Morr asked for approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on October 11, 2016. Jellison motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Weber, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Halloween Party - Albion Chamber of Commerce Halloween Party is scheduled from 7:00am – 8:30pm at the Albion Fire Station at 210 Fire Station Drive.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Reflective sign panels/sleeves – While on vacation in another State, Magnuson reported seeing road signs with reflective panels mounted to sign posts that aid with visibility. The panels were approximately 6-foot long. Todd reported the town uses reflective sleeves on “stop” sign posts at busy/problem intersections. The sleeves used by the town are approximately 30” long. Magnuson said the town may want to consider increasing the use of these panels, and increasing the length of the reflective panel being used.

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

Fire Department, Brad Rollins – Fire chief Brad Rollins presented his report early so he could attend a meeting at the school. There were 37 Runs and 134.9 Man Hours logged for September. CPR, AED, and new recruit training will drive up Man Hours for October. Pump testing is complete. Equipment passed, with no major repairs needed. Breathing air packs were tested, with only minor repairs needed. Firefighters will be passing out candy to Trick-or-Treaters on Halloween. Scheduling issues are hindering the department’s ability to complete revisions to the department’s Bylaws. Council members will consider quotes for air bottles at their next meeting on November 8, 2016. This year will be the 2nd year of a 3-year plan to replace all (66) sixty-six air bottles.

OLD BUSINESS:

Request to amend ordinance to allow chickens – James & Brenda Cureton

Following up on a request first made to council at their August 9, 2016 meeting, council members discussed the pros and cons of allowing chickens within town limits. The town currently has an ordinance prohibiting certain animals, including chickens to be raised within town limits. Council members acknowledged the trendy “Farm to Fork”

philosophy of raising/growing your own food. However, in the end, council unanimously voted against changing the existing ordinance to allow livestock including chickens in town. Motion made by Weber, seconded by Jellison, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. In researching the topic, council members received information from other cities and towns. In some cases, ordinances were amended to allow chickens, and later rescinded due to the problems it created. Concerns about chickens roaming, attracting predators, creating unsightly, or unsanitary conditions, and feedback received from other concerned residents, swayed council members to decide against amending the existing ordinance. Council members voted to allow the Cureton's until December 31, 2016 to relocate their chickens outside town limits. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Weber, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Rose Hill Cemetery Storage Building – Roberta Elser

Albion resident Roberta Elser said she had heard the town was considering building a new storage facility for cemetery equipment and was interested in the fate of the existing storage building. She said she has a personal interest in preserving the building. Mrs. Elser said the land for Rose Hill Cemetery came from her grandfather's farm. Her grandfather served as caretaker for the cemetery, and she used to help him trim grass, and sharpen tools on the grindstone in the storage building. She guessed the building may be 100 years old, and would like to see it preserved. She suggested using the space to educate the public on the history of the cemetery. Council thanked her for coming and sharing this information. A decision has not yet been made on what to do with the storage building.

2. Update on TIF #1 Legacy Paving Projects

Town manager Stefen Wynn provided an update on proposed paving projects. Engineering Resources Inc (ERI) submitted a quote for a total of \$12,500 for additional design engineering for TIF #1 Legacy Projects. The quote includes engineering work for reconfiguring the layout of a new sidewalk along the north side of East Main Street from Cougar Court to the Central Noble School parking lot entrance in the amount of \$3,800. The quote also includes \$8,700 for the design engineering for reconstruction of Hidden Diamonds Drive from the Hidden Diamonds Drive parking lot to a point approximately 800-feet north.

Derek Frederickson, ERI said it would be advantageous to bid the projects yet this year, with work scheduled to begin Spring of next year. Selby expressed concern regarding grant eligibility should the bidding process be completed prior to applying for a grant. Bill Etzler, ERI said many communities were already through their bidding process this year when they were awarded grants. Wynn said he believed that was because notification regarding the Community Crossing grant wasn't released until well into the year, and expects new rules will apply in 2017. The town currently has a balance of approximately \$384,000 in TIF #1 Legacy Bond proceeds to use for both the engineering and construction costs for the projects.

After discussion, council voted to approve the additional engineering costs in the total amount of \$12,500. Motion made by Weber, seconded by Jellison, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Once the engineering is complete, Frederickson will attend a council meeting in November to go over cost estimates.

3. Update on town attorney vacancy

The attorney search committee is still working on filling the town attorney vacancy.

4. Approval of Cemetery Deed

Council voted to approve the following cemetery deed. Motion made by Magnuson, seconded by Weber, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Michael B. Selby & Carol A. Selby – Section C, Lot 18, Graves 1, 2, 3, 4.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Water/Wastewater Departments, Terry Forker – The wastewater department is experiencing problems with the Bosch lift station. The flushing of hand towels is causing problems, and another type pump may be needed. The pump on the lift station by Dollar General needs replaced. Council voted to approve a quote from American Pump & Repair for \$3,243.90 to rebuild the single-phase pump. Motion made by

Weber, seconded by Magnuson, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Wastewater funds will be used for the purchase. Forker said it is more cost effective to rebuild the pump, because installation of a brand-new pump would require upgrading from the existing single phase electrical service to 3-phase. On October 6, 2016, heavy rainfall in a short period of time resulted in sanitary sewer overflow of the town's collection system. As required the incident was reported to IDEM. Completion of site restoration work in conjunction with water main installation is tentatively slated to be done by the end of the month.

Street/Cemetery Departments, Kevin Todd – Council acknowledged receipt of the department's report. Grates put in place at Owen Park are still in place and working to keep people out of the drain under East Hazel Street. Work on sidewalk projects is scheduled to begin once the contractor is finished with the Hoosier Basketball court project at Hidden Diamonds Park. Two trees located on the south side of East Main Street across from the school campus were originally quoted for trimming, but need removed. A tree at Rose Hill Cemetery needs addressed as well. Leaf pickup is underway. The leaf machine is expected to need repairs or be replaced in the near future.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL VOUCHERS: After discussion, Weber motioned to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Vouchers as of October 13, 2016 and October 25, 2016. Seconded by Jellison, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

OTHER COMMENTS:

1. A claim in excess of \$10,000 has been submitted for damages incurred when a vehicle hit a street light and handrail on West Jefferson Street.
2. Central Noble art teacher Abbie Mault, and local artist Dan Gagen have been asked for help in designing a town flag. Granville Roberts, creator of the S.T.A.R. Team logo was also suggested as a possible source for assistance with the flag's design.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before the council in regular session, Morr asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm, so moved by Jellison, seconded by Weber, carried 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. The next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on November 8, 2016 at the Albion Municipal Building, 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN.