

City of Albion
Council Session Minutes
March 4, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Atchison called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. MOMENT OF SILENCE TO BE OBSERVED

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vicky Clark (1), Lenn Reid (2); Marcola Lawler (4); Jeanette Spicer (5); Shane Williamson (6) and Mayor Atchison.

ABSENT: Council Member Sonya Brown (3)

STAFF PRESENT:

Scott Kipp, Acting City Manager/Chief Public Safety; Cullen Harkness, City Attorney; Tom Mead, Finance Director; Jill Domingo, City Clerk; and John Tracy, Director Planning, Building & Code Enforcement.

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA (Includes any proposed additions, deletions or other changes to the agenda)

Mayor Atchison asked to remove the following items:

- Item (A) from Presentations-Oath of Office for Public Safety Officer Bryan Gandy as he was unable to attend the meeting
- Item (G) from Items for Individual Discussion-Discussion-City Council Code of Ethics as Council Member Brown asked for this agenda item and was absent.

Comments were received from Council Member Reid and City Attorney Harkness.

Reid moved, Lawler supported, CARRIED, to Approve the Agenda with the above removal of agenda items. (6-0, vv)

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Oath of Office for Public Safety Officer Bryan Gandy

This item was removed from the agenda.

B. Presentation-Project Rising Tide Action Strategies

Linda LaNoue, Community Development Fellow gave the following update on the Project Rising Tide Action Strategies:

- The top five priorities established for Project Rising Tide are:
 - Public Infrastructure
 - Workforce Development
 - Health/Wellness
 - Post-Industrial Sites
 - Housing
- Technical assistance provided from third party consulting firm: Beckett & Raeder are:
 - Downtown Development Authority (DDA)-2019 Strategic Plan Update
 - City of Albion “Branding” for Marketing & Promotion
 - Communications Plan-Connecting & Empowering all Albion stakeholders
 - City of Albion Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) 2019 Updates from 2017
 - Environment Improvements-Dam Removal Visioning
- An Action Strategies Planning Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Ludington Center, 101 N. Superior Street, Albion, MI

Comments were received from Council Members Williamson, Lawler and Spicer and Mayor Atchison.

C. Presentation-American Legion 100th Anniversary

Al Smith, Historian for the American Legion Post #55 gave a brief history of the American Legion Post #55 which has fulfilled the Legion’s mission since 1919 through various Boys and Girls State summer leadership programs; the Boy Scouts of America, various academic scholarship programs and the Memorial Day Parade.

D. Proclamation Designating March 2019 as American Legion Golden Anniversary Month

Mayor Atchison read aloud the Proclamation Designating March 2019 as American Legion Golden Anniversary Month and presented to American Legion Post #55 members present at the meeting.

E. Presentation-Expanding Health Care Services in Albion-Oaklawn PACE Clinic & Calhoun County Health Department

Richard Lindsay, Executive Director Legal Services Oaklawn Hospital gave the following update on the expanding health care services in Albion:

- The Albion Express After-Hours Clinic opened on February 11th, 2019
- The first week the clinic saw 81 patients; 115 the second week and 88 the third week. They expect this number will increase once Albion College closes the student health services on campus.
- They will be working on starting a community outreach with an AmeriCorps VISTA member using some of the methods listed:
 - Door to door
 - Presentations around the City
 - Community events/health fairs
 - Mailings
 - Churches & church bulletins
 - Working with Forks Senior Center
 - Ad on marquee at the Bohm Theatre
- Upcoming Programs:
 - 1.5-million-dollar expansion at the B Drive North location for the PACE program for the elderly
 - Increased use of health care navigators
 - Purchase of new diagnostic equipment
 - Partnering with Calhoun County Health Department

Brigette Reichenbaugh, Deputy Health Officer, Calhoun County Health Department presented the following information:

- The Calhoun County Health Department provides the following services:
- STD testing
- Immunizations
- WIC
- TB testing
- Pregnancy testing
- HIV testing
- Will be providing family planning services
- Cannot provide abortions
- Working with Oaklawn Hospital for hearing & vision services for seniors

Comments were received from Council Members Williamson, Lawler and Clark.

***Richard Lindsay presented Lenn Reid a check from Oaklawn Hospital for the pavilion at Holland Park.*

F. Presentation-Friends of Albion Animals

Cindy Stanczak, President of the Friends of Albion Animals gave the following presentation:

- On May 5, 2014 Albion City Council officially recognized Friends of Albion's Animals as the city-approved trap/neuter/return program.
- Friends of Albion's Animals is an incorporated 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and is completely funded by membership fees, donor supporters and grant seeking. They receive no money from the City of Albion.
- They are a small grass-roots group of dedicated volunteers to humanely manage the free-roaming cat population in the greater Albion area through colony management and promoting responsible pet ownership in Albion.
- They are a small group of volunteers who need those who will support the efforts to speak up and step up, even if it's just to help get the word out to those that may need their help.
- They are always seeking new members, donors and those willing and able to foster abandoned cats and kittens and those looking to adopt.
- In 2018, the group helped spay/neuter and vaccinate 159 cats, of which 65 were colony cats.
- They spend every dollar in donations and grants they receive and receive far more requests than they can meet every year.

Comments were received from Council Member Reid

G. Proclamation Designating March 9th, 2019 as "Friends of Albion Animals Day"

Mayor Atchison read aloud the Proclamation Designating March 9th, 2019 as Friends of Albion Animals Day in Albion and presented to members of the Friends of Albion Animals that were present at the meeting.

H. Presentation-Kids-N-Stuff Children's Museum 16th Anniversary

Audrey Dean, Executive Director Kids-N-Stuff Museum stated Kids-N-Stuff Museum provides a fun, hands-on learning experience for all children and families through interactive exhibits. The museum has received 250,000 visitors since opening its doors 16 years ago. Kids-N-Stuff strives to include creative outlets for all voices using art, music, dramatic play and movement.

I. Proclamation Designating March 23rd, 2019 as Kids-N-Stuff Children's Museum Day

Mayor Atchison read aloud Proclamation Designating March 23rd, 2019 as Kids-N-Stuff Children's Museum Day and presented to Audrey Dean, Executive Director.

J. Presentation-Opportunity Atlas

MacLean Robertson, Albion College Junior have the following presentation on Opportunity Atlas:

The Opportunity Atlas is an interactive map of the United States that was released in October 2018 by researchers from Harvard University, Brown University and the U.S. Census Bureau. The atlas uses past tax and census data to show the mobility of 20 million Americans from childhood through their mid-30's.

The research is being used to discover which neighborhoods give children the greatest chance to rise out of poverty. Various statistical data including income levels, incarceration rates and teen pregnancy can be displayed as filters on the map.

Children from the neighborhoods located northwest of Superior Street are predicted to earn an average salary of \$24,000 as adults. This number vastly contrasts from neighborhoods located southeast of the city. In these areas, children are predicted to earn upwards of \$40,000 as adults.

Even within city lines, children have such different chances at achieving financial prosperity.

Some solutions include implementing more after-school programs, upgrading parks and granting easier access to healthcare facilities. Each of these solutions makes it easier for families who may need to work late or do not have the space for their children to play or grow.

The opening of the new Oaklawn Express Care and Family Clinic in Albion is a major step in the right direction. It now gives the community easy, quick access to a physician on sight. Previously, citizens may have had to drive elsewhere for a doctor. This was not always practical for a lot of families.

Comments were received from Council Member Lawler.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Closeout Peabody Project

Mayor Atchison opened the public hearing on the Closeout of the Peabody Project at 8:00 p.m.

Acting City Manager/Chief Public Safety Kipp gave a brief overview of the Peabody Project.

No public comments were received.

Mayor Atchison closed the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

VIII. PUBLIC Comments (Persons addressing the City Council shall limit their comments to agenda items and to no more than three (3) minutes. Proper decorum is required.)

Comments were received LaRose Bradley, 312 Arthur St and Garrett Brown, 1016 S. Superior St.

IX. CLOSED SESSION-The City Attorney requests a Closed Session under the Open Meetings Act (Section 15.268 (h), P.A. 267 of 1976, as amended) to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal law.

The City Manager requests an Executive Session under the Open Meetings Act (Section 15.268 (a), P.A. 267 of 1976, as amended) to consider the dismissal, suspension or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, or to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of a public officer, employee, staff member of individual agent, if the named person requests a closed hearing

Williamson moved, Lawler supported, CARRIED to adjourn to Closed Session. (6-0, rcv)

Mayor Atchison adjourned to closed session at 8:11 p.m.

Mayor Atchison re-convened the regular session at 9:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vicky Clark (1); Lenn Reid (2); Marcola Lawler (4); Jeanette Spicer (5); Shane Williamson (6) and Mayor Atchison.

ABSENT: Sonya Brown (3) was absent.

- X. CONSENT CALENDAR (VV) Items on the Consent Calendar are voted on as one unit)
 - A. Approval Regular Session Minutes, February 19, 2019
 - B. Approval Special Session Minutes, February 21, 2019
 - C. Assembly Permit for New Hope Worship Center Community Event held at Victory Park on June 22, 2019
 - D. Assembly Permit for Irwin Avenue Animal Hospital held at Victory Park on May 18, 2019
 - E. Assembly Permit for Larry LaBond Disc Golf Course held at Victory Park on April 6, 2019
 - F. Assembly Permit for Sister City French Market held at Stoffer Plaza on June 15, 2019

Williamson moved, Lawler supported, CARRIED, to Approve the Consent Calendar as presented. (6-0, vv)

XI. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSION

A. Discussion/Action City Manager Contract

Comments were received from Council Member Lawler and Williamson and City Attorney Harkness.

Mayor Atchison made a motion to Discharge City Manager for Breach of Contract. Reid supported.

Spicer moved, Lawler supported, CARRIED, To **TABLE** Action on City Manager Contract. (4-2, rcv) (Williamson and Mayor Atchison dissenting)

B. Discussion/Action Interim City Manager

Comments were received from Council Member Lawler and City Attorney Harkness.

Spicer moved, Reid supported, CARRIED, To **TABLE** Action on Interim City Manager position. (6-0, vv)

C. Request Approval Resolution # 2019-07, To Designate City Council Liaison to Housing Commission

Comments were received from City Attorney Harkness

Spicer moved, Lawler supported, CARRIED, to **TABLE** Approval of Resolution # 2019-07, To Designate City Council Liaison to Housing Commission as presented. (6-0, vv)

*** Council Member Lawler cited Privilege and left at 9:22 p.m.*

D. Request Approval Resolution # 2019-08, To Approve Agreement for Moore + Bruggink for Professional & Consulting Services for the City Water System

Comments were received from Interim Director Public Services Phillips

Spicer moved, Clark supported, CARRIED, to Approve Resolution # 2019-08, To Approve Agreement for Moore + Bruggink for Professional & Consulting Services for the City Water System as presented. (5-0, rcv)

E. Discussion/Approval Fair Housing Policy

Comments were received from Acting City Manager/Chief Public Safety Kipp

Williamson moved, Reid supported, CARRIED, to Fair Housing Policy as presented. (5-0, vv)

F. Discussion/Approval Economic Opportunities Policy for Section 3 Covered Contracts

Comments were received from Acting City Manager/Chief Public Safety Kipp

Williamson moved, Clark supported, CARRIED, to Economic Opportunities Policy for Section 3 Covered Contracts as presented. (5-0, vv)

G. Discussion/City Council Code of Ethics

This item was removed from the agenda.

H. Discussion/Economic Development Initiatives

Mayor Atchison is asking Council Members to bring forth economic development initiatives for discussion and prioritization.

The three initiatives he would like are:

- Prioritizing and emphasizing the Austin & Eaton corridors with help from the Council Corridor sub-committee which consists of Council Members Clark and Reid and Mayor Atchison
- Housing & Neighborhood Improvements
- Increase childcare options in Albion

I. Discussion/City of Albion Public Relations

Mayor Atchison stated he would like to see Council do better with the public relations for the City of Albion. The Mayor and Council should be the biggest champions for the City and would like to see everyone focus on the positive things in Albion and move forward.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Mayor Atchison asked for a discussion with Council Members input on Economic Initiatives
- City Attorney Harkness asked that all items tabled at tonight's meeting be added to the next agenda and also Discussion/1st Reading of the Criminal Marihuana Ordinance

***Council Member Spicer made note a time and date is needed for the rental certification sub-committee to meet with Director of Planning, Building & Code Enforcement Tracy.*

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Persons addressing the City Council shall limit their comments to no more than three (3) minutes. Proper decorum is required.)

Comments were received from Garrett Brown, 1016 S. Superior St; Wanda Kemp, 703 Valhalla Dr and Bruce Johnson, 509 Lynn St.

XIV. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Acting City Manager Kipp provided the following City Manager Report:

On Saturday, March 2, 2019, he attended the American Council of Engineering Companies of Michigan Engineering & Surveying Excellence Awards. The City of Albion along with Fleis & Vanderbrink received the 2019 Honorable Conceptor Award for Surveying based on the Capital Improvement Plan created from the survey of the waste water system. This is the second highest award given by the organization. Acting City Manager/Chief Kipp accepted the award on behalf of the City. Fleis & Vanderbrink were also named the Michigan Large Firm of the Year.

***A written City Manager report was also provided to the Mayor and Council.*

XV. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Comments were received from Council Members Reid and Williamson and Mayor Atchison.

XVI. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBER (S)

Council Member Lawler cited Privilege and left at 9:22 p.m.

Reid moved, Spicer supported, CARRIED, to Excuse Council Member Sonya Brown (3). (5-0, vv)

XVII. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vicky Clark (1), Lenn Reid (2), Jeanette Spicer (5), Shane Williamson (6) and Mayor Atchison.

ABSENT: Council Member Sonya Brown (3)
Council Member Lawler cited Privilege and left at 9:22 p.m.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Spicer moved, Williamson supported, CARRIED, to adjourn the regular session. (5-0, vv)

Mayor Atchison adjourned the Regular Session at 9:45 p.m.

Date

Jill Domingo
City Clerk