

City of Albion
Council Session Minutes
June 18, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown 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: Maurice Barnes (1), Lenn Reid (2), Sonya Brown (3), Marcola Lawler (4), Jeanette Spicer (5), Andrew French (6) and Mayor Brown.

ABSENT: All members were present.

STAFF PRESENT:

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

V. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Comments were received from Council Members Barnes, Reid, Brown, Lawler and French and Mayor Brown.

VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Interim City Manager Kipp gave the following City Manager report:

- Reminder of Nixle Service to receive updates and special alerts on various City information such as boil water advisories, water shut-offs and special alerts from Albion Public Safety and Calhoun County Sheriff's department. You can sign up via email at Nixle.com or through a text message to 888-777 and put 49224 in the message. He encourages City residents to sign up for this service.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Restoration of Coke Sign-Linda Kolmodin

French moved, Brown supported, CARRIED, to Remove this Item from the Agenda as the Presenter was Unable to Attend the Meeting. (7-0, vv)

B. Eagle Scout Project=Jeff McClure

Jeff McClure, Boy Scout Troop #158 outlined his Eagle Scout project to the Albion City Council stating he would like to replace the Liberty tree and the fencing in Riverside Cemetery. He is requesting Council acceptance /approval of the project. He will have both youth and adult volunteers for the project for which he will be in charge of. He plans to start the project and the end of this month or first of July. The estimated cost will be approximately \$450-\$500 received through both fundraising and donations.

Comments were received from Mayor Brown.

French moved, Reid supported, CARRIED, to Amend Agenda and Add Approval of the Eagle Scout Project by Jeff McClure as Item H. (7-0, vv)

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS-Set 2018 Tax Levy

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.

Public Comments were received from Al Smith, 1209 Adams St who stated the City is continuing the practice of not following previously approved resolutions. He stated Resolution # 2018-13, Approving a .5 increase in Albion Recreation millage was passed but not reflected in the 2018 tax levy. Is this a valid resolution? He also stated the City continues to waste tax payer dollars.

Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m.

A. Request Approval Resolution # 2018-16, To Set the 2018 Tax Levy (RCV)

Comments were received from Council Member French; Mayor Brown, City Attorney Harkness.

Additional comments were received from Finance Director Mead who stated the increase in the Recreation millage would not be effective until 2019 and Resolution # 2018-13 that was referenced was approval from the Council to place the Recreation millage language on the August Primary ballot.

French moved, Brown supported, CARRIED, to Approve Resolution # 2018-16, To Set the 2018 Tax Levy as presented. (7-0, rcv)

- IX. 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 from Wallace Reese, 911 Irwin Avenue; Al Smith, 1209 Adams St; Dave Atchison, 108 W. Erie St and Lavada Weeks, 917 Luther Drive.

- X. CONSENT CALENDAR (vv) (Items on Consent Calendar are voted on as one unit)

- A. Approval Study Session Minutes, May 31, 2018
B. Approval Regular Session Minutes, June 4, 2018

French moved, Lawler supported, CARRIED, To Approve Consent Calendar as presented. (7-0, vv)

- XI. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSION

- A. Request Approval of Assessing Contract with Edward VanderVries (RCV)

Comments were received from Council Members Brown and French; Interim City Manager Kipp; Joshua Cunningham and Edward VanderVries.

Attorney Harkness asked to add non-discrimination language to the Assessing contract.

French moved, Barnes supported, CARRIED, to Amend the Motion to Add Non-Discrimination Language to the Assessing Contract. (7-0, vv)

French moved, Reid supported, CARRIED, To Approve Assessing Contract with Edward VanderVries and Add Non-Discrimination Language to the Contract. (7-0, rcv)

- B. Update on Water System and Water Tower

Discussion on the Water System and Water Tower was as follows:

- Appreciative of the Staff's hard work with the water main breaks. The City makes every attempt to reach residents about water shut-off's and boil water advisories through social media, press releases, City's website and Nixle.
- A suggestion was made to make robo-calls to the residents similar to what the schools do with school closings.
- Robo-call service can be added to the Nixle service for an added fee.

- The City is required to post notice of water main closures in a public place but there is no statutory requirement to go door to door to provide information.
- Requested legal opinion from the City Attorney on whether door to door notification is required by the City Charter.
- There may be additional water main breaks during the time the tower is down.
- The City had a high quality and positive water report which is available on the City's website and on the City's facebook page.
- Increased upgrades to infrastructure will only help with water quality.

Comments were received from Council Member Barnes; Mayor Brown, Attorney Harkness and Interim City Manager Kipp.

C. Discussion/Approval 608 Austin Avenue

Director of Planning, Building & Code Enforcement Tracy stated he will be meeting with the Land Bank on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 to obtain the bid pricing on 608 Austin Avenue and several other properties.

Comments were received from Mayor Brown.

D. Request Approval Metro Right of Way Permit Extension (RCV)

Comments were received from Council Member Brown, Mayor Brown and City Attorney Harkness.

French moved, Spicer supported, CARRIED, To Approve Metro Right of Way Permit Extension as presented. (7-0, rcv)

E. Discussion-Vehicles Being Towed

Mayor Brown stated he has received several calls about vehicles being towed.

Interim City Manager Kipp stated there are several reasons a vehicle may be towed but most prominent is criminal activity. The towing companies must submit a request through Calhoun County Dispatch Authority for approval of a tow company for Public Safety and must be able to respond within twenty (20) minutes. Currently the only tow company for Albion is Zicks. If a vehicle is towed on a Friday, the owner of the vehicle will be responsible for storage fees until Monday when the car can be picked up as Zicks does not have weekend hours. The tow company sets and receives these fees.

F. Request Approval Boards & Commissions Appointment (RCV)

- Ashley Reniger, Initial Appointment, Public Safety Pension Board, Term to Expire 12-31-2019

Comments were received from Council Members Brown and French, Mayor Brown and Ashley Reniger.

French moved, Barnes supported, CARRIED, To Approve Board and Commission Appointment of Ashley Reniger, Initial Appointment, Public Safety Pension Board, Term to Expire 12-31-2019 as presented. (7-0, rcv)

- G. Request Approval Resolution # 2018-19, A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Parcel No 51-001-092-20 and Parcel No 51-001-092-10 to the Albion Malleable Brewing Company (RCV)

Comments were received from City Attorney Harkness.

French moved, Barnes supported, CARRIED, to Approve Resolution # 2018-19, A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Parcel No 51-001-092-20 and Parcel No 51-001-092-10 to the Albion Malleable Brewing Company as presented. (7-0, rcv)

- H. Request Approval of Jeff McClure's Eagle Scout Project to Install Liberty Tree and Other Decorations as Needed in Riverside Cemetery (RCV)

French moved, Barnes supported, CARRIED, to Approve Jeff McClure's Eagle Scout Project to Install Liberty Tree and Other Decorations as Needed in Riverside Cemetery as presented. (7-0, rcv)

XII. Future Agenda Items

The following items were requested for the next agenda:

- Mayor Brown asked for a Study Session with Attorney Scott Smith for Council Rules of Procedure on June 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
- Council Member Lawler asked for a discussion on options for notification of emergencies
- City Attorney Harkness asked for a discussion on sale of public property
- Mayor Brown asked to set a date for the study session on rental certification
- Council Member Reid asked for a discussion/approval of closure of Michigan Avenue between Dalrymple Street and Albion Street

XIII. Motion to Excuse Absent Council Member (s)

No action was necessary as all members were present.

XIV. 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 Dave Atchison, 108 W. Erie St; John Dunklin, 1203 2nd St; Richard Fuentes, 105 Linwood Street.

Due to a public outburst, Mayor Brown asked for a five (5) minute recess.

Barnes moved, Lawler supported, CARRIED, for the Council to recess for five (5) minutes. (7-0, vv)

Mayor Brown recessed the Council at 8:20 p.m.

Mayor Brown re-adjourned the Regular Council meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Mayor Brown stated public outbursts disrespect the process. He called for Point of Order pertaining to length of Public Comments stating the Council voted unanimously to change the Public Comments to three (3) minutes.

Public Comments continued with comments being received from Al Smith, 1209 Adams St; Kelly Kidder, 506 Linden Avenue and Wanda Kemp, 703 Valhalla Drive.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

French moved, Spicer supported, CARRIED, to ADJOURN Regular Council Session. (7-0, vv).

Mayor Brown adjourned the Regular Session at 8:30 p.m.

Date

Jill Domingo
City Clerk