

City of Albion
Study Session Minutes
April 20, 2020

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the meeting of the City of Albion Study Session scheduled for **April 20, 2020 starting at 6:00 p.m.** will be conducted virtually (online and/or by phone) due to health concerns surrounding Coronavirus/COVID-19 under the Governor of Michigan's Executive Orders 2020-15 and 2020-21.

Public comment will be handled by the "Raise Hand" method.

To comply with the **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**, Any citizen requesting accommodation to attend this meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the ADA coordinator, (517) 629-5535, at least five business days prior to the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Atchison opened the study session at 6:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vicky Clark (1), Lenn Reid (2), Al Smith (3), Marcola Lawler (4), Jeanette Spicer (5), Shane Williamson (6), and Mayor Atchison.

ABSENT: All members were present

STAFF PRESENT:

Darwin McClary, City Manager; Jill Domingo, City Clerk and Scott Kipp, Chief Public Safety

IV. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSION

A. City Manager 6-Month Performance Review

Mayor Atchison stated City Manager McClary received an overall average of 2.9 which is a little less than satisfactory. Nine (9) of the eighteen (18) goals he received a 3.0 and nine (9) of the eighteen (18) goals he received a 2.9 or below. He would like to focus on the areas of improvement.

City Manager McClary stated he appreciated Council's feedback and looked forward to hearing from the Council this evening.

Mayor and Council Comments were as follows:

Council Member Clark-(Precinct 1) comments:

- Appreciates that the City Manager is a procedural person
- More visual in the community
- Appreciates patience with the COVID19 pandemic
- Council and City Manager need to become familiar with each other's strategies
- Has not received any complaints and she doesn't have any complaints
- Looks forward to moving the community forward

Council Member Reid-(Precinct 2) comments:

- Wants everyone to work together
- Stronger leadership
- Would like to see the City Manager more visible in the community
- More town hall meetings
- Would like packets delivered to Council earlier

Council Member Smith-(Precinct 3) comments:

- Enjoys weekly meetings with City Manager McClary
- Need to become accustomed to his leadership style
- Would like to see more communication
- City Manager needs to make Council aware of his needs/need to find checks and balances
- Need to remain on the same team

Council Member Lawler-(Precinct 4) comments:

- Working together for the greater good of Albion
- Albion is unique and everyone needs to become accustomed to one another
- He came during a difficult time in Albion
- City Manager should make Council aware of any difficulties
- Thanked City Manager McClary for choosing Albion

Council Member Spicer-(Precinct 5) comments:

- Appreciates City Manager McClary coming to Albion during a difficult time
- He has hit the ground running
- Appreciates his efforts
- Per Charter-the Mayor is the face of Albion
- If Council wants the City Manager to be out in the community, Council needs to direct him

- Doing a good job with the COVID19 pandemic

Council Member Williamson-(Precinct 6) comments:

- Would like more communication
- More visible in the community whether it be the City Manager or a representative of the City
- Nice to have structure
- Partner with community groups
- Will be setting up a regular meeting schedule with the City Manager

Mayor Atchison-(Mayor) comments:

- Take more risks
- Better communication
- Engagement in the community
- More hands-on
- Improve quality of services

City Manager McClary stated he appreciated all of Council comments and suggestions. He is willing to be more visible in the community and feels Council will see an improvement after working together. He also would like to see the following commitment from Council moving forward:

- Improved method of compensation for recruiting and maintaining quality employees
- Open to new ideas and risks
- Acknowledge and support risk takers
- Realistic goals and deadlines
- Allow time to re-build basic operations
- City Manager is willing to become more visible in the community but is a subordinate to Council but does not want to be in front of Council

Additional comments were received from Council Members Clark, Reid, Lawler and Williamson and Mayor Atchison.

- V. 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;
Representative Haadsma and Sonya Brown, 713 Orchard Drive.

- VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT-None

- VII. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Comments were received from Mayor Atchison

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Reid moved, Spicer supported, CARRIED, to adjourn the study session. (7-0, vv)

Mayor Atchison adjourned the Study Session at 7:05 p.m.

Date

Jill Domingo
City Clerk