

City of Albion  
Council Session Minutes  
May 6, 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); Sonya Brown (3), Marcola Lawler (4); Jeanette Spicer (5); Shane Williamson (6) and Mayor Atchison.

ABSENT: All members were present.

STAFF PRESENT:

Scott Kipp, Acting City Manager/Chief Public Safety; Cullen Harkness, City Attorney; Jill Domingo, City Clerk; Tom Mead, Finance Director; Kent Phillips, Acting Interim Public Services Director and John Tracy, Director Planning, Building & Code Enforcement and Haley Snyder, Acting Assistant City Manager/Deputy Clerk/Treasurer.

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

Brown moved, Williamson supported, CARRIED, to Approve the Agenda as presented. (7-0, vv)

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Calhoun County Senior Services Update-Helen Guzzo

Helen Guzzo, Calhoun County Senior Services gave an update on the services and funding for the Calhoun County Senior Services program.

B. Public Safety Week in Albion Proclamation

Mayor Atchison read aloud the Proclamation for Public Safety Week in Albion and presented to Chief Kipp.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS-None

- 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 from Jess Roberts, 915 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 statute.

Lawler moved, Reid supported, CARRIED to adjourn to Closed Session. (7-0, vv)

Mayor Atchison adjourned to closed session at 7:10 p.m.

Mayor Atchison re-convened the regular session at 7:22 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: All members were present.

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

A. Approval Study Session Minutes, April 29, 2019

B. Assembly Permit for Big Read Kick-Off Event, Holland Park, September 28, 2019 from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

C. Approval for Poppy Days Campaign on May 16, 17, 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019

D. Approval of Street Closure for Red, White & Blue Cruise-In Car Show on Friday, June 28, 2019 from 4-8 p.m.

Williamson moved, Reid supported, CARRIED, to Approve the Consent Calendar as presented. (7-0, vv)

- XI. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSION

A. Request Approval for Conflict of Interest Waiver

Comments were received from City Attorney Harkness.

Williamson moved, Reid supported, CARRIED to Approve Conflict of Interest Waiver as presented. (6-1, rcv) (Reid dissenting).

B. Discussion/Approve Prioritize Long and Short-Term Council Goals & Initiatives

Brown moved, Williamson supported, CARRIED to Hire City Manager as Priority #1 Short-Term Goal. (7-0, vv)

Comments were received from Council Member Spicer and Mayor Atchison.

Brown moved, Williamson supported, CARRIED for Rental Certification as Priority #2 Short-Term Goal. (7-0, vv)

Williamson moved, Reid supported, CARRIED to Establish a More Active Recreation Program as Priority #3 Short-Term Goal. (7-0, vv)

Comments were received from Council Members Reid, Williamson, Spicer, Brown and Clark and Mayor Atchison.

Reid moved, Brown supported, CARRIED for a Second Grocery Store as Priority #4 Short-Term Goal. (6-1, vv) (Mayor Atchison dissenting).

Brown moved, Lawler supported, CARRIED, To Create an Ad Hoc Committee for a Workforce Development Program as Priority #5 Short-Term Goal. (7-0, vv)

Comments were received from Council Members Reid, Williamson, Spicer, Brown and Clark and Mayor Atchison.

Williamson moved, Clark supported, CARRIED, To Establish Comprehensive/Integrated Infrastructure Management Program as Priority #1 Long-Term Goal. (7-0, vv)

Williamson moved, Spicer supported, CARRIED, for Senior/Affordable Housing Development as Priority #2 Long-Term Goal. (7-0, vv)

Comments were received from Council Members Spicer, Brown, Reid, Lawler and Clark and Mayor Atchison.

Spicer moved, Lawler supported, **FAILED**, To Repair East and West Broadwell Street. (2-5, rcv) (Brown, Reid, Williamson, Clark & Mayor Atchison dissenting).

Reid moved, Brown supported, CARRIED, To Make Code Enforcement/City Clean-Up as Priority #3 Long-Term Goal. (7-0, vv)

#### C. Discussion/Approval Executive Search Firm for City Manager Search

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

Reid moved, Williamson supported, CARRIED to Approve the Michigan Municipal League (MML) as the Executive Search Firm for City Manager Search. (7-0, rcv)

#### D. Discussion Fireworks Ordinance

City Attorney Harkness stated in 2011, the State enacted the Fireworks Safety Act which gave some control to local municipalities. In 2018, the Michigan legislature amended the Act which scaled back the days in which fireworks were permissible from ten to five. Those five holidays are now:

- New Year's Eve
- Early Morning New Year's Day
- Week Before Memorial Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- Labor Day

He will be bringing forth an amendment to the City's firework ordinance at the next meeting to comply with the updated legislative changes.

Comments were received from Council Member Brown.

#### E. Request Approval Boards & Commission Appointment

- Robert Dunklin, Initial Appointment, Local Officers Compensation Commission, Term to Expire 10-1-2021

Reid moved, Williamson supported, CARRIED, To Robert Dunklin, Initial Appointment, Local Officers Compensation Commission, Term to Expire 10-1-2021 as presented. (7-0, vv)

#### F. Request Approval of Resolution # 2019-18, A Resolution to Approve Proposal for "Heavy Equipment" Noxious Vegetation Abatement and Mowing Bid and to Approve Contract for "Heavy Equipment" Noxious Vegetation Abatement and Mowing with John J. Hawkins Construction Contractor

Comments were received from Director of Planning, Building & Code Enforcement Tracy.

Williamson moved, Reid supported, CARRIED, to Approve Resolution # 2019-18, A Resolution to Approve Proposal for “Heavy Equipment” Noxious Vegetation Abatement and Mowing Bid and to Approve Contract for “Heavy Equipment” Noxious Vegetation Abatement and Mowing with John J. Hawkins Construction Contractor as presented. (7-0, rcv)

- G. Request Approval Resolution # 2019-19, To Recognize Walk the Beat as a Non-Profit Organization to Obtain Gaming License from State of Michigan

Comments were received from Mayor Atchison and City Attorney Harkness.

Williamson moved, Reid supported, CARRIED, to Approve Resolution # 2019-19, To Recognize Walk the Beat as a Non-Profit Organization to Obtain Gaming License from State of Michigan as presented. (7-0, rcv)

- H. Request Approval of Waiver for First Right of Refusal on Calhoun County Foreclosed Properties

Williamson moved, Brown supported, CARRIED, to Approve Waiver for First Right of Refusal on Calhoun County Foreclosed Properties as presented. (7-0, rcv)

## XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The following items were requested for the next agenda:

- City Attorney Harkness asked for an Amendment to the Fireworks Ordinance
- Council Member Brown asked for the following items:
  - Resolution for City Council Liaison to the Albion Housing Commission
  - EDC update pertaining to obtaining a second grocery store
  - Update on Zoning
- Council Member Lawler asked for Update on Rental Certification
- Council Member Clark asked for presentation from Battle Creek YMCA
- Council Member Williamson asked for a timeline from MML for City Manager Search
- Mayor Atchison asked for the following:
  - Update on Sidewalks
  - Update on Street Sweeper RFP
  - Approval of Contract for Update of Master Plan for Maintaining Albion Streets

## 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 Mae Ola Dunklin, 707 Huntington Blvd; Garrett Brown, 1016 S. Superior St and Calhoun County Commissioner Gary Tompkins.

#### XIV. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Acting City Manager Kipp provided the following City Manager Report:

- MDOT along with the City of Albion will be hosting a meeting on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 from 6pm-8pm at the Ludington Center to discuss the resurfacing of Austin Avenue and the proposed “road diet”, which will reduce the lanes from 4 to 3 the entire length of the City.
- On May 15<sup>th</sup> from 10am-1pm there will be a Job Fair held at Marshall Opportunity High School
- Currently working on an RFP for sidewalks and a sidewalk program
- Looking into leasing a street sweeper for a week’s use that would be cost less than \$5,000

#### XV. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER’S COMMENTS

Comments were received from Council Members Brown, Lawler and Williamson; Interim City Manager/Chief Public Safety Kipp and Mayor Atchison.

*\*\*Council Member Lawler cited Privilege at 8:35 p.m. and left.*

#### XVI. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBER (S)

Council Member Lawler cited Privilege at 8:35 p.m. and left. All remaining members were present.

#### XVII. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vicky Clark (1), Lenn Reid (2), Sonya Brown (3), Jeanette Spicer (5), Shane Williamson (6) and Mayor Atchison.

ABSENT: *Council Member Lawler cited Privilege at 8:35 p.m. and left.*

#### XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Williamson moved, Brown supported, CARRIED, to adjourn the regular session. (6-0, vv)

Mayor Atchison adjourned the Regular Session at 8:50 p.m.

Date

Jill Domingo  
City Clerk