

**RESOLUTION #2016-79**

**Resolution Supporting the Rural Health Network Grant Proposal and Approving the Memorandum of Understanding**

**Purpose and Finding:** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) has announced a 2017 grant opportunity for Rural Health Network Development Planning Programs. The purpose of the grant program is to (1) promote the planning and development of healthcare networks in order to achieve efficiencies, (2) expand access to, coordinate, and improve the quality of essential health care services; and (3) strengthen the rural health care system as a whole. The grant provides an opportunity to develop an integrated health care network with entities that have not had a history of collaborative efforts, enabling them to establish and improve the local capacity and coordination of care. The grant will provide up to 24 recipients with up to \$100,000 in the planning year and \$900,000 for the implementation phase. The City of Albion has the opportunity to participate as a partner in the grant application and network planning, along with Starr Commonwealth, Summit Pointe, E. M. Brown Charitable Circle Association d/b/a Oaklawn Hospital, Albion Community Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, Albion College, Calhoun County, and Village of Homer. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlines the roles and responsibilities relative to developing the grant proposal for a period of two (2) years, ending on or about December 31, 2018. It is found that the City of Albion would greatly benefit from such a Network Planning Program that promotes the planning and development of healthcare networks for the delivery of healthcare services for our residents.

Council Member Barnes moved, supported by Council Member French, to approve the following resolution

**RESOLVED**, the City of Albion supports the submission of the grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) for the Rural Health Network Development Planning Program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the network will welcome the participation of other local entities as the network forms over the course of the planning grant period; for example, dental and eye care providers in the local community, as well as the Henry Ford Allegiance Family Medicine clinic in Albion, that have not yet been a part of the network planning conversations.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to sign the Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of the City of Albion.

I hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted on December 28, 2016, in a regular session of the Albion City Council, and this is a true copy of that resolution.

Ayes 5  
Nays 2 (Brown & Brown)  
Absent 0

Jill Domingo  
Jill Domingo, Clerk

December 28, 2016