Albion City Council

July 20, 2015

1. Call To Order

The July 20, 2015 Albion City Council regular session was called to order by Mayor Domingo at 6:59 p.m.

1. Moment of Silence To Be Observed
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call

Maurice Barnes (1), Lenn Reid (2), Garrett Brown (3), Rebecca Decker (4), Cheryl Krause (5), Andrew French (6) and Mayor Joseph Domingo

 Staff Present: Sheryl Mitchell, City Manager; Sandee MacGeorge, Recording Secretary; John Tracy, Planning & Zoning Director; Cullen Harkness, City Attorney; Scott Kipp, Chief of Public Safety; Tom Mead, Finance Director

1. Mayor and Council Members’ Comments

Comments were received from Council Members Krause, French and Attorney Harkness.

1. Presentations
2. Mayor’s Youth Council – Substance Abuse Prevention Grant

Darias McCormick, Akaiia Ridley and Larenz Hill spoke to Council about a $1,400 grant they received from Substance Abuse Prevention. The group has planned several events that must take place before September 30, 2015, including a school dance on September 18th, a luncheon and a float for the Festival of the Forks parade.

1. Cornerstone Update & Rate Comparison – Glenn Lindsey

The City contracts with Cornerstone to provide all their building, electrical and mechanical inspections. Mr. Lindsey stated that after he has conducted a comparison with other local companies providing the same services, and that his company’s prices were 15-50% lower than the competitors.

Questions/comments were received by Council Member Brown and Manager Mitchell.

Cornerstone’s contract was not included in the packet. It was the consensus of council that it be brought back at a later date for review.

1. Citizen’s Comments – None
2. Consent Calendar
3. Approval of Regular Session Minutes – July 6, 2015

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to approve the July 6, 2015 minutes. (rcv 7-0)

1. Items for Individual Discussion
2. 2nd Reading & Request for Approval, Ordinance #2015-03, An Ordinance to Amend Section(s) 18-301 and 30-436

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to approve the 2nd reading and amendment of Ordinance #2015-03, an ordinance to amend section(s) 18-301 and 30-436. (rcv 7-0)

1. 2nd Reading & Request for Approval Ordinance #2015-04, An Ordinance to Update the Non Discrimination Ordinance

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to approve the 2nd reading and update of Ordinance #2015-04, to update the nondiscrimination ordinance. (rcv 7-0)

1. 2nd Reading & Request for Approval Ordinance #2015-05, An Ordinance to Amend Municipal Civil Infractions Ordinance by Amending Section 1-26 (g) (3)

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to approve the 2nd reading and amendment of Ordinance #2015-05 to amend municipal civil infractions ordinance by amending section 1-26 (g) (3). (rcv 7-0)

1. Request Approval Blue Cross Renewal Rate and Change of Renewal Date to October

Due to changes in the Affordable Care Act, the City will be moving from large group to small group status in 2016, which will affect healthcare benefits. With that change, Manager Mitchell explained that the deductibles would be considerably higher with the City’s contribution to the employee’s HSA being limited to $700 instead of the current $2,000/$4,000. Mike Tymkew, the City’s local Blue Cross representative was available for questions.

Questions/comments were received by Council Members Krause and French.

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to proceed with Option C, to change the City’s renewal date to October 1st and stay with the current coverage. (rcv 7-0)

1. Discussion/Request for Approval Park Reservations Policy and Fees

Parks and facilities policies fees have not been reviewed or revised within the past 5 years. Manager Mitchell would like to assure that the City’s costs are being covered. Rate changes, once approved, would go into effect immediately. There would be no changes made to those reservations already on the books.

Questions/comments were received by Council Member French.

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to approve the park reservations policy and fees as presented. (rcv 7-0)

1. Discussion/Request for Approval of Recreation Van Deposit and Guidelines.

A $25 refundable deposit for the use of the Recreation vans is being requested. This fee would be returned if the vehicle were to be returned clean and replace any used gas.

Comments were received by Council Members Krause and Decker and Attorney Harkness.

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to approve the Recreation van deposit and guidelines as presented. (rcv 7-0)

1. Discussion Sidewalks Scheduled for Repair

There was an overview of the sidewalks being scheduled for the 2015 season. These repairs are contingent on funding being available.

Comments were received by Council Members, French, Brown, Krause, Reid and Barnes.

1. 1) Motion to Reconsider Appointment to Albion Housing Commission

Appointment to the Housing Commission Board is made by the Mayor and does not require council approval.

Comments were received by Council Members Krause, Brown and Attorney Harkness

French moved, Decker supported, CARRIED, to reconsider the prior action taken regarding council appointment to the Housing Commission board. (rcv 7-0)

1. 2) Motion to Rescind the Vote for Appointment to Albion Housing Commission

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to rescind the vote for appointment to the Albion Housing Commission board. (rcv 7-0)

1. Discussion – Mr. Behling Summer Water Credit

Council discussed Manager Mitchell’s written response to Mr. Behling regarding extending his summer sewer credit. Manager Mitchell reviewed the City’s current policy.

Jim Behling, 12860 Maple Street spoke on his own behalf. No action was taken by Council.

1. Request Approval of City Protocol Policy

With new council and board members, it was a good time to reaffirm appropriate workplace protocols and communications. This policy identifies the role of council, boards and commission and employees in maintaining a positive workplace.

Questions/comments were received by Council Member Barnes.

Brown moved, French supported, CARRIED, to approve the City Protocol Policy as presented. (rcv 7-0)

1. City Manager Report
* The Erie Street Reconstruction project is underway. There was a water main break in the construction area decreasing pressure to residents in those areas. A boil water advisory was issued until the area could be flushed and tested.
* July Employee of the Month – Patrick Miller from the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
* Employee Picnic – Scheduled for August 19th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. It was council consensus that City Hall could be closed for that 1 ½ hours allowing all employees to enjoy the picnic.
* The Vactor Truck is still out of service.
* The temporary staff person is working out well for the Finance Department. She is working on various things for the Finance Department, including payroll and summer property tax bills.
* Residential Clean Up is scheduled for July 25, 2015 from 9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Ketchum and Harris Fields.
* Planning Dept continues to work with Oaklawn Hospital for the build at 300 B Drive N.
1. Future Agenda Items
2. Possibility of locking the basketball courts at night in Holland Park
3. Cornerstone Contract
4. Housing Commission and Council joint meeting
5. Street repair for 2016
6. Motion to Excuse Absent Council Member(s) – None Absent
7. Citizens Comments

Comments were received by LaRose Bradley, 312 Parker Street; Janice Best, 710 S Eaton Street; Loree Grinnel, Pastor Salem UCC, 113 W Pine Street; Mike Bearman, 1106 29 Mile Road.

1. Adjournment

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

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Sandee MacGeorge Date