City of Albion

City Council Meeting

March 21, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Domingo opened the regular session at 7:00 p.m.

II. MOMENT OF SILENCE TO BE OBSERVED

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

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

STAFF PRESENT:

Sheryl Mitchell, City Manager; Jill Domingo, City Clerk; Cullen Harkness, City Attorney; Tom Mead, Finance Director; Jim Lenardson, Director of Public Services; Scott Kipp, Public Safety Chief and John Tracy, Director, Planning, Building and Code Enforcement.

V. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER’S COMMENTS

Comments were received from Council Members Krause and French; Mayor Domingo and City Attorney Harkness.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

 A Michael Vought, MDOT/M-99 Proposed Street Repair

Michael Vought stated The Michigan Department of Transportation is planning a 2017 project to reconstruct M-99 (Superior Street) from Ash Street to Vine Street in Albion, including the replacement of the substructure and bricks. The proposed plan is to convert the road from four lanes to three lanes, with a dedicated turn lane - called a "road diet". This proposed configuration offers increased safety by reducing the number of traffic delays and rear-end crashes from left-turns. Permanent markings will be painted on the brick. Phase 1 will be from the Vine Street to Porter Street and will run from May through September. Phase 2 will be from Porter Street to Ash Street and will run from June through November.

The project includes the addition of pedestrian bump-outs at the intersections and replacement of the municipal water main. The public meeting held earlier this evening, offered opportunities for residents and business owners to discuss the project details.

Water Main

The City agrees to pay 10% of the actual construction cost & design costs for replacement of the water main from Ash Street to Vine Street. We intend to replace the main, hydrants, and service leads up to the curb stop box. We will not be replacing service leads to the buildings. The only exception may be the hotel, depending on their construction schedule and needs. The table below shows the estimate cost. Billing will be based on actual costs.

The City agrees to pay the 20% match of the city's portion (parking) of the TAP grant. The table below shows the estimate cost. Billing will be based on actual costs.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Item |  | Estimate | City Cost (20%) |
| Brick Pavers | $48,825 | $9,765 |
| Subbase, CIP | $10,455 | $2.091 |
| Open-Grade Drainage ('ourse. 6 inch | $25.180 | $5.036 |  |
| Concrete Valley Gutter | $28.720 | $5,744 |
| Concrete Base Course. Nonrcinf, 8 inch | $78,728 | $5,745 |
|  |  |
| Totals | $141,908 | $28,382 |

The detour routes will be Irwin Avenue & Eaton Street for M-99 (Superior Street) detoured traffic and Clark Street, B Drive N, & Eaton Street for I-94BL (Michigan Avenue) detoured traffic.

 The City requests that MDOT close access to the following alleys from M-99 (Superior Street):

 Between Cass & Center (west side of M-99)

Between Porter & Erie (west side of M-99)

Comments were received from Council Members Barnes, Decker, Brown, Krause and French; City Manager Mitchell and Mayor Domingo.

 B. Mariah Phelps, EDC Intern, Redevelopment Ready Community

Mariah Phelps, EDC Intern updated the Council on the Redevelopment Ready Community as follows:

* She is currently handling the Redevelopment Ready Community program.
* The kickoff event for the Redevelopment Ready Community will be held on Monday, March 28th, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Albion District Library Naomi Lane Room.
* The Michigan Economic Development Corporation will be at the event and will have an evaluation of the process the City has made toward certification of a Redevelopment Ready Community.
* This evaluation will mark the beginning of the implementation process.
* The RRC committee will be holding forums once a month to gain community input.
* They will have bi-weekly to monthly meetings with stakeholders in the community.
* Community engagement is the most important part of the process.

 C. Carl Gibson-Calhoun Office of Senior Services

Carl Gibson, Calhoun County Office of Senior Services updated the Council on the following services and events for Seniors:

While all the county services are available to older adults in Albion, the Millage funds a number of services that are clearly identifiable in the Albion area:

* Congregate meals at the Forks Senior Center and home delivered meals in the area
* Van transportation for medical/health appointments at Oaklawn Hospital, often coming from rural areas; will increase for local dialysis services
* Participate in funding the Albion-Marshall Connector Van service
* Dental Services for low income seniors at the Cram Medical Center (Grace Health)
* Forks Senior Center social and educational sessions, health and well ness activity, community support center, and Senior Fitness & Fu n site for health screenings and strengthening exercise
* Support for Medicare/Benefits Counseling at FSC
* Community Action site for accessing home heating assistance and mi nor home repair
* Strong partnership with other community agencies serving seniors: Holland Park development, Area Agency on Aging for more comprehensive services for seniors, etc.

Upcoming Events for Seniors, Families and Caregivers

* The Calhoun County Senior Fair, April 7, 2016 at the Marshall Middle School, 10:00am- I:30pm
* As part of Older American's Month in May, there is annual Centenarian Lunch, May 24 at noon, honoring senior 99+ years of age, Schuler's Restaurant in Marshall.
* Older Adult Needs Assessment, collaboration of Rgn3B Area Agency on Aging, and Calhoun County Senior Services.
* Calhoun County Fair-August 17 Senior Day: food, fun, frolic

VII. CITIZENS COMMENTS

No comments were received.

VIII. CONSENT CALENDAR (VV)

 (Items on Consent Calendar are voted on as one unit)

A. Approval Study Session Minutes-February 29, 2016

B. Approval Regular Session Minutes, March 7, 2016

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

IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSION

A. Request Approval Resolution # 2016-18, Credit Card Policy (RCV)

Comments were received from Council Member French and City Manager Mitchell.

 French moved, Decker supported, CARRIED, To Approve Resolution # 2016-18, Credit Card Policy as presented. (7-0, rcv)

B. Request Approval to Set Tree Dump Dates (RCV)

Comments were received from Council Member French, Mayor Domingo and City Manager Mitchell.

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, to Approve Tree Dump Dates as presented. (7-0, rcv))

C. Request Approval 1st Reading Ordinance # 2016-01, An Ordinance to Amend Section 2-388 Sale of Obsolete Property (RCV)

City Manager Mitchell stated an administrative policy for the sale of obsolete property will also be coming to the Council for approval.

Additional comments were received from City Attorney Harkness and Mayor Domingo.

French moved, Brown supported, CARRIED, to Approve 1st Reading Ordinance # 2016-01, An Ordinance to Amend Section 2-388 Sale of Obsolete Property as presented. (7-0, rcv)

D. Discussion-Abatements for 600 Block of Austin Avenue

Council Member Barnes stated the following pertaining to Austin Avenue:

* He has been bringing the Austin Avenue corridor to the Council for the past five or six years because he feels it’s important as an entrance to the City and should be taken seriously.
* Some progress has been made but it has been slow.
* 608 Austin Avenue is a dangerous building. There are rodents and the building could collapse at any time.
* The 600 block of Austin needs serious enforcement.
* He will continue to work with property owners but feels they have had enough time to do something with the buildings.
* He would like to have a timeline in place of what and when something will be done with these properties.
* He would like Council support in moving forward with this initiative.
* The 600 block of Austin Avenue has two (2) empty lots and four (4) buildings. All four (4) buildings have different owners.

Comments were received from Council Member French and Mayor Domingo.

E. City Manager Report

City Manager Mitchell updated the Council on the following items:

* Received grant with the Calhoun County Land Bank for $125,000 to demolish properties. This will be for properties along the main corridor of Eaton Street and will be approximately ten (10) or eleven (11) properties. All properties are owned by the Calhoun County Land Bank.
* The City of Albion’s website received the “Sunshine Award”. City Manager Mitchell thanked the department heads and staff for all their hard work and noted that the City of Albion had the highest grade in all of Calhoun County.
* April 11th – April 30th, Fleis & Vandenbrink will be doing the smoke test. Efforts to get the word out to the community are in place.
* City Hall will be closed Friday, March 25th, 2016 in observance of Good Friday.
* Monday, March 28th, 2016 is the Redevelopment Ready Community kickoff from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Albion District Library Naomi Lane Room.
* Tuesday, March 29th, 2016 the Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau is holding their annual meeting at the Duck Lake Country Club. Council Member Lenn Reid is being honored with the Tom Felpausch award.
* Wednesday, March 23rd, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. will be a council study session for the RFP for single refuse hauler.
* The Planning, Building and Code Enforcement office has moved to the old recreation office.
* Looking for a cost effective way to renovate the assessing office.
* The Boy Scouts had a 100 year celebration on Saturday, March 19th, 2016
* The Ministerial Association also had a prayer breakfast on Saturday, March 19th, 2016.
* She will be out of the office on Tuesday, March 22nd, 2016 and the morning of Wednesday, March 23, 2016 for the MML Conference being held in Lansing.

F. Future Agenda Items

* City Attorney Harkness would like an executive session added to the next agenda for pending litigation.
* Council Member French would like the resolution of approval for the MDOT/M-99 Superior Street repair added to the next agenda.

G. Motion to Excuse Absent Council Member (s)

No action was necessary as all members were present.

X. CITIZEN’S COMMENTS (Persons addressing the City Council shall limit their

comments to agenda items and to no more than five (5) minutes. Proper

 decorum is required.)

No comments were received.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Domingo adjourned the Regular Session at 8:06 p.m.

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Date Jill Domingo City Clerk