City of Albion

City Council Meeting

September 21, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. 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.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE TO BE OBSERVED

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STAFF PRESENT:

Sheryl Mitchell, City Manager; Jill Domingo, City Clerk; Cullen Harkness, City Attorney; Jim Lenardson, Director of Public Works; John Tracy, Director, Building, Planning and Code Enforcement; Peggy Sindt, EDC Director; Neely Kent, EDC Office Manager and Scott Kipp, Chief of Public Safety.

V. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER’S COMMENTS

Comments were received from Council Members Barnes and French and Mayor Domingo.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Junior Optimist Club

Akaiia Ridley, Shi’Terriona Straham, Jayonna Yahsha of the Junior Optimist Club and Mayor’s Youth Council spoke of their recent trip to Traverse City for the 4th Quarter JOOI District meeting and highlighted the following:

* Enjoyed the leadership training and working with other members of the JOOI.
* Each member presented a portion of the overall presentation
* They learned through the leadership program to speak your mind when public speaking
* Received official JOOI banner
* Remain in contact with members of the JOOI they met while at the training
* They also thanked the following individuals for their donations that enabled them to attend the meeting:

Council Member French; Mayor Domingo; Vivian Davis, Albion Community School Board; Gerri Lynn Harper-Williams, Superintendent of Albion Community School; Michelle Mueller, Sister City Committee; Harry Bonner, Kids at Hope; City Manager Mitchell and Amy Robertson, Albion Chamber of Commerce.

A resolution was read aloud and presented to each of the above individuals that were in attendance.

B. Redevelopment Ready Community Self- Assessment-Peggy Sindt

Peggy Sindt, President of the Economic Development Corporation gave a brief update of the Redevelopment Ready Community and highlighted the following:

The first step of the process is to complete a self- assessment to determine where the City’s processes are in terms of being business and development friendly.

Once this is completed it goes to Council for approval to determine if the City would like to move forward with the process.

The six best practices for the Redevelopment Community are:

1. Community Plans & Public Outreach

2. Zoning Regulations

3. Development Review Process

4. Recruitment & Education

5. Redevelopment Ready Sites

6. Community Prosperity

In certifying the RRC program, the MEDC provides evaluation support, expertise and consultation, training opportunities and assists certified communities market their top development sites.

Comments were received from Council Member French.

C. Water System Reliability Study-Paul Romano, Jones & Henry

Paul Romano, Jones & Henry gave a brief overview of the Water System Reliability Study highlighting the following:

* Jones & Henry has been doing business with the City of Albion since the 1950’s
* The Water System Reliability Study looks at our water system and does an evaluation that is submitted to the State every five (5) years.
* The State has accepted what has been submitted for this year.
* The study states our population has removed steady but the water demand has increased
* The demand pertains to how much water is being demanded by customers daily
* The City of Albion is currently using 1.2 to 1.3 million gallons of water a day and pumps water to a water distribution system for fire protection and delivery to customers on a seven day a week basis. The staff is available 24 hours per day to respond to emergencies
* The water department staff is responsible for the operation and repair of the equipment as well as the maintenance of the system’s wells, water mains, valves, service leads, meters and hydrants
* The City’s supply consists of five (5) wells with only two (2) being primary
* The City’s wastewater treatment plant has a four (4) million gallon capacity and we are currently using less than half of our capacity.
* The top five (5) water users are Knauf Insulation, Andersons Albion Ethanol, Continental Carbonics, Albion College and Clariant Corp.
* Some of the recommendations suggested are:
* Elevated tank requires recoating or replacement
* Replace smaller main in coordination with street rehabilitation projects
* HVAC upgrades at the WTP
* Growth strategies-provide water to neighboring townships
* Rate study

Ira Gabin, Dixon Engineering who contracts with Jones and Henry spoke of the elevated tank. He stated the elevated tank was last painted in 1993. It is rugged looking on the inside of the tank and needs cleaning. Care will be needed for this process due to the fact that the inside of the tank has lead paint. The cost of repainting the tank will be approximately a half million dollars and a new tank would cost approximately three (3) times that amount. He stated we should have an approximate 50 years remaining on the tank once it has been painted.

Comments were received from Council Members Barnes and French.

D. Show Your Best Event-Marie Macone

Marie Macone, The City of Albion’s French Intern is sponsoring a “Show Your Best Event” for members of the Albion Community. The event will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2015 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This will be a marketing trade show event and churches, business, manufacturers, civic organizations and any other organization that would like to participate. There is no cost to have a table for the event and is also free of charge for the community to attend.

Ms. Macone would like to build communication and make citizens aware of what is offered in the community. The schedule of events are as follows:

10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Marketing Trade Show

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Awards Celebration

12:00p.m. – 1:00 p.m. French Lunch (consisting of a lunch & desert crepe along with a drink - $3.00 Children and $5.00 for adults)

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Seniors & Children’s Activities

3:30 p.m. Presentation of New Signage for Entryways to the

City by Mauri Ditzler, Albion College President

4:30 p.m. Conclusion

The event will be promoted through the Albion e-news, posters and a trailer at the Bohn Theatre.

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-August 31, 2015

B. Approval Regular Session Minutes-September 8, 2015

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

IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSION

A. Request Approval Resolution # 2015-24, Redevelopment Ready Community (RCV)

Barnes moved, French supported, CARRIED, to Approve Resolution # 2015-24, Redevelopment Development Ready Community as presented. (7-0, rcv)

B. Request Approval 1st Reading Ordinance # 2015-06, An Ordinance for Operation of Off-Road Recreation & Utility Vehicles on City Streets (RCV)

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

French moved, Krause supported, CARRIED, Approval 1st Reading Ordinance # 2015-06, An Ordinance for Operation of Off-Road Recreation & Utility Vehicles as presented. (7-0, rcv)

C. Discussion-Fence & Gate for Albion Recycling Center

City Manager Mitchell stated the attached proposal for $5,500.00 from Justice Fence Company is a quote for a gate and fencing for the Albion Recycling Center. This will be paid for by the County as part of the agreement for the Recycling Center. City Manager Mitchell stated the $35.00 permit fee would be waived.

Paul Makoski, Environmental Health Manager, Calhoun County stated removal of the dirt for the post holes will take all necessary precautions of hazardous materials including wearing the proper equipment and having the hazardous material properly disposed of. He also stated the fence will be similar to the fence around the fire barn and will have a barrier gate.

Comments were received from Council Members Barnes, French and Krause and Mayor Domingo.

D. City Manager Report

City Manager Mitchell reported the following:

* She would like to thank French Intern Marie Macone for her presentation and invites the community to attend the “Show Your Best” event.
* October 23rd is Albion Public Safety’s chili cook-off
* The Parks & Recreation Plan is moving forward. Alena Farooq completed park surveys at the festival and Larry Williams went door to door also completing park surveys.
* The downtown facades are being spruced up thanks to the DDA Façade Grant program. The DDA approved eleven (11) grants for the downtown area.
* City Manager Mitchell, Chief Kipp and Bob Dunklin attended a “Fair and Impartial” conference.
* The Music in the Park is completed and was a huge success. The Recreation Department plans to provide this event again next year.
* Saturday, September 26, 2015 will be the last community bike ride.
* A breakfast was held on Friday, September 18, 2015 to celebrate Dr. Holland. Dr. Holland was pleased with the Holland Park transformation and donated $5,000 for the project.
* She would like to congratulate Mayor Domingo and Council Member Reid on receiving the Distinguished Alumni award.

E. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were requested.

F. Motion to Excuse Absent Council Member (s)

No action needed 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.)

Comments were received from Melissa Young, 1001 Maple St, who spoke of a recent vicious dog attack at the Dog Park.

Additional comments were received from Council Members French, Brown, Krause and Decker; Mayor Domingo; Chief Kipp and City Manager Mitchell.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Domingo adjourned the Regular Session at 8:28 p.m.

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Date Jill Domingo City Clerk