

RESOLUTION 2016-55

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE GREATER ALBION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITORS BUREAU'S FESTIVAL OF THE FORKS 50TH ANNIVERSARY EXPENSES

Background: The Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau's will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Festival of the Forks, with events taking place from September 14 through September 17, 2016. The celebration will also have a delegation from France in attendance, as the City of Albion's Sister City Committee will also be commemorating a 20 year partnership and exchange with colleagues from Noisy-le-Roi/Bailly. The City of Albion has received a request from the Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau's to assist with expenses relative to the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Festival of the Forks. It is recommended that the City of Albion support the programming and promotions of the Festival of the Forks 50th Anniversary Celebration in 2016. Funding is available in the General Fund - General Appropriations – Contractual Services (101-895-802.00)

Council member Barnes moved, and was supported by Council member French, to approve the following resolution.

Resolved: The City of Albion hereby approves Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars for the Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau for civic, artistic, and/or cultural enhancement of the city related to the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Festival of the Forks.

I hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted on August 15, 2016, in a regular session of the Albion City Council and that this is a true copy of that resolution.

Ayes 5

Nays 2 (Domingo & Decker)

Absent 0

Jill Domingo
Jill Domingo, City Clerk

Dear Council;

The Festival of the Forks is having its 50th Anniversary this year! We aim to have it be bigger, better, and more spectacular in celebration. As you may have already seen, there is a billboard on I-94 right now advertising Festival, this is an additional expense Festival has never incurred before (but we're awfully proud of it).

In addition to some of the programming we've already done during Festival, such as the 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, the Barnyard Bonanza, Pony Rides, the Pet Show, the Cruise In Car Show, Friday night Gospel Concert in Lloyd's Park, and the Morning and Evening Parades, we are adding new components to this year's festival, some of which will have an expense associated with them. These include:

- Honoring our Oldest Operating Businesses: Albion College, Homestead Bank, Cascarelli's, Starr, and The Recorder. A big deal during the morning parade will be made to honor our oldest operating businesses. We'll assist each organization develop materials they will walk with in the parade and the MC will make a big deal out of their presence in the parade as they pass by.
- White Carriage in Morning Parade: Dr. Rowan is the last surviving member of the first Forks Steering Committee. He and Rexine Crockcroft, the one vendor who has attended EVERY Festival since 1966, will be honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Festival of the Forks. After the parade, this carriage driver will be offering carriage rides around Victory Park, start-stop, in front of the Gardner House.
- Cirque Amongus is a professional circus troop who will work with our 7-15 year olds on learning circus tricks (juggling, riding a unicycle, etc), performing in front of an audience of parents and festival-goers, in costume, and then walking in the evening parade fully garbed.
- Farmer's Market: At the request of Patrick Lopez, Food Hub Manager, we have agreed to give the local farmers space on Erie Street from which they can sell produce during Saturday's activities.
- Prisoner-Dog Rehabilitation Program: You may be aware that prisoners are learning to care for neglected and abused pets in the prisons. These dogs are rehabilitated and then put up for adoption. It benefits the dogs and the prisoners who have a purpose while incarcerated. They will be attending the pet show and talking about the program and the adoptable dogs.
- Decorated Bicycle Ride: On Friday night, we're inviting everyone to ride with us around Albion. Route to be predetermined. We'll return to the Library where bikes will be judged for their creative decoration. Winners will be awarded prizes and asked to ride again with us in the morning parade.

Due to the 50th Anniversary program and the expanse of offerings to festival goers this year, I am seeking reimbursement (\$500) from the City of Albion for a portion of the expense associated with Festival's port-o-johns, last year this cost was \$1,096.50 and the cost ought to be similar this year.

I look forward to hearing back from you regarding my request. Payment can be paid to the Chamber after Festival and once I have received the invoice from Jimmy's Johns. I would like the promise to pay, however, so I can plan accordingly.

Amy Robertson, President/CEO
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