A Resident's Guide 2023

# WELCOME TO ALBION

# The City of ALBION



Albion City Council

On behalf of the City of Albion, welcome to Albion. We're so glad that you are here! We love Albion and hope you will too.

Albion is a small community nestled in South-Central Michigan filled with passionate individuals and organizations, as you soon will find out.

This guide is intended to help navigate the services of the City, and provide a glimpse of the countless activities and amenities in our great community.





# **CITY HISTORY**

In 1821, 55 Potawatomi Chiefs gathered to sign the Treaty of Chicago which granted the part of the country that included what was to become southern Michigan, to the United States. The first recorded history of Albion began with the signing of this treaty.

In 1833, Paul Tenney Peabody and his wife, Eleanor, brought their family from New York and settled along the north and south branches of Kalamazoo River. Since then, the area has been commonly known as The Forks, and the name was eventually attached to the annual city-wide street festival for which the town has become famous. The river provided power for mills, and Albion quickly became a mill town as well as an agricultural market. A railroad line arrived in 1852, fostering the development of other industries, leading to Albion's development as a manufacturing community.

In 1855 Albion incorporated as a village and then into a city in 1885. The presence of the Albion Malleable Iron Company and several other major manufacturers since the 19th century gave Albion the reputation of a factory town. This has changed with the closure of several of those businesses, and Albion's culture is changing to that of a college town.



#### Gardner House Museum

Built around 1874 by Albion hardware merchant, the Albion Historical Society purchased the Gardner House in May of 1966 and turned it into a museum.

Open Weekends 2-4PM, Mother's Day through September





# RESTORE OUR COKE SIGN PARTICULAR STORE ST

#### Coca-Cola Mural

The Coca-Cola Mural is one of the largest in the country and the only one painted over a river. In 2019 Restore Our Coke Sign: Bring Art & History Downtown community campaign raised over \$100,000 to restore the historic sign.

# **CITY AMENITIES**

#### Recreation

Provided by the YMCA Battle Creek, events are hosted at Washington Gardner, the Bohm Theatre, and outdoor locations throughout Albion. For a full list of events follow Battle Creek Family YMCA on Facebook.

Free to Albion Residents.





#### Albion District Library

Our library offers special programs and events beyond being a public library. Within the library, there is the Children's Room and Local History Room, fulled with information about Albion.

#### **Parks**

The City maintains 17 parks, spanning 90 acres. The Parks Division aims to provide residents with safe and well-maintained recreational areas.



# **ANNUAL EVENTS**

Cardboard Classic Sled Race- January/February

Build your own sled from cardboard to race down the Victory Park hill. Event day dependent on weather.

**Albion Farmer's Market-** May to September

Every Wednesday from 4-7PM in Stoffer Plaza

#### Walk the Beat Music Festival- Late August

Live music with numerous bands and entertainment that compete to be the best band of the event.

Swingin' at the Shell- Late July to Early September

Enjoy free live music every Sunday evening at the Victory Park bandshell.

**Festival of the Forks-** 3rd Saturday of September

Since 1967. Albion has celebrated our heritage and culture through parades food, and other vendors downtown Albion

Albion's Big Read- October

Community wide book discussions and events around a common reading, lead by local youth.

Albion Aglow Parade- Late November/Early December

Get into the holiday spirit with the annual holiday parade downtown

**Blues at the Bohm-** Every First Monday of the Month

Live concert at the Bohm Theatre at 7PM

# **CITY GOVERNMENT**

Under a Council-Manager form of government, Albion residents elect a Mayor and City Council to preside over the city. The City Council appoints a City Manager to manage day to day city business.

#### CITY COUNCIL

City Council meetings take place in the Council Chamber at City Hall on the first and third Monday of the month at 7:00 PM.

Meetings are broadcast live on the Millenium Digital Media Channel 21 and meeting minutes are available for viewing on the city's website.

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

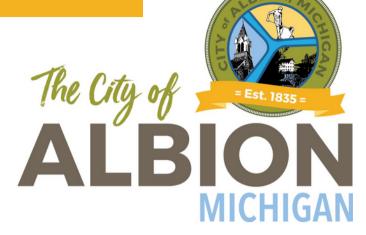
Oversees comprehensive planning, zoning amendments and special permits. Meets in City Council Chambers on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

# DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Responsible for aiding in the restoration and growth of downtown Albion. Meets in the Mayor's Office on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 AM.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORTATION

Aims to attract, assist, and retain local industries in order to strengthen and revitalize the local economy. Meets at City Hall on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 AM.

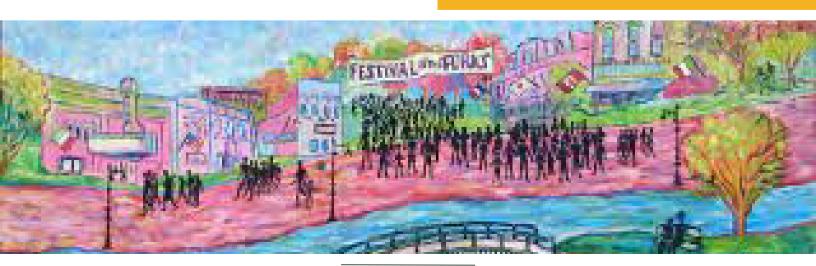


#### IMPORTANT CITY ORDINANCES

from 2:00 AM to 6:00 AM.

Residential trash service is currently operated under a single waste hauler contract with Granger. Regular trash service and yard waste pick up is available on a weekly basis.

Owners of rental units are required to apply for an annual rental registration.



# **PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

- In the event of any water or sewer issues, please call (517)-629-5535.
- Annual Spring Clean Up hosted by the department to collect trash such as tires and electronics.
- City owned lots are mowed periodically and a continual pothole repair program is in place.
- Residents are responsible for discarding of any tree brush or debris on their property.
- Tree dumps are hosted by the City multiple times a year, a schedule is available on the City's website.
  - Annual Tree Dump Passes are available for purchase at City Hall for \$20.



#### **Follow Albion Public Safety**



#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

517-629-3933 (Emergency 911)

The Department of Public Safety provides police and fire services to the citizens of Albion. All officers are State certified law enforcement officers and firefighters. The police state is located at City Hall, 112 W. Cass St., and the fire station is located at 207 N. Clinton St. Emergency Medical Services for the City provided by Albion Community Ambulance, housed at the fire station.

# **VOTING INFORMATION**

Voter registration can be done online or in person at the City Clerk's office at City Hall. Registered voters who wish to vote by absentee ballot can sign up to join the City's Permanent Absentee Ballot List to receive an absentee ballot for each election. For voters who wish to vote in person, polling centers are present in every precinct and are open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM on Election Day.

Precinct 1: Crowell School, 1418 Cooper St

Precinct 2: St, Paul Lutheran Church, 100 Luther Blvd

Precinct 3: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 100 Luther Blvd

Precinct 4: Tennant Hall (Methodist Church), 600 East Michigan Ave

Precinct 5: Crowell School, 1418 Cooper St

Precinct 6: Tennant Hall (Methodist Church), 600 E. Michigan Ave

# CITY **DIRECTORY**



City Manager (517) -629-7172 hsnyder@cityofalbionmi.gov



Jill Domingo City Clerk (517)-629-7864 jadomingo@cityofalbionmi.gov



**Kevin O'Brien** Public Services Director (517)-629-7200 kobrien@cityofalbionmi.gov

City Hall is located downtown Albion on 112 West Cass Street. Open from 9 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday.

City Hall is closed on the following holidays:



Mitchell Avant Human Resources Director (517)-629-7761 mavant@cityofalbionmi.gov



- President's Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day
- Juneteenth
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Veteran's Day
- Thanksgiving Day & the day after
- Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

Employment opportunities for the city are posted on the city's website periodically.



**Scott Kipp** Chief of Public Safety (517)-629-2473 skipp@cityofalbionmi.gov



**David Clark** 

Finance Director

(517)-629-7853 dclark@cityofalbionmi.gov

Ian Arnold (517)-629-7189





