



Super Town of Albion Revitalization Team

www.albionstarteam.org

A member of OCRA's Downtown Affiliate Network,
associated with Indiana Main Street

Lori Gagen, President

lorianngagen@gmail.com

(260) 564-4556

August 20, 2025

Mr. Stephen Gunty, Town Manager
Town of Albion
211 E Park Drive
PO Box 27
Albion, IN 46701
albiontownmanager@yahoo.com

RE: PROPOSAL FOR 110 S ORANGE STREET

Dear Mr. Gunty,

The Albion STAR Team proposes to repurpose the old Town Hall at 110 S Orange Street as a community hub for non-profits, community meetings, storage, and to potentially host programs that meet other community needs. The STAR Team proposes entering into a five-year, no rent lease with the Town of Albion, to include an option to receive the building as a donation at the end of the lease period (or sooner.) The lease to exclude the parking area located to the east of the building to ensure continued public parking use.

The Albion STAR Team will assume the ongoing cost of utilities, insurance, and invest in maintenance and enhancements to – at a minimum – make the necessary repairs highlighted in the commercial inspection completed in late 2024. The lease term is intended to provide a period of time to prove the long-term viability of management and use of the building before it is donated to the Albion STAR Team. The organization is open to donation immediately, if the Town wishes.

The Albion STAR Team believes this is a win for the community that will provide needed space for many active non-profits while relieving the Town of the costs of demolition, estimated to be \$30,000 or more, and the ongoing maintenance and repairs:

- Masonry repairs (repointing, replacement, etc.)
- Repair or replace stairway to basement; add railing
- Add gutter extensions where missing
- Address electrical upgrades to current code
- Remove interior drinking fountain and remove receptacle
- Inspect and service HVAC
- Replace S-trap with P-trap under sink
- Inspect, repair, and/or replace faulty windows

- General maintenance and aesthetic enhancements

PARTNERS

The Albion STAR Team has, over the past several weeks, reached out to a number of local service organizations and non-profits to lay out a vision for this proposed “community hub.” The benefits to the community are not limited to, but include:

- Securing a future for Bicentennial (pocket) Park, a community-investment project and gathering place
- Shared office space to accommodate these partners, and potentially others:
 - Albion STAR Team
 - Albion Chamber of Commerce
 - Albion Rotary Club
 - Albion Lions Club
- Industrial locker storage units to serve non-profits, retailers, professionals, etc. in Albion
- Community programming partners:
 - Burr Oak Baptist Church after school programs
 - Central Noble Schools school extracurricular and fundraising activities
 - Christmas in the Village community activities
 - Charity pop-up events and concession sales
 - Children in Need of Services (CHINS) visitation

INCOME

During the lease term, the Albion STAR Team will explore and pursue funding streams including:

- Sub-lease of one dedicated office space
- Program fees / commissions
- \$5,000 annual Town of Albion contribution (as allocated in previous years)
- Grants
 - T Mobile Hometown Grant Program, up to \$50,000 (Historic Downtown Kendallville is a past winner of \$25,000 for Main Street projects)
 - Olive B. Cole Foundation – capital projects (remodeling, etc.)
 - Dekko Foundation (in support of any programs/services that support youth)
 - Community Foundation (Hagen Family Fund)
 - Noble REMC Operation RoundUp Grant
 - Be Noble Inc. Investment Trust Fund
 - Southern Pike Solar Community Grant
 - 50/50 Facade Grant Program – Albion Redevelopment Commission
 - And others TBD
- TIF #1 Albion-Jefferson Allocation Area Economic Development / Infrastructure
- In-kind materials and labor from community members
- Membership (perhaps collaborative) model, with paid member benefits to include:
 - Pocket Park concession sales with adjacent indoor space
 - Secured storage space (basement level)
 - Conference/meeting room use
 - Office/Desks/Restrooms
 - Programming space(s)

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

This proposal was shared with several potential community partners who might benefit from a community hub, as well as experts in historic preservation, Main Street development, and economic development. The proposal has garnered letters of support (in Appendix) from:

- Albion Chamber of Commerce
- Albion Rotary
- Be Noble Inc.
- Black Pine Animal Sanctuary
- Burr Oak Baptist Church
- Central Noble School Corporation
- John Bry, CMSM
- Indiana Landmarks
- Loree Sprague (resident)
- Newman & Newman LLC
- Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Additional partners who have expressed favorable feedback about the proposal include Annette Eastis, President of the Albion Lions club and Terrie Beckley, Executive Director of Noble County Miracle Tree.

APPENDIX

In the appendix of this proposal there are additional resources that informed and influenced the Albion STAR Team's proposal.

APPENDIX

FACT FINDING

The old Town Hall was designed by a renowned Hoosier architect, Alvin M. Strauss, responsible for several historic buildings in the region and whose office/design archives are kept at Ball State University Library.

Notable Strauss buildings include:

- Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
- Embassy Theatre and Indiana Hotel
- Lincoln Bank Tower
- Auburn Cord Duesenberg Car Showroom
- The Strauss Theatre for the Performing Arts at the Community Learning Center (Kendallville)

A new roof was installed on the building 2017.

The roof was inspected by the 2017 installer in June 2025, and was deemed to be in good condition.

Multiple estimates for various exterior repairs and upgrades were gathered in 2023-2024 for facade improvements to the building. Those estimates have been obtained and reviewed by the Albion STAR Team.

The actual costs of utilities in November-December 2024, when the building was still occupied by Be Noble Inc. and the Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau, have been obtained and reviewed by the Albion STAR Team.

Black and Ramer Insurance provided the Albion STAR Team with an estimate for property and liability insurance based on assuming responsibility for the building as is.

BUDGETING

The Albion STAR Team's estimated annual operating expenses, based on fact-finding, are:

Electric (I&M)	\$1,320
Gas (NIPSCO)	\$2,160
Internet (Ligtel)	\$900 (possible in-kind)
Garbage (Noble Co Disposal)	\$873
Water (Albion)	\$450
Insurance	\$1,200

Additional expenses have been identified to include:

- Pinpad access system (one entry door and SMART phone app) \$1,500
- Possible move-in updates needed (paint, carpet) \$1,000

HISTORY

- **1930-1944** The art deco style building was designed by Alvin M. Strauss in late 1929 or early 1930, though construction was not completed until sometime between May 1930 and, by some anecdotes, 1944.
- **1940's-2006** The Town of Albion utilized the building as its municipal office and fire department, originally. Later, the Albion Police Department also used the building at some point.
- **2006-2007** The Town of Albion acquired an industrial building in the Albion Industrial Park, located at 211 E Park Drive, and moved offices to their new “municipal building” (the fire department has its own building nearby.)
- **2007-2025** After vacating the original Town Hall, the Town of Albion entered a lease with the Noble County Economic Development Corporation (EDC.) The EDC operated at the old Town Hall from 2007 until early 2025 under an “In-Kind” agreement with the Town of Albion. Under the “no cost” lease agreement, interior repairs were the responsibility of the lessor.
- **2017** A new roof was installed on the old Town Hall, a cost incurred by the EDC and subsidized through a 50% facade grant awarded and approved by the Redevelopment Commission and Town Council.
- **2020** In the summer of 2020, the Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) moved their office into the old Town Hall and began sharing space, and utility costs, with the EDC.
- **November 26, 2024** An inspection report presented to the town by Be Noble Inc. was discussed by the Town Council. The EDC and CVB both reportedly expressed some interest in purchasing the building or relocating their headquarters elsewhere. Both moved out within the following 2-3 months.
- **December 2024** The CVB vacated the Town Hall and relocated their office to the Community Learning Center (CLC) in Kendallville.
- Soon after, in February 2025, the EDC vacated the building and also relocated their office to the CLC.
- **January 14, 2025** The Albion Town Council discussed the building once again, noting tentative options recommended by the Public Works Committee to include:
 - Demo the building and use the space for a parking lot/pavilion/public restrooms
 - Renovate the building and keep it for town use
 - Renovate the building and lease it to another entity
 - Sell the building
- **January 28, 2025** The Albion Town Council announced that an online survey had been created to gather public input about the building. The survey was then published on social media and on the town’s website. The survey read as follows:

“The former BeNoble and VisitNoble building owned by the Town of Albion has been vacated. Community input is sought regarding its future use. Please Note: in ALL cases the town plans to KEEP the adjacent PARKING LOTS.

What is the best option for long-term community benefit?

- Demolish the building and level and pave the site (Cost: \$50,000 +/-). Potential future uses: public parking, farmer's market, or community event space.
- Demolish the building and replace with outdoor pavilion and public restroom facility (Cost: \$100,000 +/-).

- Keep building and lease to a business (Cost: \$100,000 +/-)
- Sell building "as is." No future costs incurred by the Town of Albion.
- Other:

What additional ideas do you have for future community improvement?"

- **February 25, 2025** Town Manager Steve Gunty advised the Town Council that survey responses were being reviewed by the Public Works Committee.
- **April 29, 2025** the matters came before the Town Council again, with recommendations from the Public Works Committee:
 - Sell the building (as is)
 - Demolish, and build a pavilion and restrooms to be able to rent out. This option was given with an estimated cost of \$100,000. Added context indicated the public could rent out the area (including pocket park) instead of using the corner at the stoplight for food sales, for example.

Town Attorney Kurt Bachman noted that if the building was sold for \$50,000 or less, no appraisal would be required by statute. The Town Council tabled any decisions to the May 13 meeting.

- **May 13, 2025** The Albion Town Council provided a recap of public feedback about the building and the Public Works Committee recommended selling the building as is, or to demolish it and retain ownership of the lot. Members of the Albion STAR Team and Albion Chamber of Commerce, among others, were in attendance and permitted to add to the discussion. When asked for evidence to substantiate the proposed costs of options considered, as well as utility costs, the Board of Works members indicated there had been no formal estimates or numbers considered, and that figures were their personal "estimates." After some discussion and concerns presented, council tabled the item for further discussion.
- **May 27, 2025** The matters came up for discussion at the Town Council Meeting again. A motion was made to start the process to sell the building "by determining a fair market value of the property, list it for approximately 90 days, request interested buyers to disclose their intentions for the property, and then, if no one is interested in purchasing the property, proceed with steps to demolish the building."
 - The motion was seconded. Further discussion, with members of the public in attendance - including representatives from the Albion STAR Team and Chamber of Commerce - continued, after which the motion on the table received 3 Ayes (Jellison, Magnuson, Smolinske) and 2 Nays (Lindsey, Gray.)
 - Following the vote, more public discourse was expressed over the motion and a desire to see the building retained and restored. A letter of support for historic preservation submitted by the Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau was read.
 - After lengthy discussion, the motion was rescinded by another motion, which carried with 5 Ayes. A new motion was made for the Town of Albion to "prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit potential buyers on their intentions for repurposing the building. The motion carried with 4 Ayes (Jellison, Smolinske, Gray, Lindsey) and 1 Nay (Magnuson)
 - NOTE: The council did not ultimately support spending money to obtain any appraisals at this stage.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



The Albion Chamber of Commerce is pleased to offer this letter of support for the STAR Team's town hall proposal. The Chamber believes there are many positive uses for the old town hall and that a true collaboration of local non-profits will ensure the town hall building is well cared for, that it serves a positive public purpose, and that it remains a productive and integral part of our downtown community. As one partner in this collaborative effort, the Chamber is fully committed to working with all partners and is committed to supporting efforts that will ensure the financial viability of the building going forward. More specifically, the Chamber will utilize space in the building as appropriate for its monthly chamber meetings, for professional development opportunities that support its members, for project planning activities, and for other activities that support and expand the chamber mission.

Beyond these internal uses, the Albion Chamber supports the STAR Team proposal for its proposed use of the old town hall for the following reasons:

1. The pocket park and mural are important assets to the downtown community and serve as a gateway to our community from the south. Preserving and protecting this gateway is clearly in the best interest of the town and, the chamber believes, many of its downtown members.
2. The community-based programming that could be offered in the old town hall, including sessions sponsored by the chamber, would add value to our community and be a real benefit to those who participate in the programming.
3. Many chamber members are also members of other non-profit organizations such as rotary, the Lions Club, and others. Supporting these organizations through the use of shared space is one way to ensure that these organizations continue to have the capacity to do the good they work they are doing. Many chamber members are quite passionate about the work of these organizations and are fully supportive of efforts to assist them.
4. The old town hall could serve as a common planning venue for important and highly attended community events such as Christmas in the Village (which the Camber directly supports) and others.
5. With several community based organizations working together in this common space, there will most certainly be opportunities to develop new partnerships, new programming, and new events that support the Albion community. The chamber believes there is great power in the collaboration being proposed by the STAR Team



and is confident that over the proposed 3 year lease period the town will see new and exciting impacts that result from this collaboration.

In summary, the Albion Chamber of Commerce is all-in on the STAR Team's proposal for use of the old town hall. We are a 100% committed partner and we look forward to the opportunity to serve our members and the larger Albion community through the proposed collaborative effort. If you have any questions or need any additional information about the Chamber's commitment, please let me know.

Pattie Gatman

Chamber President



August 20, 2025

Albion Town Council
P.O. Box 23
Albion, Indiana 46701

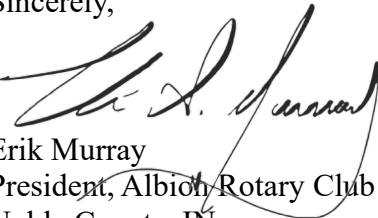
To Whom It May Concern,

Members of the Albion Rotary Club have received and reviewed the Albion STAR Team's Proposal for the Old Albion Town Hall and fully support the proposal for the following reasons:

1. Preserves an architecturally significant historic building for both the Town of Albion and greater Noble County community.
2. Provides plans for an income stream to sustain the lease.
3. Provides opportunity for development of new partnerships.
4. Provides a permanent location for several local entities.
5. Continues to provide much needed public parking.

We trust that the Town Council will give appropriate consideration to the Albion STAR Team's proposal which will benefit both the Town of Albion and the many constituents it serves.

Sincerely,



Erik Murray
President, Albion Rotary Club
Noble County, IN



Subject: Support for S.T.A.R. Team Use of the Old Be Noble Building

Dear Members of the Albion Town Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for the S.T.A.R. team's request to utilize the old Be Noble Building in Albion. This building is not only a historic landmark but also a cornerstone of our community's identity. Its preservation and continued use are vital to maintaining the character and spirit of Albion.

We recognize that the building is in need of significant repairs. An inspection conducted in late 2024 identified multiple critical issues that will require careful attention and funding to address. Despite these challenges, the potential for revitalizing this space is immense. With the proper resources, the building can be preserved as a functional, safe, and vibrant part of our community.

Supporting the S.T.A.R. team in their efforts to use and maintain the Be Noble Building aligns with our shared goal of fostering community engagement and preserving Albion's historical heritage. We hope the Council will consider this request favorably and explore avenues to secure the necessary funding to save this important structure.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if additional information or support is needed.

.Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melanie Kellogg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melanie Kellogg
Executive Director



Letter of Support for Albion STAR Team's Proposal to Repurpose the Town Hall

July 24, 2025

To whom it may concern,

Black Pine Animal Sanctuary, located at 1426 W. 300 N., Albion, IN 46701 supports the drafted proposal for the Albion STAR Team to re-purpose the historic Town Hall. Organizations like Black Pine often need additional venues for conferences, events and meetings and look forward to benefiting from this space as proposed.

As one of the drivers of tourism throughout Noble County, our visitors enjoy seeing historical landmarks such as the Town Hall during their visit to Albion. The mural is also notable when visiting the area.

For any questions, please contact me at amanda@blackpine.org or 574.528.0100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A Plank", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Amanda Plank
Executive Director
Black Pine Animal Sanctuary



Lori Gagen <lorianngagen@gmail.com>

Support Letter

1 message

Pastor Ben Sexton <sextonbenjamin84@gmail.com>
To: Lori Gagen <lorianngagen@gmail.com>

Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 9:34 AM

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Ben Sexton and I serve as the Senior Pastor of Burr Oak Church, south of Albion.

I am writing to show support of the preservation of the Old Town Hall building by the Albion STAR Team. My support is for the potential use of the location as an afterschool youth center for middle school and highschool aged kids.

The location of the building makes it ideal as students would only have to cross St. Rd. 8. Which is currently accompanied by a crossing guard. By not having to navigate crossing St. Rd. 9 as well adds to the overall safety of any student wishing to attend.

If you have any questions for me directly please do not hesitate to reach out. I can best be reached at my email: sextonbenjamin84@gmail.com. Or my cell: (231)357-8026.

Sincerely,

Ben Sexton
Senior Pastor
Burr Oak Church



Central Noble Community School Corporation

Central Noble Junior-Senior High School

Central Noble Elementary

Central Noble Primary

p. 260-636-2175

f. 260-636-7918

www.centralnoble.k12.in.us

200 E. Main St

Albion, IN 46701

To Whom it may concern:

On behalf of Central Noble Schools, I am writing to express our support for the Albion STAR Team's proposal to preserve the former Economic Development Corporation building on South Orange Street and repurpose it as flexible community space. We understand that the STAR Team envisions the building serving many groups from youth organizations and civic clubs to church groups and school programs and we believe keeping this building intact would be a great asset for Albion.

Research on educational and civic design shows that multi-purpose spaces strengthen community connections. Flexible spaces can be adapted to various activities, providing rooms for meetings, tutoring, after-school programs or community events. Communities across the country have embraced joint-use facilities that meet both educational and civic needs; schools with shared spaces have found that performing-arts centers, athletic facilities and meeting rooms can serve the broader public while still supporting student programs. Repurposing existing buildings rather than demolishing them or selling them also promotes sustainability, preserves local character and can stimulate economic vitality.

Central Noble Schools appreciate the STAR Team's efforts to maintain the historic EDC building as a place where our students, the Lions Club, church groups and other organizations could gather as needed. We recognize that having flexible community space near the courthouse square will benefit our students and their families by providing additional venues for learning and enrichment. We support this project and hope the Town Council will favorably consider the STAR Team's proposal.

Thank you for your dedication to Albion and for considering our perspective.

Sincerely,

Robby Morgan

Superintendent

Central Noble Schools



August 12, 2025

Stephen Gunty
Town Manager
211 E. Park Drive
Albion, Indiana 46701

RE: Letter of Support for STAR Team proposal – former Town Hall 110 S. Orange Street

Dear Mr. Gunty,

Please consider this letter as strong support for the STAR Team's proposal for the former Town Hall at 110 S. Orange Street. Thank you for your positive consideration of their proposal as an excellent solution for the Town, and a great fit for the building and community.

Indiana Landmarks works with organizations such as the STAR Team to save places that matter and historic buildings in their community. The former Town Hall is a tangible link to Albion's past, and as proposed by the STAR Team, will continue to serve the needs of local not-for-profit community groups and others while relieving the Town of the financial obligations of maintenance and repair.

Demolition of this building would be a significant loss to the town right at the important entrance to the courthouse square. Indiana Landmarks stands ready to assist the STAR Team as it moves forward to implement its vision. We have a variety of tools and resources which we can pull into the effort. We are encouraged with the STAR Teams vision and energy to save and reuse this important historic building.

Sincerely,

Todd Zeiger
Director
Northern Regional Office

John Bry, CMSM

8203 Rose Boulevard
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302

August 16, 2025

Albion Town Council
Albion, Indiana

Dear Members of the Albion Town Council,

I am writing in strong support of the preservation and repurposing of the historic Albion Town Hall. As someone who has dedicated his career to downtown revitalization and community development, I recognize both the cultural and economic value this building represents for Albion and Noble County.

My professional background includes serving as the current Program Coordinator for Main Street Oakland County, the nation's first county-wide Main Street program, and working nationally as a recognized expert in downtown revitalization. I had the privilege of assisting downtown Kendallville in securing a \$2 million grant from the State of Indiana to advance its revitalization efforts. Previously, I served as Director of the Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and I have long-standing personal ties to this community as a former resident and as one of the original organizers of the Albion STAR Team.

The Albion Town Hall, designed by noted Hoosier architect Alvin M. Strauss, is a structure of regional architectural significance and a cornerstone of Albion's civic and historic identity. The proposal advanced by the Albion STAR Team offers the Town a responsible and cost-effective solution, relieving Albion of the financial burden of demolition or speculative renovation, while ensuring the building continues to serve as a vital community asset. Their plan outlines practical steps for phased reuse, collaborative partnerships, and pursuit of grants and other funding streams.

Communities across Indiana and the Midwest have demonstrated that preserving historic civic buildings can yield long-term dividends: fostering local pride, attracting investment, and providing flexible space for civic, cultural, and entrepreneurial activity. The STAR Team's proposal not only aligns with these best practices, but also leverages Albion's unique history and community spirit to create lasting public benefit.

I urge the Albion Town Council to support the STAR Team's proposal for the Albion Town Hall and to seize this opportunity to preserve an irreplaceable landmark while strengthening the vitality of downtown Albion.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Bry, CMSM

Program Coordinator, Main Street Oakland County

National Main Street Leadership Council

Nationally Certified Main Street Manager

Former Director, Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Co-Organizer, Albion STAR Team

Former Resident of Noble County

August 11, 2025

To the Members of the Albion Town Council,

I am writing to ask the council to reconsider any plans to demolish the former Town Hall building. This structure is far more than just bricks and mortar—it is a vital part of our town's history and a deeply cherished landmark for generations of citizens who have called Albion home. I support the STAR team's efforts to save this building.

I lived on that block when I was a child. I rode my bike and roller skated by the building trying to peek in to see what was happening inside. I was certain that whatever it was must have been very important to be located in that fancy brick building. I am sure that I am not the only life-long resident to feel a connection to this art deco structure. It is a connection to our shared past. It has been witness to generations of community events, decisions, and milestones. To lose it would not only erase a piece of our physical history but also diminish the unique character that sets our town apart.

Rather than destroy such a significant part of our heritage, I believe we have an opportunity to preserve the building's historical integrity while repurposing it to meet our needs today. Whether through reuse for community services, cultural events, or public spaces, we can honor the past while creating a vibrant resource for today and the future.

I respectfully ask the council to commit to a path that saves the building, preserves its art deco style, and allows it to continue contributing to our community's identity. By doing so, we will protect a legacy that cannot be replaced.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and dedication to the people and buildings of Albion.

Sincerely,

Loree Sprague

1355 N Finlandia Way

Albion IN



Helen L. Newman
J. Everett Newman III

Newman & Newman LLC

Albion Opera House
107 W Jefferson Street
Albion, IN 46701
Phone Number (260) 239-3082

August 21, 2025

Stephen Gunty, Town Manager
Town of Albion
211 E Park Drive
Albion IN 4601
albiontownmanager@yahoo.com

RE: Support Letter for S.T.A.R. Town Hall Proposal

Dear Mr. Gunty:

We have reviewed the S.T.A.R. proposal for the Old Town Hall dated August 20, 2025, and would like to add to it based on our own experiences as attorneys representing people here in town and on our own efforts to rehabilitate our little corner of the historic Courthouse square, the Old Albion Opera House.

We especially would like to emphasize the portions of the recommendation that deal with children in crisis and the need for a homey congenial place for them to meet when the misfortunes of divorce and CHINS proceedings now find them having visitation with their parents in institutional settings such as police stations and public libraries. Being able to meet in an area designed for them would greatly lessen the trauma of the separations that were not caused by them, but were thrust upon them.

We have personal knowledge of this need. Between the two attorneys in this firm we have over sixty years of experience with child custody and child removal cases. Helen is currently a public defender and she sees the effects on an almost daily basis of these separations and the need for quality places for children to visit with their parents and families.

This fits well with the idea of having a downtown location for this in a unique historical building. Properly planned this building could become a hub, a community resource center, for all the helping organizations here in town. In addition to what we have emphasized above, all the potential partners listed in the proposal (Rotary, Lions, Chamber of Commerce, etc) would have a place for their community services.

Very truly yours,

/s:/ J. Everett Newman III

J. Everett Newman III, #10094-45

Newman and Newman Law LLC
107 W Jefferson Street
Albion, IN 46701
Tele: 260-239-3082
Email: everett.newman@newmanattys.com

/s:/ Helen L. Newman /
Helen L. Newman #32231-17
Newman & Newman Law LLC
107 W Jefferson Street
Albion IN, 46701
Ph: 260-239-3082
Email: helen.newman@newmanattys.com

JENIII/HLN/ny



Noble County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.

401 E Diamond St, Suite 112, Kendallville, IN 46755

www.visitnoblecounty.org | 260-636-3602 |

Letter of Support

From: Visit Noble County

To: Albion STAR Team

Date: Aug 1, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Visit Noble County, I am writing to express our support for the Albion STAR Team's proposal to repurpose the historic Albion Town Hall. As an Art Deco-style structure designed by renowned Indiana architect Alvin M. Strauss in the 1930s, this building is not only an architectural asset but also a piece of Noble County's cultural and historic identity.

We believe that the Albion STAR Team's partnership with Indiana Landmarks gives Albion a unique opportunity for a strong proposal for creative reuse of this historic space.

In general, we are very supportive of the STAR team's events, activities, ideas, and overall positive economic impact that they have on the Albion community. We commend the Albion STAR Team for their vision to preserve and reinvigorate this landmark.

We are encouraged to see the team exploring improvements to the 1980s-era gazebo on the southwest corner of the Noble County Courthouse lawn. Such enhancements reflect thoughtful stewardship of shared public spaces and contribute to the vitality of Albion's historic square.

While we support the STAR Team's efforts, we also fully respect the Town of Albion's final decision-making authority in this process. We trust and hope that a positive outcome will be found—one that meets the needs of both Albion's residents and visitors alike.

Sincerely,
Grace Caswell