

CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL (WORK SESSION)  
Municipal Court Room  
Monday, February 7, 2011  
4:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sharon Konopa called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present: Councilors Dick Olsen, Jeff Christman, Bill Coburn, Floyd Collins, Bessie Johnson, and Ralph Reid, Jr.

Councilors absent: None.

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

There was no business from the public.

REVIEW OF ALBANY STRATEGIC PLAN

City Manager Wes Hare explained that the Strategic Plan (SP) is the City Council's document. Staff has a key role in making the SP relevant by transcribing it in relational terms, resources, and measurable progress. Hare said Directors met in November to review the SP.

Hare said the introduction has been changed to be more approachable to the public, by summarizing the SP on one page. It provides readers who choose not to go past Page 1 an idea of what the SP does.

Hare reviewed the specific changes as listed in the *Proposed Changes to the Strategic Plan*, in the agenda file.

Other changes the Council discussed include:

- Delete Objective 10.1
- Add "seek federal funds"
- Discussed deleting the first Goal on page 6
- Under Objective 10.2, deleted the word "downtown"
- Discussed walk ability and connectivity of sidewalks
- Change the "Action" for Objective 10.9 to be the text under Objective 10.9
- Discussed public safety training and various seismic valuations
- Discussed the health of Albany's fire trucks
- Use stronger language to describe derelict properties in Objective 10.23
- Discussed Goal 2 on page 22 and if being a "model" is realistic given financial restraints. Staff will revise language to convey the City's continued efforts toward sustainable practices
- Under Great Neighborhoods, discussed establishing a Task Force for affordable housing to be implemented when Albany becomes an entitlement community and is eligible for funding

Hare said that conversations continue with the Council of Governments about Albany reaching the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) status.

Hare discussed when to take the public safety levy to the voters. Hare suggested they take it to voters in November 2011. The current levy expires in 2013. Discussion followed.

Konopa suggested staff check with Benton County to see what they are taking to the voters. Discussion followed regarding compression resulting from three recent actions by other agencies.

CITY MANAGER

Hare gave an update on Blue the dog. The owner has filed a lawsuit for \$60,000 for damages, claiming violations of certain constitutional rights. The owner claims lack of due process, emotional distress, and loss of companionship. Now that legal action is pending, Hare cautioned the Council against discussing the case with the public.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS

There were no comments from the Councilors.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Work Session adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Dibble, MMC  
Deputy City Clerk

Reviewed by,

Stewart Taylor  
Finance Director