

CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL  
Council Chambers  
Wednesday, January 22, 2014  
7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sharon Konopa called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Konopa led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present: Councilors Rich Kellum, Bill Coburn, Bessie Johnson, Ray Kopczynski, Dick Olsen, and Floyd Collins.

Councilors absent: None.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

2013 Human Relations Awards & Certificates.

Konopa introduced Human Relations Commission Chair (HRC) Kim Whitley, member Nancy Greenman, and member Chris Equinoa.

Greenman said this is the third year that the HRC has recognized members of the Albany community. Their mission is to promote harmonious relations among the Albany community. For the first time this year, they are recognizing individuals and organizations who promoted harmony, diversity, and equality in Albany. They will receive certificates of appreciation and awards.

Fish

Whitley said the first certificate goes to Fish of Albany. Fish provides free clothing, food, crisis intervention, medication, and transportation. The guest house offers long-term shelter, with supervision and life-skills training to pregnant teens and teen mothers with children, preparing them for motherhood and self-reliance. The certificate recognizes that there cannot be equality and harmony without meeting the basic needs of all of our citizens and Fish's role in helping to make that happen.

Annette Hobbs of Fish accepted the 2013 Human Relations Award certificate (see agenda file).

Gordon Kirbey

Greenman said that Gordon Kirbey's nomination notes his many community contributions and focuses on his role in a community meal provided for everyone at the First Christian Church every Tuesday evening at 4:30 p.m. In her nomination, Pastor Patty Evans writes that the meal, which provides food and community for 100s in the Albany community, would have likely been an excellent but unfulfilled dream without Kirbey's help.

Kirbey came forward to accept the 2013 Human Relations Award certificate (see agenda file).

Don Albright

Whitley said Don Albright has served the city and its people for more than four decades by being involved in leadership and support for community events, organizations, and agencies. He was past president of the Timber Carnival and involved in Christmas Storybook Land (CSBL), Brass Ring Carousel, Fish, Helping Hands, the Linn County Mental Health Advisory Board, East Albany Lion's Optimist's, and more. Whitley said, wherever he goes, he brings a welcoming handshake and greetings that reflect the mission of the HRC.

Albright came forward to accept the 2013 Human Relations Award certificate (see agenda file).

Annette Hobbs

Greenman said they next will recognize Annette Hobbs. Janelle Bennett nominated Hobbs and in her letter she said Fish of Albany has been helping the less fortunate since 1972. Hobbs is a huge part of why the nonprofit can accomplish so much on a small budget. Hobbs attends every can drive, packs food boxes, sorts clothes, checks in with schools to see if any students need food for the weekend, or clothes, coats, and toiletries. Fish serves 23,000 people annually because Hobbs does the work of four people. For her it is not a job; it is her passion.

Hobbs came forward to accept the 2013 Human Relations Award certificate.

Christmas Story Book Land

Whitley said a community needs more than just bread and roses to thrive, and Christmas Storybook Land (CSBL) provides both. Providing thousands of pounds of food to make family holidays possible, and hundreds of hours of magic to feed the imagination and hearts. In 2012, the 36<sup>th</sup> year of operation, there were 30,000 visitors. Joyce Moreira's nomination letter said it would not be possible without the support of the 30-member board of directors, 350 volunteers, and dozens of businesses.

President of Christmas Storybook Land Monte Douglas James came forward to accept the 2013 Human Relations Award for the charitable nonprofit organization of 2013 on behalf of CSBL (see agenda file). James thanked the Council and the HRC for the award. In 1976 Don and Wilma Albright, Don and Karen Dahlinger, and Terry and Ronna Hodek created ten simple scenes displayed at the old Linn County Fair barns for friends and coworkers to see. In 2013, CSBL offered over 90 displays. For over 37 years CSBL has entertained over 500,000 guests, who donated over 380,000 food products for Fish to distribute locally.

James thanked their perennial partners at the Linn County Fair and Expo for providing the Cascade Pavilion to use for this exclusive Albany, Oregon tradition. The 30 member board of directors has given countless hours year round for planning, creating, organizing, recruiting, fundraising, fabricating, maintaining, upgrading, designing, and promoting the world-famous CSBL. He asked the board members to stand. The audience applauded. Santa Claus came forward to hold the award. James introduced Don Albright, Wilma Albright, Joyce Moreira, Judy Clark, Melissa Anderson, Tami Chaput, Aaron Chaput, Karen Dallinger, Trisha Pimm, Brian Creecy, Troy Stevens, Faye Creecy, Billy Joe Crazzan, Terry Burke, Charlie Upton, and Jim Beck as Santa Claus. He also thanked 300 local businesses and individual sponsors for goods, services, and financial donations which allow CSBL to remain admission free. There were over 400 volunteers for the 2013 setup, which takes over two weeks for assembly and take down. He said thank you to the HRC for this award, and to the Council and Mayor for recognizing their labor of love and joy at CSBL.

Konopa said it is with great pleasure that the CSBL was given this award. They have provided 36 years of joy and happiness to so many. They use lots of creativity and put love into the art pieces and figurines. It has provided memories for so many, and it is part of our community. It shows our caring and loving community and CSBL's hard work is appreciated.

PROCLAMATION

A Purple Heart City.

Konopa read the proclamation in the agenda packet.

Charles Upton said the Department of the Military is proud to proclaim the City of Albany as the first Purple Heart City in the state of Oregon. Upton is the Department Commander for the state of Oregon Military Order of the Purple Heart. He introduced Robert Haltiner, Department Adjutant; Karen Haltiner, Region 3 President LAMOPH; Charles Beauchamp, Commander of Chapter 305; Frank Strader, Department Chaplain; and Jim Asleson of the YMCA. Upton said they have worked hard planning for this event.

Upton said the Military of the Purple Heart is comprised of men and women who were wounded in combat and received the Purple Heart. The reason for the presentation is to thank the City of Albany and its citizens for outstanding support of the veteran. The Chapter in Medford will be presenting their city with a proclamation. They received four signs that will be put up at entrances to Albany, so folks will know how proud the City of Albany is of its veterans. The signs will be placed near the YMCA; on the guns, coins, and jewelry store by the American Legion; and Power Honda on Highway 20. The fourth location has not been designated.

Upton thanked the Council, the Mayor, and the Linn County Board of Commissioners for letting them honor veterans in this manner.

Konopa said this is a fitting honor since the City of Albany also has one of largest Veteran's Day Parades. It is an honor that Albany is the first city to receive this designation. Konopa thanked Upton for his hard work.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Business from the Public

Jim Clausen, 1403 15<sup>th</sup> Street, said the state of California got rid of Tax Increment Financing (TIF). He said that Lars Larson said a democrat legislator proposed legislation to ban Urban Renewal Districts (URD) in Oregon. Clausen said it seems to him that people are waking up to debacle of URD and TIF. He said it is interesting to watch it unfold as individual states and communities reconsider URD and TIF. He thinks the City of Albany should also reconsider.

Clausen said he thinks the recent vote on police and fire levy has a lot to do with URD and TIF. He said he thinks that is one main reason people voted against the levy.

#### Adoption of Resolutions

Waiving competitive bidding and authorizing the Finance Director to enter into a sole source agreement with Vizant Technologies to review financial payment fees and charges.

Finance Director Stewart Taylor is seeking authorization from the Council to authorize him to enter into an agreement with Vizant Technologies. Vizant is a company that he recently learned about at the Oregon Municipal Finance Officers Association (OMFOA) conference. Vizant has sought specific application for patents and analytical tools to be able to research and analyze the charges that are imposed when credit card payments are received by businesses. Taylor said the City paid \$76,000 in charges to process credit cards last year. The City receives about \$300,000 in credit card payments each month so it is a significant and convenient method of payment for users of City services such as Utility Billing, the pools, Municipal Court, and other services. The charges are interchange charges and other fees for processing.

Taylor said that staff has looked at ways to curtail costs as much as possible and have implemented significant changes already. There may be some additional areas where savings could be achieved that the City is not aware of, and that is the role Vizant would have. Vizant analyzes the charges and the cost to the City is based on the savings resulting from changes that the City implements which were identified by Vizant. In other words, if they can't find a way to save, then there is no cost. The participation rate is 45%, 40% and 30% respectively over three years with an option to renew for an additional year.

Taylor said that on page 7, Exhibit A, in the second paragraph, it would be appropriate to remove "approximately".

Councilor Bill Coburn said there are 14 agencies that have worked with Vizant in the past. He asked if they gave Taylor some level of expectancy for savings. Taylor said it varies. Taylor called other agencies directly, including OMFOA which is a small organization that saved \$9,000 year. Albany's savings would be larger. He estimates that with the City's volume they could save \$10,000 annually.

Councilor Bessie Johnson asked how they make money if the banks set the fees. Taylor said their niche is to look at different components of charges, such as interchange, assessment, and bank fees; and different classifications within those. Vizant has the latitude in the negotiated fees with the bank, and is probably the area where they will find the most opportunity for savings. He explained that even the type of card and how it is presented has levels of fees associated with it. For example, Vizant may suggest the City accept certain payments at certain locations in a certain method for the lowest fee. The City did lower costs by switching treasury services, but he still thinks there is opportunity for additional savings.

Councilor Rich Kellum asked if the City pays them only if the City implements their recommendations. Taylor said yes; if they make a suggestion and the City doesn't implement it, then we do not pay. If the City does implement the recommendation, then Vizant shares in the savings.

Kellum asked, have we dealt with non-banks as accepters of our system? He said there are big differences in what is available now. He gave examples from his personal business. He would support this request if Taylor estimates that staff has done what they can to identify savings. But if not, then he wants to ask some non-banks what they would do it for.

Johnson said she did some research on Vizant. They purchased a company three years ago, and that company got terrible reviews. She asked, do we need someone to do this for us?

Councilor Ray Kopczynski pointed out that this won't cost the City anything until the vendor saves the City money, so he doesn't know what the issue is. Kellum said the issue is that if the City could do it themselves then they would get all the savings rather than sharing it. Kopczynski noted that if staff doesn't have time or the expertise to do the research, then they still won't save anything.

City Manager Wes Hare said that staff could do some more checking, but he suggests that the Council authorize Taylor to enter into the agreement now. If staff's research finds that they can find savings in other ways, they will. Konopa clarified that they could adopt the resolution but not implement the agreement until staff does research first.

MOTION: Kellum moved to approve the resolution and Coburn seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6294.

Approving exemption from the competitive bidding process for the purchase of one low-floor bus through an existing interstate cooperative contract with Stark Area Regional Transit Authority and Gillig, LLC, to issue a notice of intent to award contract with Gillig, LLC, and authorizing the Public Works Director to enter into a contract not to exceed \$370,724 with Gillig, LLC.

Public Works Director Mark Shepard said this action is to authorize the purchase of a low-floor bus through Stark Area Regional Transit Authority and exempting the process from competitive bidding. The purchase is for a 32 passenger bus. With this purchase they can dispose of two backup buses. This bus will be for Albany Transit System (ATS).

Shepard said about a month ago, the Council considered a similar request for a Loop bus. Staff did not present both buses at that time because they were told that there were no more available through that cooperative contract; but the day after the Council meeting staff got a call that there was one more bus available for purchase. Thus, staff is coming to the Council a second time.

Kellum clarified that this is still a competitive bid, but the competitive bid process was already done by the other agency. Shepard agreed. Kellum noticed that the bus has leased tires, which would likely cost more over time. Transit Programs Supervisor Barry Hoffman said the City would not be leasing tires; the price quote actually says that the City is purchasing tires. He explained that it is common to lease tires in the bus industry; but Albany buys its tires and they are serviced by Begg's Tires.

Kopczynski asked if any of this would involve Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) processes. Shepard said not directly; the City gets additional transit funding now because we are MPO, but this bus is for ATS, not the Loop. The Loop has shared funding with Corvallis, Linn-Benton Community College, Oregon State University (OSU), and other grants. This is a separate entity.

Johnson asked what would happen to the bus the City would no longer be using. Since it is still running, it could be purchased and refurbished by a smaller community. Shepard said it will go through the City's surplus property disposal process. Hoffman described the City's disposal process which goes to OSU for auction. First, they will ask internally if other City departments want it. If it does go to auction, the money received goes back to fund new buses.

City Councilor Dick Olsen asked how much they would get for it. Hoffman said about \$1,500 - 2,000.

Councilor Floyd Collins cautioned that the city of Bend acquired someone else's used buses, and they ended up paying dearly for buying used buses.

Shepard said that the staff report stated the funding will come from the 2013-14 budget; however the funds are in reserve and will actually come out of the 2014-15 budget.

MOTION: Collins moved to approve the resolution and Kopczynski seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6295.

#### Adoption of Consent Calendar

- 1) Approving a liquor license application for SCC Restaurants, LLC, d/b/a The Flinn Steakhouse, 222 First Avenue West.

MOTION: Coburn moved to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented. Kellum seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

#### Approval of Purchase

##### Approving purchase of four new police communications work stations.

Police Captain Jeff Hinrichs said this is a request for approval of work stations for the dispatch center. The four work stations are more significant and involved than the average work station because they are used 24-7, and need the extras necessary for 911 dispatch.

Kopczynski asked if the work stations could be used if they get a new police station in the future. Hinrichs said they will be able to reuse them because they are modular.

Johnson commended staff for considering ergonomics for the employees. She visits the police department annually and has seen what their work stations are like. The work space has been bad for a long time and it is about time they got better work stations. She asked about the wall being removed. Hinrichs said that the office next to dispatch was relocated and, when the wall is removed, it will increase the dispatch work space about 33%. Discussion followed.

Coburn asked how long it will take to install the desks. Hinrichs said it will take about 8-12 weeks to build them once the order is placed; then it will take about one week. Dispatch will be moved temporarily into the briefing room.

Konopa said this is necessary and it will give them more space. Staff is very cramped as it is and this will help in the short-term but it won't work for the long-term. She commended police department employees for working in cramped conditions.

MOTION: Johnson moved to approve the purchase of four new police communication stations. Coburn seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

#### Approval of Agreement

Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization; committing the City to participate in the Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization planning process.

Shepard said this action would authorize the City Manager to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The MPO has already signed the agreement. Essentially the IGA says that everyone involved will cooperate and participate in a constructive manner. Page 34-35 of the agenda packet lists the obligations of the parties involved.

MOTION: Kellum moved to authorize the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. Kopczynski seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

#### Appointments

Hospital Facility Authority.

Konopa said this group rarely meets but they still need to have members on it. It needs to be a Budget Committee member.

MOTION: Collins moved to reappoint Sue Folden to the Hospital Facility Authority. Johnson seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

#### Reports

Receiving Code Enforcement Team Second Quarter Report for Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

Management Assistant/Public Information Officer Marilyn Smith said Code Enforcement continues to struggle with vacant foreclosed properties throughout town. She said disinterested lenders are unmoved by our plight, but staff continues to chip away. They expect some movement fairly soon on the house on Pitt Street, which has no address. The new buyers purchased it sight unseen and staff is hoping to convince them to demolish the house and redevelop the property. There are some larger cases moving ahead in the third quarter.

Kopczynski asked if the house on Pitt Street could be used for a training exercise for the fire department. Smith said she did not ask the Fire Chief, but she doubts it would be usable because the second story is falling down into the first story. There are holes in the floors and there are no windows or doors.

Smith said staff is planning for the Big Pickup on Saturday, May 17.

Johnson asked if the house on Shortridge Street is the same one they have been dealing with for some time. Smith said yes; though there has been significant movement in the last few months because the property owner came into some money and has cleaned the property up, and plans to move a manufactured home onto it after a tree is removed. The City of Albany is helping with the tree removal.

ST-13-04, Main Street Rehabilitation, reviewing and approving Licenses to Occupy Public Right-of-Way for 102 Main Street and 217 Main Street.

Shepard is seeking Council approval for two licenses to occupy public Right-of-Way (ROW). The Albany Municipal Code allows the Council to grant encroachments into public ROW for private use through the license to occupy process.

Shepard said the Main Street project includes changes to two properties. For Legacy Ballet, 102 Main Street, this action would allow encroachment into the ROW and the reconfiguration of Main Street between First Avenue and Second Avenue would help traffic flow and improve safety by separating the car and pedestrian movements. Without the reconfiguration and license to occupy, cars would be backing up over the sidewalk. The other property, Security Alarm Corporation, 217 Main Street, would lose two on-street parking spaces as part of the roundabout construction. Due to approach angles of the roundabout, the City could grant use of the ROW to provide onsite parking.

Kellum asked if the owner of Legacy Ballet is happy with this action. Heather Hill, Legacy Ballet, said that the Main Street project will visually improve that part of town. If the street did not become a one-way and the parking lot did not get expanded then the parking lot would be useless.

Konopa asked if SAC is losing parking spaces. Smith said they would be losing two on-street spaces and this will allow them to have two others. Civil Engineer III Nolan Nelson said that SAC is in a similar situation as

Legacy Ballet, in that they have a large drop where the curb disappears and cars can pull over the sidewalk and park; they would lose that with the roundabout. This action would gain back as much parking as possible for SAC. It would be onsite parking.

Johnson asked if SAC's driveway is intact. Nelson said it will become a regular commercial driveway.

MOTION: Kellum moved to approve the Licenses to Occupy Public Right-of-Way for 102 Main Street and 217 Main Street. Councilor Dick Olsen seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Collins asked for an update on the bidding schedule for the Main Street project. Shepard said it will be bid on January 28. The bid was late in season last year and bids came in high, so they were all rejected. The award recommendation will likely come back to the Council in February or early March for approval.

#### BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Kellum said there was an accident on Columbus Street and Santiam Highway about a month ago. He said staff investigated the cost of a light at that location and staff actually recommends lights at several locations. Shepard said the current light is on south side of the street, so it is bright and creates a shadow effect. Shepard had Transportation Systems Analyst Ron Irish look at the location, and the rest of the corridor, and found other intersections with the same problem. If the Council desires, staff can ask Pacific Power & Light what the cost would be for putting lights at the intersections on the north side. Council could then decide if they want to take action. Staff would need to identify funding sources that could be used. The Council concurred to have staff proceed.

Kellum spoke about the issues that the City has had with Linn County Commissioners. He said he asked the Council what those issues are and the responses he got back from the Councilors were that they often work well together, but one sticking point that reoccurs is the Expo Center. Kellum wants to form a committee, a subset of Councilors and Commissioners, to learn about what both agencies do and the costs. After that they may make some recommendations, if warranted, to the Commissioners and the Council. Kellum's goal is to align what they agree on and do something about the perceived disagreements. He wants Council authorization to proceed, and then he would ask the Commissioners so that it is official.

Konopa said that only one Linn County Commissioner could participate due to quorum issues. She suggested having a joint meeting with the County to discuss this topic so that all three Commissioners could participate. There could be more meetings if necessary. Discussion followed.

Kopczynski prefers they form a Task Force.

Olsen asked if there is a problem that the City needs to solve. He said, maybe the Council should leave it alone. Kellum said he has often heard that there is a bone of contention, so they either let it fester or fix it. Olsen thinks that if the County perceives a major problem then they should come up with a definition of it and present it to the Council. Discussion followed.

Konopa said that the only issue they disagree about is that Linn County wants the City to turn over money for the Expo Center. There have been many conversations about it. They put \$100,000 in their budget to be received from the City of Albany, yet they did not ask us for the money, they just told us about it afterwards. Konopa said they met with the County to find out why they put it in their budget without asking the City first. Konopa said that if they want \$100,000 from the City then they should be able to show what it would go to with a Capital Improvement Program (CIP), but they don't have one. The City said to create a CIP, and then come to the City to ask for the money. They have not come back. Konopa said the contention is over money because they want the City to help fund the Expo. The Expo does a good job with very little General Fund subsidy, approximately \$100,000; likewise at the City, we spend more than that on the pools and the Senior Center. They run it very well on little subsidy.

Collins said the problem that he has heard over the years, is that they do not have the money to set aside for replacement. Collins said he sees the Expo Center as a community asset. Because of the activity at the Expo Center, hotel/motel tax is generated for the City. He said he doesn't care what the past agreements were over the years; it is now established as a community asset. To let the building continue to fall into disrepair for lack of a CIP program, is a disservice to the community. He said, if we can help to reinvest, it is the golden goose for tourism. If the Expo goes downhill, they all lose; but if the City helps to reinvest, they all gain. He said he doesn't want to fight past battles and he is unclear what was written or verbalized. To get to a fair playing field they need to recognize that it is a shared asset for the community where there is shared responsibility, of some sort, by both agencies. In the last fiscal year, the City received \$738,000 in transient lodging tax. Not all of it results from activities at the Expo Center but certainly a portion does. The City's policy for Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) allows 3% growth each year, and there was more growth than that, so there are funds to look at. He supports Kellum's approach to form some sort of working group to discuss this.

City Attorney Jim Delapoer cautioned that if both bodies form an advisory group to come back and make recommendations, that is a public body and they will need to be public meetings. If the intent is private discussions with staff and a representative of the agencies, that is different. Kellum said he wants regular people to take notes and minutes because that is how to get the information out in a clear manner. He doesn't mind it being an open meeting; he just wants it to be easy. His intent is not to find a funding source, rather he wants to find out what the issues are.

Johnson said she is on the Linn County Fair Board Commission. They do have problems with not being able to fix things. She knows there is a question about how the TLT was divided and it remains an issue. She agrees that the Expo Center is not just a county facility; it helps the City too. She agrees with Collins that it is not important what happened in the past; she thinks they need to find out what needs to be done now.

Konopa suggested they have both full bodies present so that everyone can participate. Discussion followed.

Konopa pointed out that there is no city in the state of Oregon that gives an expo center a portion of their TLT. Most expo centers set up their own TLT revenue authority.

Konopa asked if the Council wants to have a task force or to have a joint meeting with the full bodies.

Olsen thinks that if the County believes there is a problem, then they need to define what the problem is and present it to the Council. He thinks the City should wait until they ask for help rather than interjecting into their business.

MOTION: Kellum moved to form a committee of three Councilors in conjunction with Linn County Commissioners to discuss the problems. Johnson seconded the motion.

Coburn asked Kellum if he has information that the rest of the Councilors do not have. He agrees with Olsen that if there is a problem, the County can simply come to the Council and present it. He thinks it is up to them to approach the City for help. Discussion followed.

Kellum said he talked with the Commissioners and they are willing to participate. Olsen said he thinks it is up to the City Manager or the Mayor to bring this up with the County, not an individual Councilor.

VOTE: A vote was taken on the motion and it passed 5-1, with Olsen voting no.

Konopa asked Kellum who he wants to be on the committee. Kellum doesn't know that yet; he needs to contact the County to make sure they are on the same page. Then he will make recommendations. Johnson offered to be on the committee.

Konopa suggested having Hare contact the County because the protocol is to have the Council formally approve a Council member to be a liaison. Kellum agreed to have Hare contact the County.

Hare will contact Linn County Administrator Ralph Wyatt and figure out how to have a joint committee meet in a practical way, and he will come back to the Council.

Delapoer cautioned that the committee should contain just three Councilors instead of four.

Kopczynski asked for an update on the Lowe's project. Hare said there is no new news. The last news was that they had some concerns about being able to build in 2014, but they are obligated to do so and if they do not there are provisions for liquidated damages. Hare said he has not heard any indication that they will not be building in 2014.

Collins said there has been discussion over the last few years about making some form of System Development Charges (SDCs) portable. If someone tears down a four-plex they get credit for SDCs for all four units. If they put up a duplex in its place, they get to use two of the SDC credits but the other two credits disappear. That means that the City gains capacity for street, water, or sewer. A local developer raised this issue about 3-4 years ago. Collins suggests that rather than disappear, the unused credits could be bankable or negotiable. The Council could specify that the credits could be used for infill, or as an arm of economic development. For example, 100 credits could be used as an economic development incentive to get a business to Albany, with no money from our pockets. He wants to review this as a policy question within the next six months.

Shepard said it can be reviewed. He is not aware of portability being used other places and he is not sure if there are legal issues, but they could look into it. It would require a change in SDC methodology.

Collins said there is a potential for economic development, and they could prioritize infill projects. Discussion followed.

Hare said staff will look into it and come back to a Work Session.

Johnson said there are Council liaisons to many groups, but they don't report back to the rest of the Council. She thinks it is important that the Council liaisons give a short report. Discussion followed.

Kellum suggested if there is something significant that took place, the Councilors should share. Konopa pointed out that some of the meetings are not public meetings so the liaison would not be able to share (such as Albany-Millersburg Economic Development, Helping Hands, and Council of Governments.) There are also minutes available for public meetings.

Hare said other cities put those types of reports on the City Council agenda and if someone wants to do that in Albany they could do so. Konopa said that Business from the Council is also on every Council agenda.

Albany City Council Regular Session  
January 22, 2014

There was discussion about the Feb 10, 2014, Work Session.

Hare recognized Smith for her 15 years of extraordinary service to the City of Albany. Konopa said Smith is irreplaceable, and Hare agreed.

NEXT MEETING DATE:       Work Session February 10, 2014  
                                  Regular Session February 12, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Mary A. Dibble, MMC  
City Clerk

Stewart Taylor  
Finance Director