

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
Wednesday, June 25, 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 invited Commander Charles Upton of the Military Order of the Purple Heart to lead the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

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

Councilors absent: Councilor Floyd Collins was excused.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission – Bike Friendly City designation.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission Chair Steve Pensinger presented Konopa with the League of American Bicyclist's designating Albany as a Bronze bicycle-friendly community.

Pensinger also showed a road sign that designates Albany as a bicycle-friendly community.

Pensinger explained how it is determined that a town is a bicycle friendly community. Five areas are looked at:

1. Engineering (extending bike lanes; for example in the future there may be a bike lane from Albany to Corvallis, and another out Riverside Drive connecting with Highway 34 out to Peoria.)
2. Education (5th Graders do bike safety programs every year)
3. Encouragement (a suggestion is to have the Mayor lead a community ride.)
4. Enforcement (having a good connection with law enforcement)
5. Evaluation and planning: (the Commission meets monthly and makes plans)

City Manager Wes Hare thanked the Commission for their many volunteer hours and the great work they do organizing events. They have a great influence in the community that few people see.

Konopa appreciates what the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory does for the community.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Funding Requests

Waiving fees of sign installation for the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Upton showed a sign that was awarded to the City by the Military of the Order of the Purple Heart. There are four signs total. He asked that they waive the permit fees of \$150 per sign. They are a small organization and don't have the money. Councilors Rich Kellum, Ray Kopczynski, Dick Olsen, and Bill Coburn volunteered to pay the fees for installation.

Linn-Benton Community College/Albany Industry request for Economic Development Funds.

Economic Development & Urban Renewal Director Kate Porsche said she would make a few points and then turn the agenda item over to Jim Merryman. Porsche said the staff memo outlines the request from Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) and partner industries in Albany. This is a conversation that has been going on for years; Porsche has been a part of the conversation over the last few months. This is an industry-driven proposal with community-wide benefit. It seeks to solve what local industries say is the number one barrier to growth in Albany; lack of a trained and skilled workforce. They are looking for a solution that would serve multiple industries and the community. Porsche said this item will also be discussed at the July 7, 2014, Work Session, so Councilors could let her know what their questions are so staff can be prepared for that meeting.

Porsche said there are letters of support in the packet and also two letters on dais: ATI Specialty Alloys and Components (see agenda file) and Samaritan Health Services (see agenda file).

Jim Merryman, 4714 Springhill Drive, thanked the Council for considering their request to give economic development funds to LBCC to meet the needs of the citizens and businesses of Albany. He is the President of Oregon Freeze Dry, on the Board of LBCC, and tonight is speaking on behalf of the manufacturing and health care businesses in Albany and the immediate surrounding area. Several representatives of the businesses are present in the audience and in support of the funding request: Emerson Smoker, Riteway Electric; Scott Pierson, Woodcastle; Mike Martin, Security Alarm Corporation; Rick Palmer, Selmet; Dustin Harrington, Selmet; David Becker, LBCC; Bruce Wilmont, ATI facilities; Matt Smith, L & I Fabrication; Guy DeLude, Viper Northwest; John Damon, Oregon Freeze Dry; David Treavies, Good Samaritan Hospital – Albany; John Pascone, Albany-Millersburg Economic Development Corporation; and Janet Steele, Albany Chamber of Commerce (ACC).

Merryman said as a team, they have been working on multiple workforce initiatives linked together. It is important to understand the larger picture and how this request works into it. Over a year ago they started working with ACC and business leaders to discuss why they can't hire more people from the local area. All the businesses had the same story; they have open positions and want to expand but an employable local workforce does not exist, yet there are graduating high school and LBCC graduates every year and high unemployment. The conclusion is that they are not educating people in the certain areas, disciplines, and skill sets that local businesses need. They were not working together as a team to create a pathway from high school to a job in a local business. They developed a mission, vision, and strategy. They involved K-12 schools, LBCC, the employment division, and more businesses into their solutions. They have all been working as a team since the first meeting.

Merryman said they are focusing on three initiatives: a study or interview by LBCC, called a datum, with many local businesses to understand the common core requirements. Whether they were in the metals, food, or healthcare industry, they found that they still require similar skills for entry level positions; and more specialized skills depending on the industry. The datum research led to changes to LBCC programs and classes, making sure they are in sync with business requirements. This helps high school and LBCC graduates and the rest of the currently unemployed citizens in Albany. It is hard to get the word out that these classes exist and that LBCC offers a pathway to employment.

Merryman said the second initiative is to provide tours of local businesses. Phase 1 involved high school teachers, counselors, and students. They were surprised and impressed with the businesses and the diversity of the jobs available. Phase 2 could be tours with the employment division to educate them on what jobs are available, what skills are required, and how to make use of the LBCC pathway to jobs.

Merryman said the third initiative is understanding that they need to market jobs to teachers, students, parents, and citizens to get the word out that good paying, rewarding jobs exist right here and not all of them require a four year college degree; in fact, the vast majority do not. This marketing initiative has begun. It has seen a three-year commitment by industries to fund a marketing budget and a new position at ACC. The new position will start in September. Local businesses have stepped up to fund the position and the marketing.

Merryman said all of these initiatives will help the City and the community to sell and market itself to new and potential businesses. He said, we will have a workforce that is trained in the entry level skills that are needed and can be further trained in the higher level skills because the City, AMEDC, the business community, K-12 schools, and LBCC are in sync with changing requirements in workforce.

Merryman suggests that the ACC, AMEDC, and the City work with local businesses to sell Albany to potential companies. He said local business owners can answer questions like, why are we here? Why do we stay? Why do local companies expand here? And why should they join us? Merryman said up to this point local businesses have helped to fund the research, marketing, and creation of the new programs at LBCC, such as the new mechatronics program. It has not been a little funding; it has been a lot. Some offer free college education as part of their benefits program for employees to get degrees and certificates in special skills.

Merryman said that LBCC will have bond measure on the November ballot. They want to keep it at the same tax level as the one due to expire in 2016. The bond items are driven by the citizens and businesses of Linn and Benton Counties. They told LBCC what they were requiring and LBCC turned that into specific items and costs to meet community needs. In turn, it created the foundation for the bond. The request exceeded the approved funding level so some choices had to be made and some decisions for cuts. The bond will cover all the major requests from Linn and Benton County citizens and businesses. Merryman said, for the local Albany businesses, we need some space upgrades to older buildings and specific equipment at LBCC to allow the college to further educate its students in the skill sets they have identified as necessary for our employees. LBCC was given the task to listen to what Albany businesses wanted as an outcome and determine what it would take to meet those needs. This process created the bond and they employed the same technique for this proposal. They also met with Tom Nelson, Corvallis Benton County Economic Development, and they fully understand and endorse the requests but they have no funds that can be allocated to the effort.

In summary, Merryman said this request will: benefit Albany businesses in manufacturing and healthcare; help create a pathway for a workforce that is employable with skill sets that they all need for their current job openings and future expansions; give local citizens have an opportunity to get a job here; and create a marketing sales pitch opportunity for potential businesses which will bring more jobs to Albany.

Councilor Rich Kellum said he owns a welding supply company, and some of these people are his customers. He said, tonight I am the Councilor for Ward III. As he looks at the list of funding requests, he sees a real need and gave some examples. But he pointed out that Wah Chang and Selmet are outside of Albany. There are some great advantages for the area, but he doesn't see all of them paying for it. The question is, why is it right that Albany pays for the area rather than the area paying for the area?

Kellum said he helped to start welding standards which are now part of industry standards. He wants to know what standard all these things are being taught to; he gave some examples. He said in looking at the list it seems to him that the costs listed are just guesses; he wants to know how the costs were arrived at. He also wants to know what equipment this pays for. Training can be complicated; he wonders how the system will be managed.

Merryman said they can provide those answers at the Work Session and get into the detail Kellum is looking for. Konopa suggested the Councilors get their questions to staff ahead of time so they can be addressed at the Work Session.

Councilor Bessie Johnson thinks it is an excellent idea. There has been a lot of work put into it already. Not everyone is fit for college or wants to attend, and they need a workforce here. They need to move forward with this program. She asked if it will be advertised in the high schools. Merryman said yes, this funding request is for LBCC to get what the businesses have requested but they are also working with K-12 schools to have classes that would feed into LBCC. Johnson said that many students going through school likely do not realize there are good paying jobs right here. She asked, will we quarrel about Selmet and Wah Change being outside the City limits? She said, probably; but sometimes you have to bite the bullet and do it. They have the money in the economic development fund and this is what the people said they want the money to be used for. She fully supports it; she thinks it has been needed for a long time. She said, it is time Albany does something.

Councilor Bill Coburn said he looks forward to the Work Session. Coburn said he heard Merryman say that there are a lot of businesses trying to hire but not finding candidates with basic skills; but when he looks at Packages A, B, and C in the agenda packet, they are not basic skills; they are specialized training programs. He gave an example of an electrician apprentice. He is curious to hear more about what they consider basic skills for those willing to work versus specialized training for specialized skills.

Konopa thanked the group for working together collaboratively to fill this gap in the community.

This item will come to the July 7, 2014, Work Session.

Public Hearings

2013-2014 Supplemental Budget.

Finance Director Stewart Taylor described the types of changes included in the Supplemental Budget. This is brought in June each year to make the budget conform with the decisions that were made throughout the year by the City Council.

Taylor said there are generally three categories: changes reflected in the 2015 Adopted Budget such as moving the housing program from the General Fund to the Grants Fund; moving the Ambulance Fund to the Fire Emergency Services Program in the General Fund; closing the HARP budget in the current FY since the program is complete; and closing the Bancroft Debt Service program. The second area is for expenditures previously approved by the City Council, such as the two elections, one to modify an initiative petition and to consider a public safety facility bond, as well as costs that were incurred for bond counsel and advisory services. The third area is for actual revenues that exceed estimates, such as building permits which exceeded expectations due to new growth with related surcharges paid to the state.

City Manager Wes Hare said that sometimes we think a Supplemental Budget is to deal with issues resulting from spending more money, but in some cases such as the example Taylor just gave, it was due to much higher revenue in the Building Division so they made higher payments to the state. He said, this is a "good" problem to have; it shows that people are investing in the community. In order to be in conformance with Oregon budget law they do a Supplemental Budget.

Open: Konopa opened the public hearing at 7:53 p.m.

Public hearing signup sheet was blank (see agenda file).

Konopa asked if anyone in the audience wanted to speak. There were none.

Close: Konopa closed the public hearing at 7:53 p.m.

MOTION: Coburn moved to adopt the resolution and Kellum seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6333.

Adjustments to System Development Charges and connection charges.

Public Works Director Mark Shepard said these are annual adjustments based on costs that are indexed to the *Engineering News Record*. The Albany Municipal Code says the increases are made automatically; however, it has been Council's tradition to hold a public hearing.

Shepard said the one exception to the index increase is the Transportation Systems Development Charges (TSDC), which has two increases being proposed; the index increase and also a ramp increase. When the new Transportation System Plan was implemented a few years ago, rather than implement the full fee all at once the Council chose to look at economic indicators and as long as the indicators were positive they would implement the ramp increase over five years. This is the fourth year of the ramp process.

Konopa said all the public hearings will be opened at the same time.

Open: Konopa opened the public hearings at 7:56 p.m.

Public hearing signup sheet was blank (see agenda file).

Konopa asked if anyone in the audience wanted to speak. There were none.

Closed: Konopa closed the public hearings at 7:56 p.m.

- a) Revising water system development charges, reaffirming an appeal fee, and repealing Resolution No. 6243.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Olsen seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6334.

- b) Revising transportation system development charges for impacts to the Albany Transportation System, reaffirming the appeal fee, and repealing Resolution No. 6244.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Olsen seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6335.

- c) Revising sewer system development charges for connection to the public sanitary sewer system, reaffirming an appeal fee, and repealing Resolution No. 6245.

MOTION: Olsen moved to adopt the resolution and Kopczynski seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6336.

- d) Revising connection charges for street connections to improved city streets of unassessed properties in the city of Albany and repealing Resolution No. 6246.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Olsen seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6337.

- e) Revising connection charges for sewer connections of unassessed properties in the city of Albany and repealing Resolution No. 6247.

MOTION: Olsen moved to adopt the resolution and Kopczynski seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6338.

- f) Revising connection charges for water connections of unassessed properties in the city of Albany and repealing Resolution No. 6248.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Olsen seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6339.

- g) Revising connection charges for storm connections of unassessed properties in the city of Albany and repealing Resolution No. 6249.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Olsen seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6340.

- h) Revising in-lieu-of assessment charges for the North Albany sanitary sewer basin and repealing Resolution No. 6250.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Olsen seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6341.

- i) Revising special connection charges for a portion of the Columbus Street sanitary sewer lift station project costs, which are allocated to unassessed properties within the lift station service area, and repealing Resolution No. 6251.

MOTION: Olsen moved to adopt the resolution and Kopczynski seconded it.

Coburn asked staff to explain this item. Shepard said the lift station was designed to serve a larger area than the existing development needed, so a district was formed to recapture the costs; it is a hybrid between a System Development Charge (SDC) and a Local Improvement District (LID). Developers will pay this fee for over-sizing when developing in this boundary.

VOTE: A vote was taken on the motion to adopt the resolution and it passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6342.

- j) Revising the improvement assurance charges for the non-oversized portion of future arterial and collector street improvements for streets located within the North Albany area and repealing Resolution No. 6252.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Kellum seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6343.

Business from the Public

Tom Cordier, 2240 Park Terrace NW, is speaking to the Public Safety Facilities Review Committee (PSFRC) report on page 127 of the Council agenda packet. He said that he and Skeet Aramsith are submitting a minority report. They support the PSFRC recommendation in that it should be done, but in their view it does not go far enough. That is the piece he wants to talk about tonight.

Cordier read the report and submitted it to the Council (see agenda file).

Cordier said that at a June 10 meeting, Delapoer expressed concern about the legality of and ethical concerns surrounding the use of a substantial amount of urban renewal funds for the Police and Fire facilities. Cordier thinks that Delapoer's testimony swayed the group to only consider a minor amendment, and in Cordier's opinion wiped out Launer's comments.

Cordier referred to a table of CARA projects and explained that he and Arasmith are proposing that they substitute some of the projects that are public in the table. He said that 33 of the 51 projects propose to invest money in public projects, not partnerships or restoring a house or building. He said, \$27 million of \$34.8 million, or 64%, are public projects. He said, the idea that we are violating the intent of CARA is not accurate.

Cordier does not think that taking the issue to the voters is a burden and explained that according to a recent vote the public said they want to be involved in urban renewal decisions. He asked the Council to consider not automatically throwing out a major amendment and to consider substituting projects instead. He thinks the public will embrace the idea of building the facilities if they understand that their taxes will not increase.

To Cordier's comments, Delapoer said that the ethical concerns were raised by Sherriff Burrigh, who has over the years taught ethical decision-making classes. He articulated that his concern was that he didn't think it was ethical to expect urban renewal to pay for facilities that are not going to generate Tax Increment Financing revenue. Delapoer said that Burrigh said he had been a critic of urban renewal in the past and was concerned that it would be unethical for him to support a larger taking of urban renewal funds now, just because it benefits law enforcement, which he supports. Delapoer said it was Burrigh's concern, not his.

Delapoer cautioned that when the testimony from others is recounted, from him or Launer or anyone else, the listener is not a blank page. He said, we all we hear things based on our own personal belief set. That is one of the reasons why in court, hearsay is not accepted, because it is often mistaken. Delapoer said the meeting in question was four hours long, all views were fully aired. The PSFRC recommendations were considered and there was a 10-2 vote for the recommendation.

Cordier agreed with Delapoer's comments, but he said the written record isn't hearsay; Launer's written transcript is in the record. Hare clarified that they were not verbatim minutes.

Delapoer said he wasn't disagreeing with the substance of what Launer said at that meeting; he was saying that there were ways to spend more money that in his judgment would require an amendment and there were certain vulnerabilities. What Launer spoke to was that they can do those things, if they can make certain findings and establish certain facts. He said, it is not a disagreement on the law, but how you ask the question determines the answer you get.

First Reading of Ordinance

Authorizing the Parks & Recreation Director to designate areas wherein dogs may be allowed off-leash.

Parks & Recreation Director Ed Hodney said the current AMC doesn't permit dogs to be in parks anywhere without leash. This proposed ordinance would amend AMC Chapter 6.

Kopczynski asked if this is in conjunction with the new dog park. Hodney said there is a fenced dog park that is being built at Timber-Linn Park, north of the lake, across from the parking lot of the Expo Center. The concept of a dog park also includes unfenced spaces, such as North Albany Park which is in Benton County. They seem amenable to establishing an unfenced, off leash dog area in their park as well. Hodney said they haven't made those choices yet; they have focused their energy on establishing the location and design of the fenced space at Timber-Linn Park.

Regarding the dog park and the Expo Center, Kellum pointed out that the City and Linn County need to communicate better. Hodney agreed that communication can always be improved, and he thinks it will be increasingly necessary to communicate with the Expo Center. Kellum said they are unhappy that they didn't know about the dog park. Hodney explained that the space they traditionally used in the past is now being used for the dog park, and not everyone knew about it. Discussion followed about communication between the City and the Expo Center.

Hodney said the dog park is roughly 2 acres in a space that was 12 acres, so it still leaves 10 acres of open space, which should fit 500 RVs; so he doesn't think the City has harmed the Expo Center events that are being discussed. That said, Hodney will sit down with the Expo Center to discuss how to accommodate the motor coach events. Hodney noted that it would also be helpful for the Expo Center to tell us when they are planning events that will be on City property.

Olsen asked if enforcement will be aggressive for those people who walk their dogs instead of using the dog park. Hodney said that Police Lieutenant Casey Dorland has been part of the dog park design and rule making committee and has worked with more than 70 citizens on this project. Hodney said Dorland advised that if the City is going to have a dog park and invite dogs to be off leash in a designed space, then they need a rule change in the AMC, and that was the impetus for the ordinance. The focus will be if the dogs are inside the fence or outside the fence when it comes to enforcement.

Konopa said it will be a great added amenity for the dog shows at the Expo Center. She said the meeting about the dog park was written about in the *Democrat-Herald*. Hodney said it was a very public process but it is possible that some didn't see it advertised and they can try to be better.

To Olsen's concern, Hare said they are not looking to go out and find people who are violating the ordinance, but they will enforce on a complaint basis. There have been people asking for an off-leash dog park for awhile, and in fact now small dog parks are becoming popular. Hodney said they have an area in the park for small dogs.

Delapoer suggested an amendment to the ordinance, by adding "...or approve..." to the first sentence and "...or approved..." to the second sentence. This new language would allow a Benton County Park that is in the City limits to be included in the terms of the ordinance. He said the modification is included in the title he is about to read.

Delapoer read the ordinance for the first time in title only.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to have to City Attorney read the ordinance for the second time in title only. Johnson seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Delapoer read the ordinance for the second time in title only.

MOTION: Johnson moved to adopt the ordinance and Kopczynski seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Ordinance No. 5836.

Adoption of Resolutions

Repealing Resolution No. 6231 and revising fees and charges for Parks & Recreation services for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

Hodney said staff asks the Council to adopt a new fee schedule at the end of each FY. Exhibit A in the agenda packet shows the increased fees highlighted in yellow. The City has invested a lot in sports fields and it is time to catch up with the market.

On page 84, Kopczynski asked if Kindergarten programs have been eliminated. Hodney said they are not being taught; other classes have been modified to take up the slack. Konopa asked if it is because GAPS goes all day long. Hodney said that is part of it but also because they have seen age shifts in the population so they are folding those kids into other programs.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Kellum seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6344.

Revising fees for Development Code provisions and repealing Resolution No. 6232.

Shepard said this item was presented at the June 8 Work Session. It is for a two percent increase in Planning fees. They are proposing one new fee for conditional uses for home-based business, reinstatement of the code amendment fee, and dropping the temporary sign permit fee.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Kellum seconded it. The motion passed 4-1 with Kellum voting no and was designated Resolution No. 6345.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

- 1) Approval of Minutes
 - a) April 9, 2014, City Council Regular Session.
 - b) May 12, 2014, City Council Work Session.
- 2) Approving annual liquor license renewals.
- 3) Amending parking restrictions within that are of Downtown Albany where parking on public parking lots and streets is enforced and managed by the Albany Downtown Association. RES. NO. 6346
- 4) Granting an access easement to Michael S. Todd. RES. NO. NA

Konopa asked for item 1) a) to be removed for discussion.

Coburn asked for item 4) to be removed for discussion.

MOTION: Coburn moved to adopt the Consent Calendar with items 1) a) and item 4) removed for discussion. Kopczynski seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Olsen asked if that on page 3 of the April 9, 2014 minutes, first paragraph, second sentence, to make the following change: "He respects his physicians so he asked ~~him~~ **them** what ~~he~~ **they** thought of the moratorium and **both** his physicians said ~~he was~~ **they were** against it."

Konopa asked that on page 5 of the minutes, second paragraph, third sentence, to make the following change: "She said she heard a high-pitched sound from the new machinery, so the police department used a decibel meter and found that it was ~~only~~ **over** 55 decibels."

MOTION: Olsen moved to approve item 1) a) with the corrections to pages 3 and 5. Coburn seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Coburn asked the history behind item 4); he asked who would maintain it. Shepard said the easement will provide access over City property to the 7-11 as part of the roundabout improvement. The City will make the improvements, but he is not sure what the ongoing agreement was made for the ongoing maintenance. Coburn thinks it should become the property owner's responsibility to maintain it. Discussion followed about parking in the project area.

Coburn doesn't have a problem with this action but he would like to see an overlay of this with the roundabout. The Council asked that this item be deferred until staff can get more information.

Award of Bid

WL-14-06, Powers Avenue, Oak Grove Drive East Water Line.

Shepard said this is funded through the North Albany Water Capital Fund. There is a surcharge that customers outside the City limits pay on their bills. As revenue is built up they use it for waterlines that are outside City limits. They are paying on their own capital improvements. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to award the contract in the amount of \$195,110 to Pacific Excavation Inc. Olsen seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Appointments

Appointing Debbie Berg to the Human Relations Commission.

Kopczynski noted that this appointment only goes to the end of the year.

Coburn noticed the application listed interest in the Parks & Recreation Commission so he wondered if they are interested in the Human Relations Commission (HRC). Kopczynski said he confirmed that the applicant wants to get involved and wants to be on the HRC.

MOTION: Olsen moved appoint Debbie Berg to the Human Relations Commission passed 5-0.

Appointing Linsey Godwin to Landmarks Advisory Commission.

Konopa said she talked to this applicant, who is a Planner with Benton County, so this would be a good fit.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to appoint Linsey Godwin to the Landmarks Advisory Commission passed 5-0.

Report

Public Safety Facilities Review Committee update and funding recommendation.

Konopa said that Councilor Floyd Collins wants the Council to wait to discuss this item until a Work Session.

Hare said this is for the Council to decide what to do with the recommendations that was made by motion of the PSFRC with a 10-2 vote. Hare said ultimately it is not a recommendation that requires action at this point. The PSFRC has agreed there is a need for the facilities. The question the Council will ultimately have to answer is how to fund the facilities, but there is not a need to take action tonight.

Olsen asked if decisions will be made piecemeal. Hare said there have been some decisions, like the Request for Qualifications, that was made already but other decisions, like funding, can't be made yet because it isn't time to do that.

Coburn pointed out a procedure item. In his opinion, any decision to use CARA funds on a police or fire facility should be discussed first by the CARA Board and then the ARA Board. He wonders what the Council's involvement is. Hare said that would happen before any funds are used. This recommendation does not preclude that process. Konopa agreed that that is the right path.

Public Information Officer/Management Assistant Marilyn Smith located the notes from the meeting in question and read them to the Council. Hare said there were no unanimous decisions made.

Johnson asked if a minor change to the urban renewal plan requires a vote. Hare said that would not require a vote of the people. What the Council has received is a recommendation by the PSFRC to do a minor amendment to the plan. The Council can do what they want with that recommendation when they get to the bigger issue of how to fund the facilities.

This item will be discussed further at a Work Session.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Kellum said he and Linn County Commission Will Tucker met at the Oregon Youth Authority. He encouraged folks to go visit the OYA. Konopa said she visited the girl's facility for graduation and her heart went out to them. They have a comfort zone there; they build a family and have a lot of friends. The environment is beneficial for them and their future. The staff is caring so when girls get out they have a future. Kellum said he was the most impressed by the partnerships with local food resources and schools. Their focus is on attitude. Konopa said the OYA has been a good partner with Parks & Recreation. They did a lot of plantings for the City and worked on the garden area. It is a good partnership.

Kopczynski said there are four who volunteered to pay for sign fees; he asked Shepard the process for payment. Shepard said the fee may decrease based on where the signs are located; he will let them know.

Olsen said several years ago a friend commented on nice shop equipment that the school district was getting rid of because money was an issue because they moving from equipment to book learning. He thought it was a shame. When he was in high school he looked forward to metal shop but all they had was wood shop. He is supportive of LBCC training folks to do local jobs which can be technical jobs. He also appreciates Kellum's comment about Albany paying for a program that Millersburg would benefit from. He spoke about LBCC levying taxes over both counties for a source of funding.

Olsen said the federal government is getting into supervision of education and he thinks it is misguided. He thinks the United State's education system is superior to the European system because it is geared toward most students being able to absorb what is being presented in K-12. Discussion followed.

Hare expressed thanks and story from Deputy District Attorney for their apprehension of a suspect of some serious crimes. It involved excellent work on the part of Albany Police Department detectives. They deserve credit for their effort.

Shepard said that the Talking Water Gardens will have some construction taking place at its entrance.

Shepard said a local homebuilder has submitted a request for a partition on Bloom Lane, where there may be a potential LID. There will need to be a decision made as part of the LID discussion.

Konopa said that on July 3, the River Rhythms will include a fireworks show.

Albany City Council Regular Session
June 25, 2014

NEXT MEETING DATE: Work Session July 7, 2014
 Regular Session July 9, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Mary A. Dibble, MMC
City Clerk

Stewart Taylor
Finance Director