

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
Wednesday, March 25, 2015
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.

PROCLAMATIONS

Parkinson's Awareness Month.

Konopa read the Parkinson's Awareness Month proclamation as outlined in the agenda packet.

Konopa said she attended a funeral today for an active community member who had Parkinson's. To see how she was affected over the last few years by this disease was very sad.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Week.

Konopa said that Albany Fitwalkers President Don Reed had planned to be at the meeting but was unable to attend.

Konopa read the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Week Proclamation as outlined in the agenda packet.

Konopa said that Lolly Gibbs, former Fitwalkers President, loved the trails and paths throughout Albany.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Communication

Accepting Oscar Hult's resignation from the Landmarks Advisory Commission.

Konopa is sad to see Oscar Hult resign.

MOTION: Councilor Floyd Collins moved to accept Oscar Hult's resignation and send a thank you letter. Councilor Rich Kellum seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Business from the Public

Bill Root, 2634 Valley View Drive, said he read the article in the *Albany Democrat-Herald* that Republic Services may start picking up yard debris and kitchen waste weekly. He encouraged the Council to support that. It is done in Corvallis and Lebanon already. Even though they will increase the bill by \$3 per month, they are by far the least expensive utility he has. Root gave some examples. He thinks the Council should support the weekly pick up.

Adoption of Resolutions

Approving an extended property tax abatement agreement between the City of Albany, a cosponsor of the South Santiam Enterprise Zone, and ATI/Pacific Cast Technologies, Inc.

Albany-Millersburg Economic Development (AMEDC) President John Pascone was available for questions. There were none.

MOTION: Kellum moved to adopt the resolution and Councilor Ray Kopczynski seconded it.

Collins noted that 39 new positions are being added to the community. The Council is often criticized for not finding new jobs. Discussion followed.

VOTE: A vote was taken on the motion and it passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6399.

Approving the updated physical force plan for Linn County.

Captain Jeff Hinrichs was in attendance for questions. There were no questions.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution and Kellum seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6400.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

- 1) Approval of Minutes
 - a) January 28, 2015, City Council Regular Session.
- 2) Authorizing the Parks & Recreation Department to apply for a boating facility grant from the Oregon State Marine Board for the proposed replacement of the Bowman Park restroom building and delegating authority to the Parks & Recreation Director to sign the application.

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

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Councilor Dick Olsen noted that Hasso Hering's blog received a lot of comments about the proposed garbage pickup. He wonders if \$3 is steep for picking up food waste. Konopa said the *Albany Democrat-Herald* had a lot of negative comments, although some were positive. Councilor Bessie Johnson said Republic Services gets an automatic raise each year just for presenting some paperwork.

Collins asked, is the plan to compost the yard debris and food waste together? The response was yes. Collins said they already have issues with foreign material getting into the compost. He plans to talk to Republic so he can understand the process better.

Kellum said he heard from folks that the City should not do it, and he tends to agree.

Konopa thanked Hering for doing an article on Hector Macpherson. There was also an article in the *Albany Democrat-Herald*. Macpherson was the founding father of Oregon's land use laws; she can't imagine what the Willamette Valley would look like without those laws.

City Manager Wes Hare asked the Council how staff should handle Republic's request. Coburn noted that two Councilors were absent for the Work Session so they may want the information.

Kopczynski said it appears the service would be all or nothing, in that the whole City would have to participate. There is no way to opt out; that is his concern. He wonders if they could just pick up from those who wanted to participate. Hare said no, because it would not cover their additional costs to do it that way.

Coburn said that personally, he would not benefit from the service. If someone wants a second can, they could get one. On the surface, it seems that those who don't want the service would be subsidizing those that do. He suggested folks that want that type of service could get a second can. Olsen said the problem is that they don't want to have food waste sitting for two weeks. Discussion followed.

Hare asked if the Council would like to discuss this topic further or if staff should send a letter to say they are not interested. Collins does not need more time. Olsen suggested putting an article in *City Bridges* to solicit feedback. Konopa said Republic did a survey already which showed support, though she is not sure that they pointed out the cost. Coburn said he also read those comments and there were a lot of people against the idea.

The Council directed staff to send a letter to Republic Services declining new weekly yard debris service.

Konopa noted the Capital Improvement Program meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2015.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Work Session: April 6, 2015
 Regular Session: April 8, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Mary A. Dibble, MMC
City Clerk

Wes Hare
City Manager