

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Municipal Court Room
Monday, November 2, 2015
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 Rich Kellum, Bill Coburn, Ray Kopczynski, Dick Olsen, Bessie Johnson, and Floyd Collins.

Councilors absent: None.

Councilor Floyd Collins arrived at 4:05 p.m..

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

OSU EXTENSION BOND MEASURE

Derek Godwin, Regional Administrator of Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service for the mid-Willamette Valley, gave his address as 2630 Summer Street SE, Salem, 97302. He distributed several handouts (see agenda file). He said Extension in Oregon began as a partnership with county funding to bring OSU faculty into the counties. The Extension Service went national in 1914, with state and federal funding matches of county dollars. State and federal funds now make up about 80% of funding, going mostly to faculty. County funds pay for offices and support staff, rent, utilities, and travel. State and federal funding has not kept up with expenses. In the last decade, Extension has lost about 20% of faculty around the state, and more than that in the Willamette Valley. Most of Oregon's counties have created special service districts for Extension and 4H. Linn County established a service district in 2008. Local districts give counties local control of priorities.

Godwin said Benton County Commissioners are "very supportive" of creating an Extension service district in Benton County. The next step is to ask each city in the county to pass a resolution stating that they would be part of such a district. An amended copy of the resolution in the agenda packet was on the dais (see agenda file).

Maggie Livesay, 4H Youth Development Agent and County Leader for OSU Extension, Benton County, gave her address as 7580 NW Mountain View Drive, Corvallis, 97330. She described Extension and 4H in Benton County. They currently have about 480 adult volunteers. Benton County has about six hundred students involved in 4H year-round, and over a thousand students in school enrichment programs. Extension faculty is spread thin. The proposed service district would provide stable funding for program assistants to manage volunteers. Livesay described participation in some of the programs provided to North Albany residents. Several of the programs are grant-funded, and would benefit from the stable funding of a service district.

Godwin called attention to his handout on compression (see agenda file), which came from Benton County's budget analyst. The proposed service district rate of eight cents per \$1,000 would lose about \$18,600 to compression.

Councilor Bill Coburn asked why the City of Corvallis does not appear on the list of jurisdictions on the compression handout. Godwin said the City of Corvallis is not under compression. Coburn noticed that the change in compression is similar in the City of Albany and in Benton County. Konopa said that would be the unincorporated area of Benton County, which is smaller than Linn County.

Councilor Dick Olsen asked if Corvallis is up against their taxable limit. Godwin said Corvallis has a \$3.97 gap. He said that compression loss does not come from a city's general fund. City Manager Wes Hare explained that compression occurs on a property-to-property basis. A taxing district loses revenue on any property that reaches the \$10 cap on taxes. Compression losses come first out of local option levies, then out of the base. Corvallis' gap is related to its higher property values.

Councilor Rich Kellum asked if Lane County has an Extension service district. Godwin said no. It's harder in Lane County's government system to do a service district than it is for Benton County. Kellum asked if Lane County receives Extension services. Derek said no county Extension funds go to Lane County. One faculty member serves Linn, Benton, and Lane counties. Her salary is paid by the state. Kellum asked if Benton County's proposed service district would be established at the same rate as Linn County's. Godwin said Linn County's rate is seven cents; Benton County's would be eight cents.

Councilor Bessie Johnson asked if Linn County's service district keeps Linn County Extension solvent. Godwin said yes. Without the service district money, Linn County would not have an Extension program.

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MOTION: Coburn moved to approve the amended resolution on the dais. Kellum seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0, and was designated Resolution No. 6462.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS

None.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

There was no City Manager Report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Allison Liesse
Accounting Specialist

Stewart Taylor
Finance Director