

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Municipal Court Room
Wednesday, January 14, 2015
4:00 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

OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

City Clerk Mary Dibble administered the oath of office to newly elected Mayor Sharon Konopa, Ward IA Councilor Dick Olsen, Ward IIA Councilor Ray Kopczynski, and Ward IIIA Councilor Bessie Johnson.

2015 MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The Mayor gave the State of the City address (see agenda file). Konopa noted that in 2014 the City of Albany celebrated 150 years of incorporation. The Council makes many difficult decisions. Albany's population continues to grow which she interprets as citizens agreeing with the Council's decisions. She listed the City's accomplishments even during the downturn in the economy. She is very proud of Albany's accomplishments and will continue to work to make Albany a better place and further improve its livability.

ROLL CALL

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

Councilors absent: None.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

MOTION: Councilor Ray Kopczynski moved to elect Councilor Floyd Collins as Council President. Councilor Bessie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Business from the Public

Susan Keen, 424 First Avenue E, said she realizes this is a televised meeting. She noted that Keizer also televises Council meetings. She said she represents a part of the community that might not get this type of avenue to share something that is on her heart for her community.

Keen noted she has spoken to politics before. She is not thriving in this community. She spoke about a previous landlord and housing issues and said that undocumented people seem to have more rights than she has. She said that Keizer is suffering due to fracking, a strip mall, and other issues. She also spoke about Keizer's high school, skate park, and water.

Keen said her life has been difficult; she wants the Council to recognize her personal issues and address her crisis, to show that they can help during a community-wide crisis. She spoke to bridge inspection underway being inconvenient. Konopa said she will meet with Keen and speak to her personally.

Jim Clausen, 1403 15th Street, said he was looking at the applications for Boards & Commissions and read that Graham Kislingbury listed his interest in social justice. Clausen read portions of various articles to the Council that spoke to social justice and the difficulty of determining what is socially unjust.

Clausen spoke about laws relating to drivers in Russia. He spoke about how Portland schools, in their quest for social justice, treat students of different races differently. He said social justice erodes value and it is nonsense. Clausen said Kislingbury's interest in social justice makes him question his ability to serve on the Human Relations Commission.

Adoption of Resolution

Approving exemption from the competitive bidding requirements through a contract with Kittitas County Public Hospital District 2 and Braun Northwest, Inc.; issuing a notice to award a proposed contract with Braun Northwest, Inc.; and authorizing the Fire Chief to enter into a contract with Braun Northwest, Inc., not to exceed \$127,268 to remount/refurbish a 2006 Lifeline ambulance.

Fire Chief John Bradner said staff is requesting permission to tag onto an existing agreement to award the contract to remount a medic unit to Braun Northwest, Inc.

Collins asked if this would be taking the box off the old chassis and putting it on a new chassis, so it would be rolling out the box of the chassis for another 10 years. Bradner said yes. Collins said they used to buy both a new box and chassis; repurposing the box and updating just the chassis saves the City more than \$130,000. Bradner said ambulances went up substantially so a way to save money is to repurpose the box.

Collins said, this is a prime example of what we do to respond to the tighter economy. In reviewing how we acquire our equipment and how long it is lasting, we are getting a greater value for the same money.

Kopczynski asked if the box could be repurposed yet again, and applied to additional vehicles other than just this type. Bradner said it doesn't work well with other types of vehicles. He explained Fire looks for opportunities to repurpose items in other ways.

Hare said it is a common practice to repurpose the City's fleet. For example, Building Division staff uses an old Police car. They try to get maximum value from vehicles. He added that there is some compromise; he is sure that Bradner would prefer a new unit since they have features the older units do not. They don't want to lose sight of the changes in emergency medicine. The technology of the units is changing all the time. They are giving up some things by doing it this way, but it is a way to extend the life of the unit.

Councilor Rich Kellum asked if the level of technology in the box they are putting on the chassis is commensurate with new units. Brander said there are not a whole lot of upgrades; there are some different techniques, such as decontamination which involves the number of seams in the unit. The bigger upgrades they will see are due to changing from the traditional International Freightliner to a Ford 550, which has airbags and other safety features that are common to a pickup truck.

Johnson asked if the cost represents the whole remake and will take it to completion. Bradner said yes.

MOTION: Collins moved to adopt the resolution and Johnson seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 and it was designated Resolution No. 6377.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

- 1) Approval of Minutes
 - a) October 22, 2014, City Council Regular Session.
 - b) November 5, 2014, City Council Regular Session.
 - c) November 10, 2014, City Council Work Session.
 - d) November 17, 2014, City Council Work Session.
- 2) Authorizing the Albany Police Department to apply for Oregon Department of Transportation and Oregon Impact funds for the 2015 Pedestrian Safety Enforcement mini grant. RES. NO. 6378
- 3) Extending the financial services contract with Piper Jaffray, Seattle-Northwest Division, for up to one year. RES. NO. 6379

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

Appointments

City Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

Konopa noted that they need to make two more appointments on the Albany Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission.

Konopa noted they need Council approval of the following appointments to City advisory groups:

Airport Advisory Commission

John Pascone	(Mayor Konopa's reappointment)
Richard Kay	(Councilor Olsen's reappointment)
Heath Kasper	(Councilor Kopczynski's reappointment)
Judge Roark	(Councilor Johnson's new appointment)

Albany Arts Commission

Linda Herd	(Mayor's reappointment)
Scott Lawley	(Mayor's new appointment)
Rinee Merritt	(Mayor's new appointment)

Albany Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

Mary Reed	(Mayor's new appointment)
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Albany Budget Committee

Sue Folden (Councilor Collins' reappointment)
Will Summers (Councilor Kopczynski's reappointment)

Building Board of Appeals

Heidi Overman (Mayor's reappointment)
Jolene Thomson (Mayor's new appointment)

City Tree Commission

Larry Holverson (Mayor's reappointment)
Anne Taleff (Mayor's new appointment)

Human Relations Commission

Graham Kislingbury (Councilor Olsen's new appointment)
Debbie Berg (Councilor Kopczynski's reappointment)

Landmarks Advisory Commission

Jolene Thomson (Mayor's reappointment)
Keith Kolkow (Mayor's new appointment)

Parks & Recreation Commission

Russ Allen (Mayor's reappointment)
Jill Van Buren (Mayor's reappointment)

Planning Commission

Dala Rouse, Ward I (Councilor Olsen's reappointment)
Wendy Ezell, Ward III (Councilor Johnson's new appointment)

Public Safety Commission

Larry Nelson (Councilor Coburn's reappointment)
Cynthia Greene (Councilor Johnson's reappointment)

Senior Center Endowment Committee

Lise Grato (Mayor's reappointment)

MOTION: Olsen moved to approve the Boards, Commissions, and Committees appointments as outlined in the staff memo. Coburn seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Council Audit Committee.

MOTION: Collins moved to approve the appointment of Councilors Bessie Johnson and Ray Kopczynski to the Audit Committee. Coburn seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Hospital Facility Authority.

MOTION: Collins moved to approve the appointment of Dick Conolly and Michael Thomson to the Hospital Facility Authority. Johnson seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

City Council representatives.

Konopa noted that they still need to fill the Willamette Criminal Justice Council. It needs to be a lay person who needs to reside in North Albany. Konopa asked for suggestions.

Konopa noted they need Council approval of the following appointments of City Council representatives:

Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Board

Floyd Collins (term expires: 12-31-2015)
Ray Kopczynski (alternate) (term expires: 12-31-2015)

Albany Downtown Association

Sharon Konopa (term expires: 12-31-2016)

Albany Visitors Association

Ray Kopczynski (term expires: 12-31-2016)

Albany-Millersburg Economic Development Corporation (AMEDC)

Sharon Konopa (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Rich Kellum (term expires: 12-31-2016)

[Under AMEDC bylaws, the Mayors of Albany and Millersburg are automatic board members.]

Albany-Millersburg Joint Water/Wastewater Management Committee

Floyd Collins [*City Council*] (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Bill Coburn [*City Council*] (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Dala Rouse [*Planning Commission*] (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Sharon Konopa [*City Council*](alternate) (term expires: 12-31-2016)

Albany Partnership for Housing and Community Development

Sharon Konopa (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Bill Coburn (alternate) (term expires: 12-31-2016)

Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT)

Dick Olsen (term expires: 12-31-2015)
Ron Irish (alternate) (term expires: 12-31-2015)

Linn-Benton Loop Commission

Floyd Collins (term expires: 12-31-2016)

Linn County Fair & Expo Advisory Committee

Bessie Johnson (term expires: 12-31-2016)

Linn County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council

Mario Lattanzio, Police Chief (Position 10; term expires 08-31-2015)

Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments Board of Directors

Sharon Konopa (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Dick Olsen (alternate) (term expires: 12-31-2016)

Oregon Cascades West Regional Consortium (Regional Wetlands)

Floyd Collins (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Dick Olsen (alternate) (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Wes Hare, City Manager (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Mark Shepard (alternate) (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Assistant City Manager/Public Works & Community Development Director

Transient Lodging Tax Advisory Committee

Sharon Konopa (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Dick Olsen (term expires: 12-31-2016)

Willamette Criminal Justice Council

Sharon Konopa (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Bessie Johnson (term expires: 12-31-2016)
Mario Lattanzio, Police Chief (*police chiefs are automatic members*)

MOTION: Johnson moved to approve the City Council representatives as outlined in the staff memo. Kopczynski seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Report

Election questions.

Konopa asked if the Council had questions. Collins said this email is the response from the Secretary of State to seek clarification for the volunteers of the Boards and Commissions during the election season so they don't run afoul of the Secretary of State's (SOS) election rules. This is an advisory memo from Alana Cox which provides parameters and lays out the rules about what can be done, when, and by whom. This particular opinion does not relate to the City Manager. Hare said it has become standard practice that if staff have a document or a decision that might possibly generate a complaint, staff consults with the SOS first.

Collins said it would be wise to share this email with various boards that may be involved in election issues for their own protection and advice.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Johnson said with the season of heavy park use approaching, she is concerned about e-cigarettes. She has read that the vapors emitted from them can be harmful. She asked what the Council thinks about including e-cigarettes with the other non-smoking regulations. She noted that they are also coming out with electronic marijuana cigarettes. Konopa said she got an email about that as well. She asked that Parks & Recreation Director Ed Hodney find out what other cities have been doing and if there have been complaints, especially at the City's concerts. Discussion followed.

Hare said that staff is in the process of reviewing the Strategic Plan (SP) and it will come to the Council shortly. He shared a story about the SP. He had worked in the past with the city of Astoria on their goal-setting, and they asked if he

would do it again. They were very complimentary of the City of Albany's SP. Staff has also sent a copy of our SP to Medford; their City Manager borrowed it and expanded it. Coco Beach, Florida has also borrowed Albany's SP. It is used as a template in other cities. Hare said the credit goes to Hodney and previous City Manager Steve Bryant for the SP concept.

Hare shared a letter he got from the Building Official that came from Insurance Services Office (ISO). The ISO ratings of the Fire Department have an influence on citizens' insurance cost. The City also has an ISO rating for building inspection services we provide. We were classified as a 2 on a scale of 1-10, with 1 being the best. The letter compliments the City for its building code effectiveness. The rating has a positive effect on homeowners' insurance. Hare recalled that a few years ago they were worried about funding the level of services to the Building Department, so they transferred General Fund money to preserve the services. He thinks that turned out to be a good decision. They get good reviews from ISO and also from local builders. It was a good decision.

City Attorney Jim Delapoer said the agreement with Lowe's is exactly what the Council authorized. He learned that the City will be getting a signed copy soon. He suggested Lowe's put up a sign on the vacant lot. In terms of the agreement, everything looks good. Construction will be done by December 2015; and if not, a series of financial penalties go into effect.

Shepard said that Lowe's has been in contact with the Building Department and Planning. They are scaling back from the original concept, but not as small as what they told the Council several months ago; it is in between those two. Shepard said staff expects plans for the building permits in early February. The land use piece can be handled administratively, and construction should start in early summer. The assessment ordinance for the Oak Street Local Improvement District will likely come to the Council in February. Lowe's assessments are about \$700,000. Delapoer said that they will pay their installment in full, not payments; that will provide a way to put funds back to the account that was drawn down for Oak Creek punch-through.

Collins said, despite some public opinion that the City has blocked Lowe's; we have developed an agreement consistent with their request, met their timeframes, met their modifications, and we are moving ahead with a timeframe that will open their store one year later than the original plan. Delapoer said, it is a win-win; had the City not had a contract with Lowe's we would not be as likely to be one of the very few communities where they are building now.

Hare said in the wake of the economy over the last few years, Lowe's stopped building stores. Albany was one of the very few selected to move forward. Hare said he thinks Lowe's would say that the City has been good to work with.

Collins said that contrary to some public opinion, the City did not assess a penalty to be unfriendly to business. It met their objectives and kept all the taxing jurisdictions whole. Konopa added that the size of the revised building is a better fit for the neighborhood.

Hare noted that for Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) revenues, every month of this year has been in excess of previous years; and every month has been the highest we ever had. He said is indicative of a recovering economy. It is good news.

Shepard gave an update on the Gibson Hill sidewalk project, in which the City got a \$1.2 million grant for the project. ODOT is getting ready to bid the project. ODOT's consultant did a cost estimate which is \$30,000 extra. Shepard asked the Council if they are willing to cover the \$30,000 extra. Generally cost estimates run high and bids come in lower. He said if when opening bids staff learns they need to change the scope, it will be brought to the City Council for a decision.

Shepard gave an update on the Bain Street crosswalk and the crosswalk on Santiam Highway near Davidson.

Konopa asked, when Union Pacific was using Connect Oregon to switch the rail yard at Millersburg, was it supposed to alleviate gridlocks on Salem Avenue? Hare said the change would prevent or limit backups on all City of Albany streets, away from the cross streets. Konopa noted that there was a train blocking Salem Avenue yesterday near the new roundabout. Without the roundabout they would have been stuck in traffic, but with it they were able to take alternative streets. She has not heard negative comments about the roundabout; they have all been positive remarks.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Work Session: January 26, 2015
 Regular Session: January 28, 2015

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
ORS 192.660 (2)(e)

The Regular Session recessed to Executive Session at 8:16 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Regular Session reconvened to 8:35 p.m.

Hare described staff's search for a table to replace the podium.

Albany City Council Meeting
January 14, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Mary Dibble
City Clerk

Stewart Taylor
Finance Director