

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
Wednesday, April 8, 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

Three Girl Scouts from Troop 20339 led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Councilors absent: None.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Communications

1) Accepting Kelley Guilliot's resignation from the Library Board.

MOTION: Councilor Bessie Johnson moved to accept Kelley Guilliot's resignation from the Library Board and send a letter of thanks. Councilor Floyd Collins seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

2) 2014 Human Relations Commission annual report.

Human Relations Commission (HRC) Chair Kim Whitley and Member Graham Kislingbury presented the annual report as outlined in the Council agenda packet and offered to answer questions.

Konopa asked if the HRC expected to be active on anything in particular in the coming year. Whitley said the Commission will be participating in River Rhythms. Linn County Mental Health Department has asked them to work with the County on Mental Health Month in May. The Commission also wants to participate in National Night Out and Festival Latino. They will continue their diversity collaboration with Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) and partnership with the City of Corvallis on their Martin Luther King, Jr, Day celebration.

City Manager Wes Hare thanked the HRC. He and Public Information Officer/Management Assistant Marilyn Smith provide staff support for the Commission. It has been a pleasure to work with them.

Councilor Rich Kellum said he noticed last year that nonprofits were eligible for the Human Rights Award but for-profits were not. He contacted the HRC and last month and they have changed the standard.

Konopa suggested expanding the award to include high school students. She feels strongly that we need to work to get young people more engaged in the City.

Business from the Public

There was none.

First Reading of Ordinance

Levying assessments against property specially benefited by sewer connections and the assessment of Sewer, Parks, and Transportation System Development Charges for property described as Tax Lot 3401, parcel 11S-03W-03A, and site address 331 Charlotte Street NE, and declaring an emergency.

City Attorney Jim Delapoer read the Ordinance for the first time in title only: LEVYING ASSESSMENTS AGAINST PROPERTY SPECIALLY BENEFITED BY SEWER CONNECTIONS AND THE ASSESSMENT OF SEWER, PARKS, AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES FOR PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS TAX LOT 3401, PARCEL 11S-03W-03A, AND SITE ADDRESS 331 CHARLOTTE STREET NE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilor Ray Kopczynski moved to read the Ordinance a second time in title only. Collins seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

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

MOTION: Collins moved to adopt the Ordinance and Kellum seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 was designated Ordinance No. 5850.

Adoption of Resolutions

Adopting the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan.

Councilor Dick Olsen commented that he did not see any of the Scandinavian languages on the list. Smith explained that the list in the Council packet is the list used when the plan was first put together. Since then, the City has received a new list from the contractor used for translations. The new list breaks down available languages by geographic area and includes the Scandinavian languages.

MOTION: Collins moved to adopt the Limited English Proficiency Plan and Kopczynski seconded it. The motion passed 6-0, and was designated Resolution No. 6402.

City Manager Wes Hare said the idea was first brought by citizens to the HRC. The Committee reviewed it extensively. Information Technology Director Jorge Salinas and Smith did good work drafting the Plan. The Plan eliminates one possible compliance issue with accepting federal funds but also spells out for us what we can do to accommodate people who have special language needs.

Authorizing the expenditure of economic development funds for the workforce development partnership with industries and Linn-Benton Community College.

Konopa called the Councilors' attention to a new resolution on the dais titled "Authorizing the expenditure of \$2,901,221.90" (see agenda file).

Hare mentioned that this issue has come before the Council on many occasions. Workforce training has been a community issue since before he started at the City. This is the first organized approach to dealing with the issue. He invited questions from the Council.

Olsen said he thinks the City should spend its economic development money in the form of loans. The City has other important needs including the fire station and street repairs. He cited page 2 of the Workforce Program Funding Agreement, which establishes a committee to review funding requests. He asked if there would be repeated requests to the committee for funding. Hare explained that the intent is to authorize up to the \$2.9 million, and the committee will decide how that amount is spent. He said LBCC and the businesses involved may not need the full amount. Kellum added that the money is to be spent for items on the list included in the agreement.

Collins spoke in strong support of the agreement. He thinks it's the first community-wide effort to train local employees for businesses in Albany. If Albany only gets the minimum number of employees stated in the agreement, that is still more than we would have gotten from the Pepsi agreement. He thinks they will see a greater return on their investment than they previously anticipated.

Olsen said that the same amount of money could have been raised with 2 cents per thousand to the LBCC bond measure. He wished they would have just added it to their own rather than ask the City for the money.

MOTION: Kellum moved to approve the resolution and Collins seconded it. The motion passed 5-1, with Olsen voting no, and was designated Resolution No. 6403.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

- 1) Approval of Minutes
 - a) February 9, 2015, City Council Work Session.
 - b) February 11, 2015, City Council Regular Session.
- 2) Accepting the Benton County Victim Impact Panel Grant. RES. NO. 6404
- 3) Accepting a dedication deed from Lowe's Home Centers, LLC. RES. NO. 6405

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

Award of Bid

SS-13-04-B, Wetlands Integration with Albany-Millersburg Water Reclamation Facility Outfalls, Control Valve Installation.

Assistant City Manager/Public Works and Community Development Director Mark Shepard said that the project involves installing a valve to protect the Talking Water Garden Wetlands from potential flooding. The problem was discovered during a storm in January 2012, when water backed up into the Wetlands causing some damage. The project cost is higher than the budget estimate. Public Works is confident that the bids represent the actual cost to do the work. The additional cost will be covered by a Public Works reserve.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to award the contract in the amount of \$194,825 to Emery and Sons Construction Group. Collins seconded the motion.

Johnson asked for clarification of the amount of Tornado Soft's bid. Shepard explained that the bid form was not filled out correctly, but even if it was, they would not have been the low bid.

VOTE: A vote was taken on the motion and it passed 6-0.

Kellum asked if the bridge next to the Wetlands still belongs to Linn County. Shepard said yes.

Report

ST-09-03, Oak Street Local Improvement District (LID), accepting the Engineer's and Financial Investigation Reports and setting a public hearing.

Shepard said these are the final assessments for the Oak Street LID. The assessment methodology was proposed by Lowe's. The project was broken into two parts. The first part was the punch-through between Pacific Boulevard and Ninth Avenue; the second part was the section from Ninth Avenue to Queen Avenue. Lowe's proposed to make some cash payments and also participate in the assessments. Public Works waited to come to Council until Lowe's had committed to open the store. The methodology is the same as originally approved by Council. He referred to page 56 of the agenda packet as the best summary of participating funds.

Kellum asked if Ping's Restaurant had not already paid for their waterline. Shepard said Ping's still has some frontage to pay for.

MOTION: Collins moved to accept the Final Engineer's Report and Financial Investigation Report for ST-09-03, Oak Street Local Improvement District; and adopt the resolution to schedule a public hearing for April 22, 2015. Kopczynski seconded and it passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6406.

Collins asked for an update on Lowe's. Shepard said staff continues to work with Lowe's and they are active in getting their building permits. Shepard will send a more detailed update via e-mail to the Council.

Appointment

Appointing Tim McCloud to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission.

MOTION: Collins moved to approve the appointment. Kellum seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Konopa noticed McCloud in the audience, and thanked him for volunteering and participating.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Johnson said she will not be at the May 13, 2015, meeting.

Coburn said the Lowe's project is out for bid.

Kellum said the Transient Lodging Tax is up, but hoteliers say most of the increase comes from single-night stays off of the freeway. Kellum said the local economy needs multiple-night stays.

Kopczynski said he recently met with some of the Albany Visitors Association (AVA) Board. The AVA would like to set up a day-long tour in May or October to show the Council a package tour.

Collins distributed a map of Valley View Drive and Countryman Circle (see agenda file). He made an onsite visit and met neighboring property owners. Yesterday, he met at City Hall with the School District, Konopa, Smith, the Police Department, and property owners. He proposed graveling a few more feet of City right-of-way, adding the equivalent of four more parking spaces. Less than four yards of gravel will keep kids safe. Collins asked for Council concurrence to move ahead.

Kopczynski expressed concern that gravel and asphalt wouldn't hold up well. Collins said he recommends leaving the method to Public Works.

ACTION: There was concurrence from the Council to proceed with improvements at the corner of Valley View Drive and Countryman Circle to facilitate parking as described by Collins.

Konopa said she thinks this is a good resolution of an acrimonious neighborhood problem.

Konopa said she had one item carried over from the work session where they discussed ballot measure 2-89. Benton County has asked the City of Albany to endorse "NO on M 2-89." Konopa e-mailed the information to the Councilors.

MOTION: Kellum moved that the Council take a stand against Measure 2-89. Collins seconded the motion.

Albany City Council Regular Session
April 8, 2015

Olsen said he needs more information before he can vote.

VOTE: The motion passed 5-1, with Olsen voting no.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Work Session: April 20, 2015
 Regular Session: April 22, 2015

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Mary A. Dibble, MMC
City Clerk

Wes Hare
City Manager