

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
333 Broadalbin Street SW
Wednesday, February 10, 2016
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

ROLL CALL

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

Councilors Absent: None

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

2015 Human Relations Awards & Certificates

Chris Equinoa, Graham Kislingbury and Javier Cervantes, members of the City's Human Relations Commission (HRC) came forward. Equinoa said the HRC was established in 2007 by the City Council to promote harmonious relations among the citizens of Albany. This is done through recommendations of programs, activities, ordinances, etc. to the City Council and City Manager. The HRC strives for actions that lead to positive and respectful relations within our community. One of the ways the HRC promotes Albany's strength is by sponsoring the Human Relations Awards which recognize individuals and organizations that have worked to promote the ideals of harmonious relations among our citizens. Tonight, recognition will be given to individuals and groups that have been nominated for their demonstrated commitment to improving human relations in Albany, especially related to diversity and equality.

Graham Kislingbury presented the nominees in the Individual Category: Peter & Sue Goodman, nominated for their countless volunteer hours to Community Action for Racial Equality (C.A.R.E.); Pat Loy, nominated for her many years as an advocate for adult education and literacy; Buzz Wheeler, Coastal Ranch and Farm, nominated for his years of community involvement and helping to change lives every day for the better; and Sandy Roberts, Albany Police Officer, nominated for stretching her time and position to do every bit of good she can and in her spare time helping on community cleanup projects, graffiti removal, and trail work. The winner was Pat Loy. Kislingbury said Loy's volunteer efforts have made a difference in the lives of countless residents. Five years ago, Loy founded what was then known as the GED Group. With her passion and vision, this group laid the foundation for stronger interagency collaboration, now known as the GED Prep Network for Linn and Benton Counties. Kislingbury told a story about a 19-year-old student who had been living at the Albany Helping Hands Shelter for some time and, with Loy's assistance, encouragement and advocacy, succeeded in receiving his diploma and moving on to attend LBCC.

Javier Cervantes introduced the nominees in the Organization/Business Category: Community Action for Racial Equity (C.A.R.E.) represented by Beth Daniel; Sanctuary Stage, represented by Dan Jones and Tina Marie Ivey; and the Welcome Center of GAPS 8J, represented by Heather Huzefka, Patricia Martinez, Rocelia Francisco, David Jazmin, and Jessica Dionne. The winner in this category was C.A.R.E. Cervantes said C.A.R.E. is a multiracial, multicultural action-oriented organization dedicated to promoting racial equity, diversity, and inclusion. He read a number of their accomplishments from the nomination form.

Konopa thanked the HRC and all of the nominees. She said it takes wonderful volunteers like these to make a great community and their efforts are greatly appreciated. She noted one nominee, Buzz Wheeler, did not attend tonight. She said Wheeler is a very humble man who has supported many City programs, including the paddle boats on Waverly Lake, and that his support was essential for the new YMCA and the new police and fire stations.

PROCLAMATION

Four Chaplains Sunday

Konopa read the proclamation in the agenda packet.

Floyd Bacon, Chaplain of American Legion Post 10, introduced himself and Post Commander Steve Adams. Bacon said the four chaplains have been honored by the American Legion nationally since 1988. On February 3, 1943, there were 902 U.S. Army troops on a transport going across the North Atlantic bound for Greenland. At approximately 1 a.m., the ship was hit by a torpedo from a Nazi submarine and it sunk in about 27 minutes. Two

escort ships were able to rescue only 231 survivors. Accounts indicate that among the chaos, the four chaplains immediately began to organize the exit of the ship and, because there were not enough life jackets, each of the chaplains gave up their own life jacket to save the life a soldier. One survivor said that the last thing he saw as he swam away from the sinking ship was the four chaplains still on board, praying for the safety of the men. Bacon said this is a very moving story, and he thanked the Mayor and Council for issuing the proclamation.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Business from the Public

There was no business from the public.

First Reading of Ordinance

Calling for an election to submit to the electors of the city the question of renewing a ley at \$1.15 per \$1,000 assessed value for Ambulance, Fire, and Police operations beginning Fiscal Year 2016-2017 for five years.

City Manager Wes Hare referred to Council discussion on this item at the last work session. He said staff has found no problem with taking this action by resolution which removes the issue of the emergency clause and allows Councilors to vote based on the merits of the issue rather than on a procedural issue. A resolution was on the dais (see agenda file).

MOTION: Councilor Dick Olsen moved to approve the resolution on the dais and Councilor Bessie Johnson seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6477.

Adoption of Resolution

Amending the fee schedule for certain Building Division fees and repealing Resolution Numbers 6187, 6180, and 5891

Public Works Engineering and Community Development Director Jeff Blaine briefly reviewed the staff memo. Staff recommends that Council adopt the Building Permit Fee Resolution which will bring Council policy in line with state requirements and the current fee structure which has been in place since September 1, 2014.

MOTION: Councilor Rich Kellum moved to adopt the resolution and Councilor Ray Kopczynski seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6478.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

- 1) Approving contract for Municipal Court Judge Robert Scott.
- 2) Approving Municipal Court Judge Pro Tems and repealing Resolution No. 6393. RES. NO. 6479.

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

Approval of Agreement

Library resource sharing intergovernmental agreement

Hare said that Library Director Ed Gallagher has been in favor of consolidating library services in order to extend services to children and adults who live outside the boundaries of library areas. Over the years, Gallagher has been able to consolidate services using grants and programs that created efficiency in order to help spread those services without incurring additional costs. This agreement is part of those efforts.

MOTION: Councilor Floyd Collins moved to approve the Library resource sharing intergovernmental agreement. Johnson seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Appointments

TLT Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

Konopa noted that there is no appointment for the TLT Ad Hoc Advisory Committee from Councilor Doel Olsen. Olsen said he would like to appoint Dala Rouse. It was noted that members of the Monteith Board are not be qualified for the appointment. Brief discussion followed regarding the structure of the ad hoc advisory committee, and Olsen said he would try to have another appointment by the next meeting.

MOTION: Collins moved to approve the appointments in the staff report: Julie Jackson, Scott Pierson, Mitch Langjahr, Mike Martin, Jeff Christman, and Betsy Penson. Kellum seconded the motion.

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Kopczynski said he is fine with the scope as long it is applied uniformly to every agency that receives these funds.

VOTE: A vote was taken on the motion and it passed 5-1, with Olsen voting no.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Councilor Bill Coburn said he previously raised the subject of compensation for Councilors. Based on information provided by staff, he said, it isn't known when the compensation went to \$100 but it is known that it was raised from \$100 to \$110 in May 1989, 27 years ago.

MOTION: Coburn moved to increase the compensation to Councilors and Mayor by \$20.00 per month. Johnson seconded the motion.

Coburn said this is intended to be a nominal increase, not tied to any index or minimum wage or anything.

Kopczynski said he doesn't think compensation is necessary, and he will vote no on the motion. Olsen said he will also vote no. Johnson said this is just a bit of compensation for Councilor's expenses such as mileage, copies, etc. Kellum said he was going to vote no; however, since there are two no votes, he will vote yes. Collins said he generally contributes back to the City more than he receives. Konopa said that everyone on Council likely spends more to support the community than they receive in compensation.

VOTE: The motion passed 4-2, with Olsen and Kopczynski voting no.

Kopczynski asked if a Councilor could refuse compensation as a matter of principle. It was noted that a Councilor could donate any amount to the City.

Hare said that he and Public Information Officer Marilyn Smith accompanied City Attorney Jim Delapoer as he presented a case to the Court of Appeals regarding the penalty imposed upon Hare for a press release a couple of years ago. Hare said that Delapoer did an outstanding job and that he has performed a great public service to try to ensure people get the best information they can about issues facing their communities. When public employees are put in a place where they feel they can't tell the community why new facilities are needed or why a tax is being proposed, it becomes very difficult for people to get accurate information and puts the burden on elected officials to try to get the word out to the community. He expressed appreciation to Delapoer for his outstanding work. He will advise when the outcome is known.

Smith advised that the Big Pickup would be held in the Lexington neighborhood on Saturday, May 21, 2016.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Work Session: February 22, 2016; and Regular Session: February 24, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Teresa Nix
Administrative Assistant

Wes Hare
City Manager