

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
Wednesday, September 14, 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: Mayor Sharon Konopa and Councilors Rich Kellum, Ray Kopczynski, Floyd Collins, Dick Olsen, and Bill Coburn.

Councilors absent: Councilor Bessie Johnson (excused).

Konopa thanked City Attorney Jim Delapoer for his 40 years of outstanding service. This is his last City Council meeting. Delapoer thanked the Council and said it has been an honor to represent the City of Albany.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Communication

Accepting Anne Taleff's resignation from the Library Board.

MOTION: Councilor Ray Kopczynski moved to accept the resignation and send a thank you letter. Councilor Rich Kellum seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Business from the Public

Ray Hilts, 2748 Foxglove Loop SE, spoke regarding the Queen Avenue railroad crossing discussion that took place at the September 12, 2016, City Council Work Session. Hilts said he used to walk across the railroad tracks in that location on a daily basis; he questions whether it would improve safety by only allowing pedestrian crossings on one side of the street. Discussion followed. Hilts urged Council to look closely at this issue in future discussions, as he believes it would be more of a hazard to allow crossings on only one side of the street.

Adoption of Resolutions

Authorizing the establishment of the Health Reimbursement Arrangement/Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association ("HRA VEBA") plans.

Finance Director Stewart Taylor briefed the Council on this item, as outlined in the staff report.

Kellum asked whether the shared savings of 50% is based on today's savings, or if the amount given back to employees would be based on the amount saved in future years. Taylor explained that the collective bargaining agreements are where that is defined.

Senior HR Program Coordinator Danette Jamison responded to questions from Council. Under this plan, there is no deductible, but a straight \$2,000 max out of pocket. The VEBA is designed to keep the employee whole in that an employee today spends \$1,000 max out of pocket, whereas January 1, 2017, they will pay \$2,000, with a \$1,000 contribution made to their VEBA by the City.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution. Kellum seconded the motion, which passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6534.

Authorizing department directors to execute all contracts, agreements, proposals, and memoranda of understanding within the scope of their supervisory duties between the City of Albany and other parties; authorizing department directors to delegate that authority to direct report supervisors; and repealing Resolution No. 5183.

City Manager Wes Hare explained that the proposed resolution continues a trend from when he began with the City of ensuring that Directors, who have the most knowledge of the contracts being signed, are signing those documents and taking accountability. He explained that there are now a number of smaller contracts for which Directors would like to delegate signing authority to supervisors. Hare feels this change would allow documents to move along more quickly and streamline processes, while having little to no effect on the current review process.

Discussion followed. Councilors Bill Coburn, Floyd Collins, and Kopczynski spoke on the issue and were not in support of the proposed change. Delapoer stated that if it's a standard form contract and small dollar amount and the City Attorney has already reviewed the form, then it's appropriate to have the supervisors at the lower level who deal with those contractors directly execute those documents. Unless it goes against form, or if it's for a larger dollar amount, the City Attorney's Office doesn't need to review boilerplate. Delapoer said that there's very little value added by having the next level up person review a contract that they know nothing about because it was negotiated and prepared by their subordinate. Hare noted that this isn't the only level of review contracts are going to get. He doesn't see much value in delaying processes in order to say that a higher-up signed the document. Coburn would like to see the signing authority for supervisors tied to a dollar amount in order to reduce risk. Collins agreed that the policy change would need to have checks and balances built in. There was no action taken on this item.

Authorizing the City Council to temporarily waive the City of Albany Resolution No. 4335 provision prohibiting alcoholic beverages in City Hall on September 21, 2016.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution. Kellum seconded the motion, which passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6535.

Waiving competitive bidding and awarding a sole source contract to Stryker Corporation and appropriating funds from the fiscal year 2016-2017 beginning fund balance for the purchase of Stryker Power-LOAD cot loading systems and accessories.

Fire Chief John Bradner explained the request, as outlined in the staff report. He explained that the Fire Department has been remounting the fleet of front line ambulances over the past few years. These loading systems are different from the power cots themselves, which go up and down with the patient. The power cot loading system takes the cot and allows the medics to load the cot into the ambulance using the mechanism. Brander stated that his department transports over 5,000 patients per year to the hospital, and it is believed that the repetitive loading motion is contributing to some of the injuries to medics.

Olsen asked how large of a person the mechanisms are able to lift. Bradner said he believes the limit is 600 pounds, which his medics deal with on a regular basis. Coburn asked whether any other companies are making this system. Bradner explained that there are other companies, but they don't specifically work with the Stryker cots the City already has.

MOTION: Collins moved to adopt the resolution. Coburn seconded the motion, which passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6536.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

- 1) Approval of Minutes
 - a) July 25, 2016 City Council Work Session minutes.
 - b) July 25, 2016, City Council and Planning Commission Joint Work Session minutes.
- 2) Authorizing the City of Albany to submit a grant application for Oregon Department of Aviation funds and a commitment to provide the required local match. RES. NO. 6537
- 3) Authorizing the City Manager to execute an intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to exchange federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for state funds.
- 4) E-0229-16, License to Occupy Public Right-of-Way, Marshall and Charlotte Smith, 820 East Thornton Lake Drive NW.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented. Coburn seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Reports

Reclassifying Administrative Services Supervisor position in the Police Department.

Police Chief Mario Lattanzio stated that Diana Eilers has worked for Albany Police Department (APD) for about a year and three months. She initially started as the Administrative Services Supervisor. He explained that a number of the projects he has assigned to her over the last year fall in line with the Senior Administrative Supervisor position. The proposal to reclassify Eilers brings the position in line with that of the Fire Department and other similar positions.

MOTION: Collins moved to approve the request for reclassification. Kopczynski seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Third Avenue Bridge vehicle load limits.

Public Works Operations Director Chris Bailey explained that the Third Avenue Bridge is the primary way to access the park as well as the scenic bicycle path. There are several issues with the bridge including the

fact that it is narrow and doesn't have adequate bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Council is being asked to authorize staff to post the bridge with a load limit of 30 tons, as recommended by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Bailey explained that vehicles over the 30-ton load limit are not typically using the bridge anyway because maneuverability is difficult. Posting the load limit would help the City score higher on applications for funding for replacement of the bridge. The Albany Municipal Code (AMC) load limit passed in 1970 was never removed. Staff would also like Council's direction to work to remove that language from the AMC.

Kellum asked whether the 10,000-pound load limit designated in the AMC is currently posted on the bridge. Bailey explained that the sign with that limit was removed years ago.

MOTION: Collins moved to approve the requested action on page 35 of the agenda packet. Kellum seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Sale of fire truck to Lebanon Fire District.

Bradner explained that nearly two years ago, Council declared a 1998 aerial fire truck as surplus equipment. The truck was put up for sale immediately, but it sat on the open market with no interest for a considerable amount of time. The City recently entered into an agreement with Lebanon Fire District to purchase the truck for \$50,000. The funds from the sale will go to the Fire Department's Equipment Replacement Fund. Bradner explained that since it has been two years since Council's initial approval, he felt it was important to bring it before Council again.

Kellum asked about the cost for a new aerial fire truck. Bradner noted that a new truck is around \$900,000. Kellum said he was concerned with the sale price of only \$50,000 when a new truck would cost \$900,000, and he wondered why we declared it surplus. Bradner explained that it was a combination of maintenance issues, annual upkeep costs for a truck not being used, and not needing two of those vehicles in the fleet. Bradner noted that part of the problem is that technology has changed a lot in the last two decades, and fire departments are looking for something slightly used, not 20-years old with a lot of wear and tear.

Accepting a variable-width right-of-way dedication for the north half of the 33rd Avenue cul-de-sac bulb from Richard and Sharon Hews.

Public Works Engineering & Community Development Director Jeff Blaine reviewed the resolution on the dais (see agenda file). He explained that the City has been working with property owners on 33rd Avenue to address concerns raised regarding the lack of right-of-way (ROW) dedication for the cul-de-sac at the end of the street. Staff believes this ROW dedication to be a good solution with the property owner who owns the north half, and they're continuing to work with the property owner to the south.

Delapoer explained that this situation is out of the ordinary. Years ago, there was a petition asking the City to improve the cul-de-sac, and there should have been a dedication deed ordered at that time. The problem faced now is that APD could not comfortably enforce the ordinances in that cul-de-sac because it wasn't City ROW. The alternative was for the City to file suit claiming possession of the property. Staff is hoping that the property owner will use the nominal sum for fencing. The City can't force installation of fencing, but that has been the discussion. The City also has to have ROW before a light can be installed to address the issues in the area. Delapoer noted that the City has an agreement, in principle, with the other property owner as well. He believes this is an economical and quick solution compared to the other alternatives.

Kopczynski asked whether the neighbors who brought the issue forward are satisfied with this solution. Blaine advised that he has been in frequent contact with the individual who was designated as the spokesperson for the neighbors, and they are very happy with the City's efforts.

MOTION: Kellum moved to adopt the resolution on the dais. Kopczynski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6538.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Collins asked about the status of the new Airport Master Plan. Bailey advised that it was recently signed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Once the Airport layout plan is approved, it will be coming back to Council, which should be soon.

Konopa asked staff to look into filling in the tree wells on 34th Avenue between Pacific and Marion, from which the trees have recently been removed and the wells now pose a hazard.

Hare noted that he and staff are working on another solution for the First Avenue railroad trestle, possibly a more prominent sign with LED lights that would only come on during the day.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Work Session: September 26, 2016; and Regular Session: September 28, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Albany City Council Regular Session
September 14, 2016

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Roten
Administrative Assistant I

Reviewed by,

Wes Hare
City Manager