

CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
Municipal Court Room  
Monday, April 10, 2017  
4:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Sharon Konopa called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilors present: Mayor Sharon Konopa and Councilors Bill Coburn, Dick Olsen, Ray Kopczynski, Mike Sykes, Rich Kellum, and Bessie Johnson.

Councilors absent: None.

**BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Chamber of Commerce Director Janet Steele voiced concerns over the resolution related to military spending that is listed on the agenda for the April 12, 2017, City Council meeting. Konopa clarified that the resolution was brought forward by Albany Peace Seekers as an item under Business from the Public; it is not a Council or staff item. Steele said she objects whole-heartedly on behalf of the Chamber to the Council taking on such matters; there is more important City business to attend to than federal military spending.

Tom Cordier, 2240 NW Park Terrace, spoke of a previous meeting at which Council approved funding additional staff positions in order to handle the workload associated with increasing stormwater regulations. He would like to know what requirements have been placed on the City by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ); not the proposed or anticipated requirements, but those that have actually been imposed. Cordier also mentioned that some of those requirements might be considered unfunded mandates, so the City wouldn't be required to comply anyway. He said he hopes the City Council is continuing to monitor this issue and that they plan to push back against anything that's not required by federal law.

**UNIVERSITY OF OREGON SCYP UPDATE**

Planning Manager Bob Richardson provided an update on the University of Oregon (UO) Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP). The program includes 25 projects over the course of the three-term academic year, and students are beginning the last term now. The projects range from parks planning, to downtown economic development, to working with Public Works staff on market analysis for managing and selling bio-solids. Richardson said the program has been successful so far; staff has incorporated many of the students' ideas and turned them into actionable items. The program has provided benefit and value across departments. Richardson noted that the calendar included in the packet outlines projects completed to date as well the projects scheduled for spring term. The City will host a year-end event to review the projects on June 8, 2017. Staff just received reports for the projects completed in the fall term and will email those to Council for review. Reports for winter term will be available mid-June, and spring term project reports should be received by the end of the calendar year.

Councilor Ray Kopczynski said he really values what the program has done for both the students and the City. He feels that although some of the students' ideas might seem far-fetched, there are facets of those ideas that staff can take and run with, which is valuable.

Councilor Rich Kellum said he hopes that at the conclusion of the program, staff will be able to provide Council with a list of ideas and proposals that are realistic and actionable. He added that he was more than a bit skeptical about this program, so he hopes to be proven wrong.

Parks & Recreation Director Ed Hodney said the Parks Master Plan is a good example of what Kellum is asking for. Each one of the students working on that project generated their own ideas in response to the desired results the City identified. Hodney said those ideas have been very interesting. One thing he has repeatedly said to students is that there are elements of a final product within each and every one of their designs. Hodney said that in the end, it would be his job to take aspects of their proposals and mold them into a single concise plan.

**BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL**

Councilor Mike Sykes said he would like to revisit weekly yard debris pick up; Albany is the only community in the area that doesn't have weekly service. Konopa said the last time it came to Council, it wasn't the best timing. Councilor Bill Coburn said he is open to revisiting the issue; he heard from several people who were in favor of it the last time it was discussed, but no one wanted to pay more for their service. Konopa said she heard from many people who were very upset that Albany didn't have weekly service. Konopa asked staff to contact Republic Services.

Konopa reported that the Historic Properties Ad Hoc Work Group met earlier in the day and discussions are going well. The Work Group has narrowed the church relocation down to two possible sites and is leaning toward

relocating the outer historic sections only for use as a community building. The Work Group also discussed the possibility of relocating the Post Office. Once options are outlined for the Post Office, the group will approach them about a possible move.

Kopczynski said he just delivered a check to the City for \$1200 for repair of the Waverly Duck, and donations continue to be made. Konopa added that they're currently looking to schedule a date to repaint the duck.

Konopa reported that she recently attended the Regional Manager's Conference put on by the Council of Governments (COG) where wastewater solids disposal was a topic of discussion. Coastal communities don't have enough fields for applying solids and are having to haul solids to the landfill. The COG is now looking into the possibility of constructing a regional facility to handle bio-solids for the coastal and valley communities. She said Albany is definitely not the only community having this issue.

Coburn asked whether there were plans in place for plaques at either of the new public safety facilities, something similar to what was put in at City Hall when it was constructed. Konopa said she confirmed with staff that plaques are not currently in the plans. Kellum suggested that if a plaque is to be put in place, it could be dual-purpose and serve as the cover for the time capsule. City Manager Wes Hare said he would look into it and report back to Council.

#### CITY MANAGER REPORT

Hare noted that Council agreed at a previous meeting to send a letter of support on behalf of the National Energy Technology Laboratory. The company has since extended an offer for the Council to take a tour of the facility. Hare said that if any Councilors were interested, he could make those arrangements. The Council expressed an interest in taking a tour.

Public Works Engineering & Community Development Director Jeff Blaine explained that he had previously given a start date for the Hill Street reconstruction project that was after the start of the new fiscal year. He said he doesn't need budget approval, but wanted Council to be aware of plans to start the surveying for the project early. It is quite a large project, so he'd like Engineering staff to start now to allow time to complete the design work and be able to go out for bid in a favorable climate. Before the work begins, staff will provide notice to neighboring property owners to make them aware of the plans. There were no objections from Council.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Roten  
Administrative Assistant I

Reviewed by,

Wes Hare  
City Manager