

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
Wednesday, February 28, 2018
7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sharon Konopa called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Konopa led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Councilors absent: None.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Business from the Public

Plastic Bag Ban – Memorial Middle School Green Team students.

7:15 p.m.

The Memorial Middle School Green Team students gave a PowerPoint presentation titled “Ban the Bag” (see agenda file), along with teacher Anna Harris.

The Green Team handed out a green folder to the Councilors that included various letters and website articles about bans (see agenda file).

Harris said that Eugene, Corvallis, and Portland have bag bans. Konopa suggested that the students give their presentation to the state legislature. Harris said the Green Team was successful in asking the school board to change their use of polystyrene foam trays to something that would recycle better. Discussion followed about the proposed ban.

Public Hearing

1) Setting rates for stormwater management services and repealing Resolution No. 6547.

7:25 p.m.

Open: Konopa opened the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

There was a signup sheet available for the public (see agenda file).

Public Works Engineering and Community Development Director Jeff Blaine said stormwater was discussed in length at the February 12, 2018, Work Session. The needs are summarized on p. 3 of the agenda packet. Staff is learning what lies ahead in terms of DEQ regulatory requirements and the condition of the pipes in our system, and will bring back the information in future reports. At the previous Work Session Council asked staff to bring a rate resolution for a 3% increase to be effective March 1 of 2018. Blaine explained that a 3% increase is not expected to cover the costs of inflation.

Councilor Bill Coburn had proposed the 3% and thinks it is important to explain the need for stormwater management to the citizens. He was not opposed to the 13% increase originally proposed, but thinks it is too much of an increase for ratepayers without first conducting outreach. Coburn described the DEQ permit and why it is problematic for cities. The regulations don't consider climate; for example, Albany is in the same category as Bend and Ashland. DEQ won't let Albany create our own plan. Discussion followed about DEQ's public hearing process, and unfunded mandates.

Councilor Mike Sykes suggested that in order to not lose ground on improvements that need to be made, the Council should consider approval of a 5% increase instead of 3%. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Coburn moved to adopt the resolution with the 3% increased to 5%. Sykes seconded the motion.

Konopa noted that since they had not received public comment yet, the motion is premature. Although a formal public hearing is not legally required, the Council supported Konopa's observation in terms of transparency.

WITHDRAWN: Coburn withdrew the motion and it was agreeable to the seconder.

Joanne Aldridge, Albany resident, is concerned for senior citizens. She said the increase doesn't seem like much, but it is for those who are on a fixed income. Konopa said the City has a low-income assistance program.

Close: The public hearing was closed at 7:39 p.m.

DIRECTION: Council directed staff to set a public hearing and prepare a resolution for a 5% stormwater increase to be effective April 1, 2018, for the March 14, 2018, City Council Regular Session.

Adoption of Resolutions

7:44 p.m.

Authorizing and approving a loan agreement between the City of Albany and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for construction of a wet-weather lift station, force main, and repairs to the City's River Front Interceptor.

Blaine said the River Front Interceptor (RFI) is undersized. It has been a known problem for two decades, and overflows have created past enforcement issues with DEQ. The current overflows will likely be determined to be permit violations and likely result in more enforcement actions from DEQ. If the DEQ takes action, then we lose control over how and when to address the overflow problem. The most effective move forward is to construct a wet-weather lift station and force main for bypass flows during high flow events. The cost is \$13 million.

Blaine said Albany asked for and received a low-interest loan from DEQ. The loan is for 20 years at 1% for \$13 million. Details are in the staff report.

The first payment will be in summer 2020; it will be offset by reductions in other areas. The maps in the Council packet show the location of the RFI.

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. 6667.

Allowing nonelected individuals to serve as Guest Councilors when an elected Councilor is absent and repealing Resolution No. 5771.

7:49 p.m.

There was a resolution on the dais (see agenda file).

Councilor Bill Coburn does not want to want to consider the resolution on the dais. He wants to rescind the original resolution, currently in effect, which is Resolution No. 5771.

MOTION: Coburn moved to rescind Resolution No. 5771 and Councilor Dick Olsen seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

7:50 p.m.

- 1) Approval of Minutes
 - a) January 10, 2018, Regular Session minutes.
 - b) January 22, 2018, Work Session minutes.
 - c) January 22, 2018, Joint City Council and Planning Commission minutes.
 - d) January 24, 2018, Regular Session minutes.
- 2) Adoption of Resolutions
 - a) Certifying properties exempt from property taxation:
 - (i) Songbird Village. RES. NO. 6668
 - (ii) Periwinkle Place. RES. NO. 6669
 - (iii) ParkRose Properties. RES. NO. 6670
 - (iv) 1680-1682 Oak Street SE. RES. NO. 6671
 - (v) 515 Geary Street SE. RES. NO. 6672
 - b) Authorizing the Albany Fire Department to apply for the FY 2018-2019 State Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant on behalf of the Mid-Valley Local Emergency Planning Committee for a tabletop exercise and hazardous materials training. RES. NO. 6673

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

Award of Contract

7:51 p.m.

Accepting the proposal and awarding a contract to Tyler Technologies and authorizing the Deputy City Manager/Chief Information Officer to sign a contract between the City of Albany and Tyler Technologies for an enterprise resource planning system.

Deputy City Manager/Chief Information Officer Jorge Salinas said staff is asking the Council to authorize the City to enter into a contract with Tyler Technologies for a new enterprise resource planning (ERP) system. The ERP manages financial, budget, payroll, human resources, and utility billing. Salinas described the process. Three vendors responded; Tyler was the lowest bidder and staff was able to negotiate the price down another \$100,000. The ongoing cost is \$70,000 a year.

MOTION: Kellum moved to adopt the resolution and Kopczynski seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6674.

Appointments

7:53 p.m.

Appointing Devin Burroughs to the Airport Advisory Commission.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to appoint Devin Burroughs to the Airport Advisory Commission. Kellum seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Appointing Erik Anderson to the Public Safety Commission.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to appoint Erik Anderson to the Public Safety Commission. Kellum seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Report

Single-purpose medic unit – Fire Chief John Bradner.

7:54 p.m.

Fire Chief John Bradner said that Medic 71 is housed in Tangent and is staffed by personnel from Albany Fire Department (AFD) and the Lebanon fire district. Medic 71 was started in 2016 with the goal of augmenting staffing for both departments in order to address their respective call volumes. Adding dual-role individuals with medic and firefighter training was cost prohibitive; so the single-role medic unit was created to handle many of the transfer calls, allowing the dual-role individuals to be available for calls in Albany. He described the types of calls Medic 71 responds to, including availability at special events like River Rhythms.

Bradner said that in July, 2017, Lebanon wanted to grow the program and added two staffers to Medic 71, but Albany could not spare anyone at the time. Currently the unit has four personnel from Lebanon and two from Albany. A second unit was added to allow for overlap. It was recently changed again to provide more coverage.

Bradner provided a handout titled “Single Role Operational Report” (see agenda file), and reviewed the statistics with the Councilors.

Kopczynski asked if AFD has experienced reduced response time for Albany calls as a result of this program, since there are now more resources in town. Brander said it should have; he will find out and report back.

Bradner said they would like to grow the program, with Albany and Lebanon each adding one more person, which would put them at eight total (Albany – 3, Lebanon – 5).

Kellum asked about equipment. Bradner said that each city has one medic unit, and the Albany unit is probably used more. There were 274 calls, but 132 of those were transfers, not emergency responses.

Bradner explained that in the summer, there are times when there is only one medic unit in town, so they have to have a fire truck to respond or invoke a mutual aid agreement.

Bradner described why there are more transfers out of Lebanon. Discussion followed about call volumes between the two cities and the cost of the program. Bradner said, it has worked out as we intended; it is a positive program.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

8:13 p.m.

Kopczynski asked if the newly installed catenary lights in the downtown will be able to support Christmas lights and banners. Discussion followed about the options for the lights.

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Olsen said he learned about the Albany Police Department (APD) program of taking care of injured animals, called the Linn Animal Samaritan Fund. He noted that APD takes donations of cash and pop cans to support that program.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION OR LITIGATION LIKELY TO BE FILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORS 192.660 (2)(h).

The Regular Session recessed to Executive Session at 8:17 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Regular Session reconvened at 9:33 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATES: Work Session: Monday, March 12, 2018; and Regular Session: Wednesday, March 14, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Mary Dibble
City Clerk

Peter Troedsson
City Manager

Note: Staff handouts referred to in the minutes as (see agenda file) are available on the website in the "Staff Handouts" column.