



MINUTES

Wednesday, June 23, 2021
Regular Session
REMOTE

Approved: July 14, 2021

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Alex Johnson II called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The mayor led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Alex Johnson II and Councilors Dick Olsen, Matilda Novak, Stacey Bartholomew, Ray Kopczynski, Bessie Johnson, and Marilyn Smith

Councilors absent: None

Public Hearing

6:01 p.m.

Adoption of stormwater master plan

OPEN: The mayor opened the public hearing at 6:01 p.m.

No one wished to speak.

CLOSE: The mayor closed the public hearing at 6:02 p.m.

No councilors had questions for staff.

MOTION: Councilor Marilyn Smith moved to adopt the resolution. Councilor Ray Kopczynski seconded the motion, which passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 7014.

Business from the Public

6:03 p.m.

There was none.

Second reading of ordinance

City services fee methodology

City Attorney Sean Kidd read the ordinance for the second time in title only.

Councilor Dick Olsen said he is disappointed that more people aren't eligible for a fee break. City Manager Peter Troedsson said the quickest way to get the program going is to join the one we already have, for utility billing. Staff is working with the Community Services Consortium on a program that will allow more people to qualify for reduced rates. They hope to have it in place in four to six months.

Councilor Matilda Novak asked if the council can consider using a zero rate. IT Director Sean Park shared a slide showing the funding levels available at different rates.* Novak said she wants to delay implementing the fee with any rate above zero.

Novak asked if staff has considered converting city services to the private sector. Troedsson said many governments have out-sourced certain functions, but some government functions are inherently governmental. Finance Director Jeanna Yeager said some government functions are very complex, and not every private-sector service provider understands them. If you want the same level of expertise, you will pay the same amount as you do for to keep the function in-house.

Troedsson said the City makes use of community partnerships, as with Greater Albany Public Schools (GAPS) for the swimming pool.

MOTION: Councilor Bessie Johnson moved to adopt the ordinance. Olsen seconded the motion, and it passed 5-1, with Novak voting against. The ordinance was designated Ordinance No. 5906.

Adoption of Resolutions

6:31 p.m.

Setting city services fee rate

MOTION: Novak moved to set the rate at zero for one month.

The council discussed how to word the motion. Novak asked if it could be made contingent upon what the governor does to open the state after the pandemic. Kidd said yes. Johnson said we don't know how long it might take, and we can't afford to wait.

SECOND: Troedsson reminded the council that the motion had not yet been seconded. Olsen seconded the motion.

The council discussed how the county and state might reopen.

VOTE: The motion failed 2-4, with Bartholomew, Kopczynski, Johnson, and Smith voting against.

MOTION: Smith moved to adopt the resolution as written. Johnson seconded the motion, and it passed 4-2, with Novak and Olsen voting no. The resolution was designated Resolution No. 7015.

Establishing low-income assistance program for city services fee

6:45 p.m.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution. Smith seconded the motion, which passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 7016.

Approving special procurement for Wonderware software upgrade

City Engineer Staci Belcastro said the Wonderware software is used to interface with all of public works' existing equipment. Industrial Software Solutions is the only distributor in the northwest.

MOTION: Johnson moved to adopt the resolution. Kopczynski seconded the motion, which passed 6-0, and was designated Resolution No. 7017.

Approving Curt Sorte access easement and City maintenance easement

Community Development Director Matt Ruetters gave the history of the request and the steps taken toward the proposed solution.

Johnson said the easement was denied previously due to possible impact on natural resources. If the proposed solution doesn't hurt the environment and the property owner will act responsibly, she will vote for it.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution as written. Johnson seconded the motion.

Olsen said Parks & Recreation previously denied Sorte's request for access, and it isn't in the record that they changed their minds. Parks & Recreation Director Kim Lyddane said the parks department is in favor of the easement. The property owner has addressed all concerns.

Councilor Stacey Bartholomew said the access easement seems wide, at 27 feet. Ruetters said the width will allow a driveway plus access to utilities.

VOTE: the motion passed 6-0, and the resolution was designated Resolution No. 7018.

Award of Contracts

6:58 p.m.

Contract amendment with Angelo Planning Group for planning services

Ruetters said this is a three-phase project, with the third phase finishing by the end of 2021. Staff's next priority is evaluating and updating the Albany Development Code for mixed-use zones. Adding that to the existing contract will result in a better finished product and less total expense. Phase Four is expected to cost \$64,000.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to approve the amendment. Smith seconded the motion.

Novak said this is a 19-percent contract increase. Ruetters said it isn't an inflationary increase. It is to pay for additional work.

VOTE: The motion passed 6-0.

New contracts with DOWL and Civil West Engineering for planning services

7:04 p.m.

Ruettgers said the contract is for on-call planning services when the planning division is short-staffed and needs help. Both companies' proposals qualified.

Kopczynski expressed concern that the resolution doesn't have a dollar amount or a not-to-exceed clause. Smith said contractors would be paid wages only, not City benefits, which is a saving. Johnson asked if the bidders submitted proposed rates. Ruettgers said yes.

Novak asked about the cost of contractors based in Portland compared to those based in Albany. Ruettgers said the Portland firm is actually less expensive. Yeager said that in public procurement, local preferences are not allowed.

Johnson said the council needs to know the cost. Ruettgers said the services would only be used when there was a vacancy on City staff, so it's hard to estimate cost. Troedsson said the costs would be paid out of salary savings because of vacancies.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution. Smith seconded the motion, which passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 7019.

Approval of Agreement

7:23 p.m.

IGA with DLCD for assistance in updating Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan

Emergency Manager/Safety Officer Chuck Perino said FEMA requires updating the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan every five years. DLCD assistance will essentially be another staff member for the project at no cost.

MOTION: Smith moved to approve the agreement. Kopczynski seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

7:30 p.m.

a. Approval of minutes

- 1) April 12, 2021, work session
- 2) April 26, 2021, joint meeting with Planning Commission
- 3) May 10, 2021, joint meeting with Planning Commission
- 4) May 12, 2021, regular meeting

b. Adoption of resolutions

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|---|---------------|
| 1) Accepting sewer easement, Jackson Street Youth Shelter, CU-01-20 | RES NO. _____ |
| 2) Accepting sewer easements, pipe-bursting projects, SS-21-01
123 Sherman Street NE | RES NO. _____ |
| 1205 First Avenue NE | RES NO. _____ |
| 3) Releasing sewer easements, Main and 19th Sewer Replacements, SS-05-01 | RES NO. _____ |
| 4) Releasing a sewer easement, Calapooia Interceptor Replacement, SS-07-01 | RES NO. _____ |
| 5) Appointing municipal court judges pro tem | RES NO. _____ |

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the consent agenda as written. Smith seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0.

Referring back to the award of contracts for planning services, Ruettgers showed a table with the proposed hourly rates.*

Staff Report

7:33 p.m.

Bias response initiative

Parks & Recreation Director Kim Lyddane said the Human Relations Commission is asking the council to support the Council of Governments in its efforts to facilitate conversations about a regional bias initiative. She explained the focus of the initiative. The City of Corvallis is funding all of the initial work.

The council expressed support for the initiative.

Business from the Council

7:37 p.m.

Novak read a letter she received from Dave Shaw.*

Olson referenced a letter the council received from Rich Kellum about RV parking.*

Kellum said it's difficult to find long-term parking in Albany for a large RV. The Linn County Expo Center has around 60 spots available, which are used for RV parking in emergencies like last year's fire evacuations. Kellum said county staff told him an arrangement could be worked out. Kellum would like the council to investigate the possibility. He thinks the City and the county could get additional money in TLT fees.

Johnson II said he will ask staff to look into an arrangement with Linn County.

City Manager Report

7:47 p.m.

Troedsson said the work session scheduled for July 12 has been cancelled. The regular meeting July 14 will be held in the council chambers, at City Hall. Councilors who are vaccinated will not need to wear masks. For the meeting on July 26, the council chambers will be open to the public as well.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Allison Liesse
Deputy City Clerk

Peter Troedsson
City Manager

**Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. Documents from staff are posted to the website after the meeting. Documents submitted by the public are available by emailing cityclerk@cityofalbany.net.*