



MINUTES

Wednesday, May 11, 2022
Meeting
Council Chambers, City Hall
Hybrid Format

Approved: June 8, 2022

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

Special Presentation

"If I Were Mayor" contest winners

Brynlee Washburn, a 5th-grader at Liberty Elementary School, showed and explained her winning poster.

Mikayla Chaffins, who is in 8th grade at North Albany Middle School, read her essay aloud.

Proclamations

6:14 p.m.

a. Historic Preservation Month

Councilor Matilda Novak read the proclamation.

1) Cumberland Church Presentation

City Manager Troedsson and Emma Eaton unveiled a framed display recognizing the public/private partnership with the Cumberland Community Event Center to move the Cumberland Community Church. The church will celebrate its 130th birthday May 14 and 15.

b. Public Works Week

Councilor Stacey Bartholomew read the proclamation.

c. Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

Councilor Bessie Johnson read the proclamation.

d. Military Appreciation Month

Councilor Ray Kopczynski read the proclamation.

e. Police Week

Mayor Johnson II read the proclamation.

Special Presentation

6:34 p.m.

Albany Police Department annual awards

Police Chief Marcia Harnden presented the following awards:

Support Service Employee of the Year: Kenny Allin

Sworn Employee of the Year: Sam Posthuma

Distinguished Service Award: Laura Hawkins

Exceptional Service Award: Bret Adams, Erin Bagley, Trevor Eaton, Ken Fandrem, Gabe Flores, Peter Teague, Perry Baker, Mike Wood

Lifesaving Award: Dan Jones, David Vaughn, Gabe Flores, Jim Estes, Kelli McMahan, Matt Thomas

Medal of Valor: Sam Posthuma

Medal of Honor: Jim Estes

Business from the Public

6:55 p.m.

Tre Mork, owner of Alternative Health Solutions, asked the council to establish a 1,000-foot distance requirement between marijuana dispensaries to protect local small businesses from chain stores moving into the community.

Novak spoke in favor of such a rule.

Councilor Dick Olsen said local businesses should be protected.

City Attorney Sean Kidd said changing the minimum distance is a zoning issue. It would have to go through the Planning Commission. Meanwhile, Planning staff can bring a report to the council on current zoning and the number and locations of cannabis outlets in Albany. He cautioned that changing the siting requirements would only apply to new businesses, not existing ones.

Lise Grato, executive director of the Albany Downtown Association, gave an update on downtown events.

Approval of Agreement

7:15 p.m.

Street lighting agreement with PacifiCorp for LED conversion project

Operations Manager Kristin Preston described the project to convert 2,886 Albany streetlights to LED bulbs. She said that with energy savings and Energy Trust incentives, the project would recoup its cost in about three years.

Preston said the bulbs will be in the neutral-to-warm range on the Kelvin scale, which is used to measure the "temperature" of the light given off.

The council discussed which lights are to be replaced, and whether the existing lights on 1st Avenue could be made brighter and the ones along Ellsworth made dimmer. Preston said that isn't part of the contract under discussion. She will find out from Pacific Power if any of Albany's current lights are adjustable.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution. Councilor Marilyn Smith seconded the motion. It passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 7099.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

7:33 p.m.

- a. Appointments
 - 1) Accepting Paul Aljets' resignation from the City Tree Commission
 - 2) Accepting Carol Canham's resignation from the Planning Commission
 - 3) Appointing Jackie Montague to the Planning Commission
- b. Approval of minutes
 - 1) March 7, 2022, council work session
 - 2) March 9, 2022, council meeting
 - 3) March 21, 2022, joint city council & planning commission meeting
 - 4) April 11, 2022, council work session
 - 5) April 13, 2022, council meeting
 - 6) April 25, 2022, council work session
 - 7) April 27, 2022, council meeting
- c. Recommendation to OLCC
 - 1) Approve full on-premises commercial liquor license application for Tacos El Machin, LLC, DBA Blue Agave, location at 2195 14th Avenue SE Suite C.
- d. Adoption of resolutions
 - 1) Accepting easement, Glorietta Bay LLC for SI-18-08 RES NO. 7100
 - 2) Accepting easement, GAPS for SI-18-08 RES NO. 7101
- e. Award of Contract
 - 1) Police Janitorial Services RES NO. 7102

Novak requested an amendment to clarify a question she asked in the March 21 joint minutes. She also requested to have some of her statements under Business from the Council at the April 13 meeting added to the minutes for that meeting.

Smith asked to have the March 21 minutes (item b3) pulled from the consent agenda for correction of a couple of sentences that don't make sense.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the consent agenda with Item b3 pulled and additions to item b5, and a letter of thanks to be sent to Aljets and Canham. Bartholomew seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0. Item b3 will come back to a future meeting. Item b5 will come back on the May 25, 2022, consent agenda

Staff Report

7:35 p.m.

Request for city sewer service for property outside city limits – 3605 Circle Drive SE
City Engineer Staci Belcastro said the property is inside Albany's Urban Growth Boundary but outside the city limits. The septic system is failing. The state of Oregon requires connection to the city system if the distance to connect is within 300 feet. Staff recommends authorizing the connection.

The council discussed the possibility of annexation of the property.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to authorize staff to pursue the process to connect the property to the City system. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Business from the Council

7:44 p.m.

Smith said she asked the council Monday to consider a fireworks ban, but got no response. She repeated the request. She said it might be too late for this year, as local non-profits are planning their fund-raising.

Troedsson asked the council to consider the difficulty of enforcing a ban. He doesn't think a ban would have much effect. Johnson II said he did a public service announcement last year, and that may make some difference.

Johnson said she's in favor of not having fireworks.

Novak said she is in favor of banning illegal fireworks, but not legal ones.

Kopczynski asked if other Oregon communities have banned them, and what were the results.

Olsen said he doesn't agree with a ban on fireworks.

The council agreed that public messaging would be a good tactic.

Olsen said he would like a moratorium on the requirement that people remove private property from the City right-of-way next to the Vine Street Canal. He thinks the council needs to consider it more. Troedsson reminded the council that staff are acting on previous council direction.

MOTION: Olsen moved to bring the requirement to remove property from the right-of-way back to the May 25, 2022, meeting. Novak seconded the motion, which failed 2-4, with Smith, Kopczynski, Bartholomew, and Johnson voting no.

Public Works Director Chris Bailey said she will meet with Mr. Weaver, one of the principal objectors.

City Manager Report

8:08 p.m.

Troedsson reminded the council that Albany clerks write "action" minutes, not a verbatim report of the meeting. It's up to the clerk to judge how best to summarize the discussion, knowing that the video is available with all of the meeting's context.

Next Meeting Dates

Monday, May 23, 2022; 4:00 p.m. work session

Wednesday, May 25, 2022; 6:00 p.m. meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Allison Liesse
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.*