



MINUTES

Monday, February 21, 2022
Work Session
Virtual

Approved: April 13, 2022

Call to Order

Mayor Alex Johnson II called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

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.

Welcome – Peter Troedsson

4:01 p.m.

City Manager Peter Troedsson gave an overview of the progress on the city's strategic planning.

Strategic Planning – Sara Singer Wilson

4:02 p.m.

Sara Singer Wilson shared a slideshow* with an overview of Albany's Strategic Plan, the work the council has undertaken so far, the plan for the work session, and Community Engagement Goals.

The group discussed public outreach. Mayor Alex Johnson II asked about using paper copies for surveys and outreach.

Singer Wilson led the council through the goal refining process. She displayed notes from councilors* to combine, reword, add, and remove objectives under the Healthy Economy, Great Neighborhoods, Effective Government, and Safe Cities goals. During the Effective Government section, councilors spoke extensively about laws and regulations surrounding shelters and homelessness.

Councilors responded to a question from Singer Wilson: what does the council need in order to work as a team and move things forward?

Councilor Ray Kopczynski said, once a decision is made, the council should move forward and support city staff in their implementation of that decision.

Councilor Marilyn Smith agreed with Kopczynski and said that councilors should listen to each other and consider what is being said for all topics.

Councilor Bessie Johnson agreed with Kopczynski and Smith, saying that when the council votes on something, even if it is something a councilor is not in favor of, councilors should support it and go on to the next issue.

Councilor Dick Olsen said he would like to get contact information for city employees and become more acquainted with them.

Councilor Stacey Bartholomew said she wants the council to be thoughtful and understanding when making decisions and to not get bogged down by items on the staff level and lose the council's vision.

Councilor Matilda Novak said councilors should listen to each other, get to know staff, and roll with what happens.

Johnson II said that all members of the council need to engage citizens more and work with local schools.

Business from the Council

6:11 p.m.

None.

City Manager Report
None.

6:11 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Gabriel Shepherd
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.*