



## MINUTES

Monday, July 25, 2022

Work Session

Council Chambers, City Hall

Approved: September 14, 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, Bessie Johnson, and Marilyn Smith

Councilors absent: Ray Kopczynski (excused)

### Business from the Public

Andrea Hughes, who had pre-registered to speak, was not present. There was no business from the public.

### OCWCOG and Linn County Annual Report

**4:01 p.m.**

Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) Executive Director Ryan Vogt introduced himself and Communications Officer Meg Walker. Vogt spoke about services of OCWCOG including Meals on Wheels, economic incentives, and services for seniors and those with disabilities. Councilors expressed gratitude for the services of OCWCOG.

### AMC Amendments to Address Portable Toilets

**4:12 p.m.**

Public Works Director Chris Bailey introduced the agenda item and spoke about the draft ordinance.

Responding to a question from Councilor Marilyn Smith, Bailey said that staff recommends not allowing portable toilets in perpetuity and therefore the ordinance has a 90-day review period so staff can review the compliance of the toilets.

Responding to questions from Councilor Matilda Novak, Bailey said that the current city code does not allow long term use of portable toilets. No portable toilets have been declared a nuisance and city staff is not aware of private residences that use portable toilets instead of sewer. Code Compliance Officer Kris Schendel shared about a portable toilet at Central School that was repeatedly knocked over. Bailey said the turnaround for a permit would be very quick. Novak said she felt the ordinance was redundant if portable toilet companies had worked out placement with clients. Schendel said he was doubtful that portable toilet companies knew where to appropriately site toilets, noting that some get placed in the public right-of-way.

Responding to a question from Councilor Dick Olsen, Bailey said the ordinance would allow for First Christian Church to continue the use of their portable toilet upon review by the City Manager.

Responding to a question from Councilor Stacey Bartholomew, Bailey clarified the proposed requirement for fencing and screening of portable toilets. Councilor Bessie Johnson raised concerns about requiring fencing.

Smith spoke in opposition to the ordinance. Olsen said that if the city insisted that all toilets connect to the sewer, the city should provide the permanent toilets. City Manager Peter Troedsson said staff will return with an answer to a question from Novak about the costs of maintaining a public restroom.

Johnson II noted the item will return to the July 27, 2022 regular meeting.

Request to Vacate Portion of Elm Street Right of Way

**4:40 p.m.**

Transportation System Analyst Ron Irish spoke about the history of the project and asked the council to decide if the city should initiate the right-of-way vacation process for the area in question. Responding to a question from Johnson, Irish spoke about the benefits to the city and the adjacent property owner, noting there were very few down sides to the vacation.

Ken Marshal spoke from the public, identifying himself as being under contract with the owner of the adjacent property. Marshal spoke about access to the property and why the property owner would like the city to initiate the process.

Marshal and Irish answered questions from Johnson, Smith, and Olsen about access, utilities, and the neighboring properties. Council directed staff to proceed with a city-initiated vacation for the area under consideration.

Psilocybin Ordinance Referral

**4:56 p.m.**

City Attorney Sean Kidd introduced the item and gave background information on Measure 109 and the council's options going forward. Kidd said the council could do nothing, allowing the facilities to be sited in Albany, or refer one of two ordinances to the Albany voters at the November 8, 2022 election: an ordinance banning psilocybin manufacture and use in Albany, or an ordinance temporarily banning manufacture and use for two years.

Johnson II said the council has not heard enough about psilocybin to make a decision, noting no physician has testified on the item. Novak agreed. Olsen voiced opposition to either ordinance. Smith and Johnson said they would support a two-year moratorium.

Due to the time constraints of getting a question on the ballot, the council directed staff to return to the August 8, 2022, work session with both ordinances. The council will have a first reading of one of those ordinances with a second reading scheduled for the August 10, 2022, regular meeting.

LOC 2023 Legislative Priorities

**5:18 p.m.**

The council received a page\* with the tallied votes of individual councilors\*. The council agreed to submit the five items with the highest scores to the League of Oregon Cities as the City of Albany's vote for 2023 Legislative Priorities. Those five votes were:

- Local funding to address homelessness
- Infrastructure funding to support needed housing
- Address measure 110 shortcomings
- Property tax reform

- Infrastructure financing and resilience

Johnson II, Novak, and Troedsson all expressed that, though it was not an option to choose, tort reform should also be a priority for the legislature.

Business from the Council

**5:24 p.m.**

Councilors delivered reports concerning national night out, the Albany canal, local fundraising events, and the siting of a monument on the Calapooia river.

City Manager Report

**5:30 p.m.**

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Gabe 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](mailto:cityclerk@cityofalbany.net).*