



## ALBANY CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Monday, January 30, 2023  
Meeting  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
**Approved: February 22, 2023**

#### Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Alex Johnson II called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The mayor led the pledge of allegiance.

#### Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Alex Johnson II and Councilors Matilda Novak (virtual; arrived at 4:18) Steph Newton, Ray Kopczynski, Jackie Montague, Marilyn Smith, and Ramycia McGhee

Councilors absent: None

#### Proclamations

- a. Black History Month  
Johnson II read the proclamation.
- b. Four Chaplains Day

#### Business from the Public

Delayed until Councilor Matilda Novak was able to join the meeting.

#### Adoption of Resolutions

**4:07 p.m.**

Exemption from competitive bidding to purchase firefighter turnouts

Fire Chief Shane Wooton explained how wear and tear on turnouts is managed. The turnouts usually last about ten years. The department's current turnouts are about six years old, and beginning to need significant repairs.

Councilor Ramycia McGhee asked if new turnouts are improved to last longer than ten years. Wooton said no. The National Fire Protection Association recommends only wearing turnouts for ten years.

Councilor Ray Kopczynski moved to adopt the resolution. Councilor Marilyn Smith seconded the motion, which passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 7176.

#### Award of Contract

**4:13 p.m.**

Award of contract for dewatering chemicals at the Albany-Millersburg Water Reclamation Facility  
Kopczynski asked the total cost of the project. Water Reclamation Facility Plant Supervisor Brian Stevens said \$142,290.

Smith moved to award the contract as presented in the staff report. Kopczynski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 7177.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

**4:15 p.m.**

- a. Appointments
  - 1) Accepting Dave Smith's resignation from the Library Board
  - 2) Removing Tom Cordier from the Public Safety Commission and appointing Erik Rau to the Public Safety Commission
  - 3) Accept appointments to citizen advisory groups
  - 4) Appoint representatives to outside agencies
- b. Approval of minutes
  - 1) December 14, 2022, city council meeting
  - 2) January 4, 2023, city council special session
- c. Recommendation to OLCC
  - 1) Approve full on-premises, commercial liquor license application for Grazing Oregon Charcuteries at 613 NW Hickory St, Suite 110

Johnson II said Novak requested by telephone to remove Item a.2) for discussion.

Councilor Jackie Montague moved to adopt the consent agenda with Item a.2) pulled for discussion. Smith seconded the motion, and it passed 4-1, with Kopczynski voting no, and Novak not yet present.

Business from the Public

**4:18 p.m.**

Tom Cordier gave a handout to the council.\* He said he wants to remain on the Public Safety Commission. It's highly unusual for a new councilor to terminate the service of a commission member appointed by a previous councilor. He said Councilor Steph Newton's actions are the result of political differences, but this is a non-political appointment.

Newton said she had a good discussion with Cordier when she told him she wanted to replace him. Her replacement candidate, Erik Rau, is an emergency response planner and has worked in public safety since 1988.

Novak said Rau is qualified, but there is already a voice from the fire department on the commission. Albany's commissions should be made up of private voices. She would like Cordier to remain on the commission.

Newton clarified that Rau is not a firefighter. He is an emergency response planner.

Montague moved to approve removing Cordier from the Public Safety Commission and appointing Erik Rau to the position. McGhee seconded the motion and it passed 5-1, with Novak voting no.

Staff Report

**4:30 p.m.**

Code Compliance Officer Kris Schendel showed slides.\* He explained that code compliance often involves getting several organizations to work together to resolve issues, and talked about several successes of last year.

Business from the Council

**4:48 p.m.**

Councilor Kopczynski's appointment of Circe Verba to the Planning Commission

Troedsson said Kopczynski is seeking to appoint someone from outside his ward to the Planning Commission. Councilors are encouraged to appoint within their ward, but may appoint from a different ward if necessary. This item is on the agenda for transparency's sake.

McGhee asked if this is a one-time exception, or a new policy. Troedsson said any proposed appointments from outside the councilor's ward will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Montague moved to approve the appointment. Smith seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0.

Next Meeting Dates

~~Monday, February 6, 2023; 4:00 p.m. work session - CANCELED~~

Wednesday, February 8, 2023; 6:00 p.m. meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 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](mailto:cityclerk@cityofalbany.net).*