



ALBANY CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Monday, February 8, 2023
Meeting
Council Chambers, City Hall
Approved: March 8, 2023

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 Steph Newton, Matilda Novak, Ray Kopczynski, Jackie Montague, and Marilyn Smith

Councilors absent: Ramycia McGhee (excused)

Business from the Public

Lise Grato, Executive Director of the Albany Downton Association, gave the city council an update on downtown issues.

Presentation

6:04 p.m.

Municipal Court Judge Forrest Reid read an update to the city council*. Reid noted that Court Supervisor September Ridgeway, Linn County Sheriff Michelle Duncan, and Police Chief Marcia Harnden were all present to answer questions related to court operations or law enforcement.

Reid, Duncan, Harnden, and Ridgeway answered questions from councilors:

- Reid confirmed that the requested 0.475 FTE increase for a court clerk, listed later in the agenda, would bring a current employee from halftime to full time. (*Novak*)
- Harnden and Duncan both reported on the status of the local caseload and the backlog of cases accrued during Covid-19. (*Kopczynski*)
- Staff is not aware of where Albany ranks in drug use or mental health nationally or statewide. (*Johnson II*)
- Reid spoke about Mental Health Court and said he believes Linn County is looking for grants to further support that effort. Duncan said that she does not know how the County Commissioners prioritize mental health in their budget setting, though it is a topic of discussion. (*Montague*)
- Reid said that out of roughly 70 cases related to Measure 110, none of those charged went through treatment, two said they would pay the fine, and many did not show up for their court date. Reid said jurisdiction for those cases was transferred to Linn County Circuit Court. (*Smith*)

Councilor Steph Newton asked staff to use a term like “people with addiction” rather than “these people”. Newton spoke about her wish to see the City partner with private partners and said she is excited to see how Measure 110 unfolds over the next five to ten years.

Councilor Matilda Novak said it was sad that, according to Duncan’s statistics, less than 1% of people cited on charges related to Measure 110 do get treatment, and advocated for changing the law.

cityofalbany.net/council



Johnson II shared personal stories about his family and drug addiction.

Johnson II recessed the meeting at 6:40 p.m. for a break and reconvened the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Approval of Agreements

6:45 p.m.

- a. Intergovernmental agreement with University of Oregon
Harnden gave an overview of the law enforcement support that was in the agreement and noted that the proposed agreement is nearly identical to the current contract with Oregon State University.

MOTION: Councilor Marilyn Smith moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilor Ray Kopczynski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0, and the resolution was designated Resolution No. 7178.

- b. Fire protection agreements
Fire Chief Shane Wooton spoke about the history and function of the fire protection agreements. Responding to a question from Councilor Jackie Montague, Wooton said that he cannot guarantee that the proposed 4% increase to the Fire Protection Agreements would cover increases in costs. Wooton also noted that more money comes from the fire protection agreements than is spent serving the agreement areas.

MOTION: Smith moved to approve the fire protection agreements as presented. Kopczynski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

6:15 p.m.

- a. Appointments
 - 1) Accepting James Dufour's resignation from the Tourism Advisory Committee
- b. Approval of minutes
 - 1) December 28, 2022, city council meeting
 - 2) January 11, 2023, city council meeting
 - 3) January 24, 2023, city council special session
- c. Recommendation to OLCC
 - 1) Approve full on-premises, commercial liquor license for Margin Coffee LLC, 206 Second Avenue SW

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to approve the consent agenda as proposed. Novak seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Staff Report

6:30 p.m.

- a. Addition of contracting and procurement specialist position
Finance Director Jeanna Yeager spoke virtually about the city's current contracting personnel and the need for more contracting and procurement support. She confirmed that there would be funding available for the position and that this position is not a grant writing position that had been discussed at a previous meeting.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to add the position as proposed. Smith seconded the motion. The motion to approve the creation of a (1.0 FTE) Contracting & Procurement Specialist position, salary range A145, passed 5-0.

- b. Reclass of contracting and procurement officer
MOTION: Kopczynski moved to reclassify the position as proposed. Smith seconded the motion. The motion to approve the retitle of the (1.0 FTE) Purchasing Coordinator position to Contracting and Procurement Officer and salary grade adjustment from A156 to A162 passed 5-0.
- c. Request to increase FTE for one Court Clerk position
MOTION: Smith moved to increase the FTE as proposed. Kopczynski seconded the motion. The motion to increase one Court Clerk position from (0.525 FTE) to (1.0 FTE) passed 5-0.
- d. Salary adjustments/reclass Public Works Admin **6:58 p.m.**
Public Works Direction/Interim Deputy City Manager Chris Bailey spoke about the need for the salary adjustments and the position reclassification.

MOTION: Smith moved to make the salary adjustments and reclassify the position as proposed. Newton seconded the motion. The motion to make the following adjustments passed 5-0:

- Salary grade adjustment for Public Works Contracting Assistant from A131 to A135
- Salary grade adjustment for Public Works Contracting Coordinator from A139 to A145
- Reclassification of Senior Administrative Supervisor to Public Works Administrative Supervisor and salary grade adjustment from N118 to N126.

Business from the Council

7:02 p.m.

Newton shared concerns from constituents about a proposed Foster Farms chicken facility. Newton said the state legislature's House Bill 2667 addresses the expansion and asked that the City draft a letter of concern about the expansion. Newton requested more information about proposed tree removals for the waterfront project and suggested including fruiting trees as replacements.

Newton, Troedsson, and Johnson II spoke about the difficulty of arranging a meeting between the Linn County Commissioners and the City Council. Montague and Newton spoke about mental health programs and funding.

City Manager's Report

7:17 p.m.

Responding to requests for information from Novak, Newton, and community members, Troedsson shared the background of the city's waterfront project, the analysis that went into determining which trees needed to be removed in the affected area, the plan for replanting trees as a part of the project, and briefly about Corvallis' waterfront project.

Next Meeting Dates

Monday, February 20, 2023; 4:00 p.m. work session
Wednesday, February 22, 2023; 6:00 p.m. meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 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.*