



## MINUTES

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Meeting

Council Chambers, City Hall

Approved: March 22, 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 Matilda Novak, Ray Kopczynski, Jackie Montague, Marilyn Smith, and Ramycia McGhee

Councilors absent: Councilor Steph Newton was excused

### Proclamation

Women's History Month

Councilor Ray Kopczynski read the proclamation.

### Special Presentation

Citizen Life Saving Awards and Chief's Awards

Fire Chief Shane Wooton presented Citizen Lifesaving Awards to Angie Duncan, Billie Maurer, Hannah Mitzel, Sydney Maurer, Sheri Stephen, and Kathie Carley for saving the life of a YMCA member who collapsed at the facility.

Wooton presented Chief's Awards to Gabe Anderson, of Margin Coffee, Sharon Anderson, of Albany Antique Mall, and Bobby Williams, of the Albany General Hospital Foundation, for their support of the fire department.

### Public Hearing

Albany Comprehensive Plan and Development Code Map Amendments, Partition, and Site Plan Review (CP-04-22, ZC-06-22, PA-09-22, and SP-23-22)

Mayor Alex Johnson II opened the public hearing at 6:12 p.m.

No councilors wished to declare a conflict of interest or ex parte contact. Johnson II and Councilor Marilyn Smith said they had driven or walked past the site several times. No one wished to abstain. No one wished to challenge participation of any councilor.

Current Planning Supervisor David Martineau read the rules of testimony.

Planner III Jennifer Cepello described the project. The property is proposed to be split into two parcels. One will remain in commercial use; the other will have multi-family housing. Cepello described the

noticing process. She said the project satisfies all applicable review criteria and the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval.

Laura LaRoque of Udell Engineering and Land Surveying, testified for the applicant. The applicant has concerns with two of the conditions of approval. One condition requires an easement along Geary Street (map handout)\*. There's an existing sign in the easement. If improvements are needed in the easement, the owner should not have to pay the costs of moving or removing the sign. The applicant's other concern is with the required landscape buffer along the north boundary of Parcel 2. The applicant feels it is unnecessary.

No one from the public wished to testify. No procedural questions were raised.

Smith asked staff to clarify the requirement for a buffer. Martineau said the Albany Development Code justifies the buffer because of the commercial use of Parcel 1, with a parking lot next to the boundary with the residential parcel.

Johnson II closed the public hearing at 6:33 p.m.

City Attorney Sean Kidd read the ordinance for the first time in title only.

Councilor Jackie Montague moved to have the ordinance read a second time in title only. Kopczynski seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Kidd read the ordinance a second time in title only.

Montague moved to adopt the ordinance, using the motion language on the dais. Councilor Ramycia McGhee seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Ordinance No. 6009.

Montague moved to adopt the partition. McGhee seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Johnson II read the rules of appeal.

Business from the Public

**6:38 p.m.**

Karen Josephson, of Corvallis, spoke in opposition to the cutting of trees in Monteith Park.

Carol Davies spoke about the Community Outreach Assistance Team.

Clay Reinhardt spoke about an accusation made against him.

Adoption of Resolutions

**6:53 p.m.**

Special Procurement of a Remounted Ambulance from Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc

Deputy Fire Chief Kyle Romey described the justification for the purchase.

Smith moved to adopt the resolution. Kopczynski seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0 and was designated Resolution No. 7179.

Award of Contract

**6:55 p.m.**

Award of Contract for ST-22-01, Queen Avenue Rehabilitation: City Limits to Pacific Boulevard

Civil Engineer III Chris Cerklewski said staff recommends awarding the contract to K & E Excavating of Salem, for \$6,232,162. Two bids were received; the other bid was approximately \$9.5 million. The engineer's estimate was \$6,300,000.

Kopczynski asked about the bid spread. Cerklewski said the project is in front of two schools, so work needs to be done in summer when school is not in session.

Kopczynski moved to award the contract as outlined in the staff report. McGhee seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

**7:00 p.m.**

- a. Appointments
  - 1) Appointing Jaci Eiquihua to the Library Board
  - 2) Appointing Sharon Konopa to the Tourism Advisory Committee
- b. Approval of minutes
  - 1) January 30, 2023, city council meeting
- c. Adoption of resolutions
  - 1) Certify 515 Geary Street SE as exempt from property taxation RES NO. 7180
  - 2) Certify 1680-1682 Oak Street as exempt from property taxation RES NO. 7181
  - 3) Certify Parkrose Properties as exempt from property taxation RES NO. 7182
  - 4) Certify Periwinkle Place Property as exempt from property taxation RES NO. 7183
  - 5) Certify Songbird Village Property as exempt from property taxation RES NO. 7184
- d. Approval of Right-of-Way
  - 1) Montgomery Place Townhomes License to Occupy Right-of-Way
- e. Approval of meeting schedule
  - 1) August and September 2023 city council meeting dates

Montague moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Kopczynski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Staff Report

**7:01 p.m.**

Salary Grade Adjustment and FTE increase for Ambulance Billing Specialist Classification

Fire Chief Shane Wooton said the fire department needs to add more capacity for ambulance service, which will make more work for ambulance billing. The department considered contracting the work, but it would cost more than doing it in house, and the department would give up some control over the ability to make payment plans. The position can be funded out of the current and proposed budgets.

McGhee asked how much more it would cost to contract out the work. Wooton said about \$30,000. Councilor Matilda Novak asked how much the position will cost in the next budget cycle. Wooton said it will cost about \$60,000 more to go to full time, but there are already costs associated with the .6 FTE position.

Montague moved to approve the grade adjustment and FTE increase. McGhee seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Business from the Council

**7:08 p.m.**

McGhee said a constituent has expressed concern about their water bill. Johnson II suggested she forward the concern to City Manager Peter Troedsson to take to staff.

Novak said the street tree sidewalk cutouts paved with square blocks are hazardous to people with mobility issues. Recently a customer pushing his wife in a wheelchair to their car at the curb fell on the uneven paving.

City Manager Report

**7:16 p.m.**

Troedsson said Economic Development Manager Seth Sherry is testifying at the legislature about the CHIPS Act and how to provide more business-ready property in Albany to attract semiconductor businesses.

Next Meeting Dates

Monday, March 6, 2023; 4:00 p.m. work session

Monday, March 6, 2023; 5:30 p.m. joint session with the Planning Commission

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 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).*