



MINUTES

Wednesday, April 22, 2026
Meeting
Council Chambers, City Hall
Approved: May 13, 2026

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. The Mayor led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Johnson, and Councilors Carolyn McLeod, Marilyn Smith, Ramycia McGhee, Chris Van Drimmelen, Steph Newton, Michael Thomson

Councilors absent:

Adoption of consent agenda

6:10 p.m.

- a. Recommendation(s) to OLCC
 - 1) Approve retail on premises sales and consumption license, retail off premises sales manufacturing and production liquor license for JTHO, LLC., DBA Titan Valley Brewing, located at 212 1st Ave SE
- b. Award of contract(s)/bid(s)
 - 1) Award of contract for ST-26-01, 2026 Slurry Seals to Pave Northwest, Inc. of Marcola, Oregon

MOTION: was made by McLeod and seconded by McGhee to move to adopt the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

Presentations and Ceremonies

Presentation by CHANCE Recovery

6:10 p.m.

Emma Deane, Executive Director and Jon Phelps, Shelter Director presented *. They provided a summary of services offered by CHANCE, and their shelter facility. The Council asked questions and provided comments to CHANCE.

Presentation by Albany Police Diversity Alliance and Advisory Team (DAAT) 6:23 p.m.

Police Chief Marcia Harnden, and DAAT members John Phillips IV and Beth Huber presented*.

Harnden said that the DAAT was started in 2020. It involves hard conversations, paying attention to what is happening nationally and building local relationships. She said that John Phillips IV is a co-chair of the group, and Beth Huber is the co-chair from the Albany Police Department side.

Huber said that the primary role is to build trust through open discussion, and it is a big pillar of the 21st Century Policing Model.

Phillips IV said that one of the largest achievements of the group is the creation of a bias crime and incident response model, which is considered by the Oregon Department of Justice as a best practice. Huber said that the group also opened lines of communication around immigration enforcement, especially for situations in Greater Albany Public Schools (GAPS). The Council asked questions and provided comments.

Presentation by Oregon Law Center

6:43 p.m.

Heather Marek, Senior Attorney for the Oregon Law Center presented*. She said that OLC is a legal aid non-profit, which provides free legal services to low-income Oregonians.

Those services range from housing to domestic violence. The firm has 11 offices around the state and also works with the immigrant community.

She provided information on a report that OLC did regarding Flock automatic license plate readers in Albany. McLeod said that she would like clarification that outside agencies are providing federal officers with login information to access automated license plate reader data. Marek said that yes, OLC learned of it via news reporting. Smith requested clarification that outside agencies are providing federal agencies with login information, and that OLC's source for that claim was national news? Marek said that was correct and she would provide the source of that information. The Council asked questions and provided comments about the information.

Police Chief Marcia Harnden and IT Director Sean Park presented.

Harnden said that the numbers presented were identical across jurisdictions. The City was in a big pool of agencies that consolidate data. The National Lookup program was a pilot program, and the city moved to get out of the National Lookup program in December 2025. Law in Oregon now restricts National Lookup, where agencies can't share data outside of Oregon.

Harnden said that Albany policy is much stricter than state law. Oregon law allows automated license plate reader cameras to be used for doing things like running registration for vehicles to look for expired insurance. She said that the audit logs for the system were provided to OLC in response to a public records request, the City did not have the logs, ran a search for the logs and provided them to OLC proactively.

She said that in the information compiled by OLC, there was a notation of ICE search in December 2025, even though it was restricted. Harnden shared that the search was actually from Lowden County Georgia, and ICE in this case stands for Interstate Criminal Enforcement team.

Park said that he had an extensive conversation with Flock and their technical staff regarding security of data and end to end security. He said that he came away from the conversation assured that APD has good controls on the system. In fact, he wishes the City had those controls over several city systems.

The Council discussed the information.

MOTION: was made by Smith to reestablish the Flock cameras, turn the initial one camera back on and place/install the other 3 when they have a place, for a total of four and resume the Flock contract. Overturn the previous decision and reinstate the camera, and require the Albany Police Chief to provide monthly updates. There was no second, and discussion ensued.

MOTION: was made by Smith to move to restart the Flock contract, with monthly reports from the police department regarding the program. McGhee seconded the motion. City Recorder Erik Glover did a roll call voice vote. MOTION failed in a roll call voice vote, 2-4. Yes-(Smith, McGhee) No-(McLeod, Newton, Thomson, Van Drimmelen).

Council discussion took place. There was general Council consensus to direct the City Manager to conduct a community conversation as soon as possible, likely in May, regarding the Flock camera program. Then evaluate the community conversation in the month of June for a possible reinstatement in June.

Public Hearing(s)

8:11 p.m.

Economic Improvement District (EID) – First Public Hearing

Johnson opened the public hearing at 8:11 p.m.

Finance Director Jeanna Yeager spoke. She said that the public hearing is the first of two total required by ORS. She said that the City is required to get opinions in favor or opposed to forming the district. Only one person has remonstrated so far.

Public Testimony:

Mark Stewart spoke. He said that he doesn't recognize anyone present as from the Chamber of Commerce or Visitors Center. He said that he understands that the Albany Downtown Association Director will present at the end of the session today. He wondered how networked they are with the chamber and visitors center. Stewart said with the possible economic turmoil upcoming it is important to be very networked, and he is curious how closely they work together.

Trina Henderson, Executive Director of the Albany Downtown Association spoke. She said that she wanted to thank Council for Downtown Albany. The EID works because of a true partnership with the city, downtown, business, chamber and Albany Visitors Association. She said that AVA is next door neighbors to the ADA, and Carmelle Bielenberg is the President and CEO of the Albany Chamber of Commerce and they just had a lunch together. Henderson said that the funds for EID stay local in Downtown. They help maintain clean and welcoming environments and bring activity to Downtown.

Johnson closed the public hearing at 8:16 p.m.

Smith asked what the next steps were? Yeager said that a letter is going out to each property owner with the amount of the assessment, and how the property owners can remonstrate against the EID formation. She said that those letters are required to be received by the May 27th public hearing date, or properties are opted into the program.

Public Comment

8:16 p.m.

Mark Stewart spoke. He said that if Council wants public feedback on Flock cameras they should hold a public hearing. He said that he was surprised no one mentioned it. He said that one camera has been stolen, it can be put up and will likely be taken down again, and it will get expensive.

Stewart said that he wonders if anyone in council business would make a motion to allow him to discuss how the oil industry works, and how a commodity functions. He said it is something the council needs to know. Stewart shared that there may be 300,000 Linn County residents looking for food and there may be huge logistics breakdowns.

Business from the Council

8:20 p.m.

McLeod said that she recently had an opportunity to tour ABC House.

Thomson said that he is excited Albany Partnership has received CDBG funds from the Community Development Commission. The group is going to look to buy life skills supportive housing.

Newton said that she is excited about a new stop sign near Fifth St and Elm. She said that she would like to investigate installing a blocked line crosswalk at 12th and Elm Street near Takena Elementary School. Smith said that they are called ladder crossings.

Smith said that she would like to have a discussion in the future about HB4177, the Governor's veto and the practical implications for the next 18 months.

McGhee said that she and Mayor Johnson and Councilor Smith had the opportunity to visit the Farm Worker housing development behind Walmart.

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Johnson said that he recently did a short video for Jackson Street, which is celebrating its 25th year. He provided information on other events taking place around Albany. Johnson said that the League of Oregon Cities conference is taking place soon.

City Manager Reports

8:28 p.m.

None

Next meeting dates

~~Monday, May 11, 2026; 4:00 p.m. work session~~ **Cancelled**

Wednesday, May 13, 2026; 6:00 p.m. meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Erik Glover
City Recorder

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 cityrecorder@albanyoregon.org.*