



ALBANY CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Work Session

Council Chambers, City Hall

Approved: September 25, 2024

Call to Order

4:00 p.m.

Mayor Alex Johnson II called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Alex Johnson II and Councilors Steph Newton-Azorr, Jackie Montague, Ray Kopczynski, Ramycia McGhee, and Marilyn Smith

Councilors absent: Matilda Novak (excused)

Business from the Public

4:00 p.m.

None

Street Maintenance Public Opinion Research

4:00 p.m.

City Engineer Staci Belcastro gave an overview of where the conversation around street maintenance left off. Aubrie Koenig and Clark Worth from Consor and John Horvick with DHM Research presented slides* detailing the results of the public opinion research contracted by the city.

Councilors discussed the information presented by the consultants and discussed implementing a street maintenance fee, the feasibility of bond measures and a gas tax, and how to fairly charge electric vehicle users for their use of the roads.

Camping and Shelter Ordinances

4:34 p.m.

Code Compliance Officer Kris Schendel introduced the ordinances and he and Community Development Director Matthew Ruetters answered clarifying questions from councilors. Councilor Jackie Montague expressed concern over the term "reasonable" and who would determine what is reasonable. Emma Deane, executive director of C.H.A.N.C.E., Jon Phelps, Stacey Bartholomew, executive director of Creating Housing Coalition, and Diana with the Community Outreach Assistance Team (COAT) shared their experiences with Marvin's Garden and perspectives on the proposed ordinances.

Deane said her staff did not feel safe going to Marvin's Garden and Diana said that when City police officers would show up during COAT's harm reduction time, residents would refuse services. Schendel took changes suggested by Montague and said he would implement them for the ordinance's first reading at the July 24, 2024, council meeting.

Business from the Council

5:29 p.m.

Councilors and the mayor reported on recent and upcoming events.

Schendel responded to questions from Councilor Marilyn Smith regarding secondhand smoke concerns of a constituent. Councilor Ray Kopczynski gave councilors copies of the book *On Bullshit* by Harry G. Frankfurt.

Johnson II asked that the council receive an update about court cases that the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) is tracking.

City Manager Report

5:41 p.m.

Troedsson said councilors would receive ballots in their inboxes to vote on LOC lobbying priorities. Troedsson gave updates about the current burn ban and the upcoming start date of the new deputy city manager. Fire Chief Chris LaBelle spoke about current measures the City is taking to mitigate the early fire season, and Police Captain Jerry Drum spoke about how often the Police Department responds to Marvin's Garden.

City Attorney Sean Kidd spoke about upcoming changes due to the implementation of HB 4002 (2024) and the City's constraints related to bonded debt that are currently being litigated.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 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@albanyoregon.gov.*