



MINUTES

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Meeting

Council Chambers, City Hall

Approved: May 8, 2024

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, Steph Newton, Ray Kopczynski, Jackie Montague, Marilyn Smith, and Ramycia McGhee (virtual)

Councilors absent: None

Special Presentation

a. Tree City USA Award

Parks and Recreation Department Director Kim Lyddane introduced Natural Resources Specialist Jay Sharpe. The City has won Tree City designation every year for 30 years.

b. Volunteer Appreciation Awards

Lyddane presented volunteer awards to Monica Weber and Cass Templeton for their work raising funds for the therapeutic spa at the City pool at South Albany High School. Tom Cope and Julie Hadley were also recognized but were not present.

Lyddane also presented awards to Adopt-A-Park program volunteers Jill Van Buren and Chuck Poirier.

Business from the Public

6:10 p.m.

Ben Atchley, the pastor at Eastside Christian Church, handed out information* and talked about activities celebrating National Day of Prayer.

Brad Dennis asked a number of questions about the new red-light cameras.

Lisa Grato, executive director of the Albany Downtown Association, gave an update on activities downtown.

Sean Lane expressed concern about language in proposed changes to the Albany Municipal Code barring activities that are "unlawful in federal court."

Adoption of Consent Agenda

6:23 p.m.

a. Approval of minutes

1) March 27, 2024, city council meeting

b. Recommendations to OLCC

1) Approve new, full on-premises commercial caterer liquor license application for Grazing Oregon Charcuteries

- c. Adoption of resolutions
 - 1) Accept 2024-2025 State Historic Preservation Office grant RES NO. 7311
 - 2) Accept Fiscal Year 2023-2024 energy efficiency and conservation grant RES NO. 7312
- d. Approval of agreements
 - 1) Intergovernmental agreement with Lane Community College RES NO. 7313

MOTION: Councilor Jackie Montague moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Councilor Steph Newton seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0.

Business from the Council

6:23 p.m.

Councilor Matilda Novak read a letter* from a constituent about the Gibson Hill Road subdivision.

Councilor Ramycia McGhee said councilors asked a lot of questions at the March 27, 2024, meeting that, along with the answers given, were not in the minutes for the meeting. City Clerk Allison Liesse said minutes are not a transcript of a meeting. Staff are aware of the questions raised at meetings and what answers are due to the council and respond as needed. City Manager Peter Troedsson said complete video of all meetings is available for those who want more information than is given in the minutes.

MOTION: Montague moved to consider amending Ordinance No. 6039 by removing the sentence forbidding activities "unlawful in federal court." Newton seconded the motion. City Attorney Sean Kidd said the language doesn't matter legally one way or another. Councilor Marilyn Smith said the sentence is inaccurate and sloppy language and should be removed.

VOTE: the council voted 6-0 to amend Ordinance 6039.

There was an amending ordinance on the dais. Kidd read the ordinance for the first time in title only.

MOTION: Montague moved to have the ordinance read a second time in title only. Smith seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0.

Kidd read the ordinance a second time in title only.

MOTION: Montague moved to adopt the ordinance amending Ordinance 6039. Councilor Ray Kopczynski seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 and was designated Ordinance No. 6040.

Montague asked when the City expects to have a solution to the water billing issues. Troedsson said billing will switch completely to the new system at the end of April and should run smoothly after that.

Newton asked several questions to clarify the special event permit fees related to security.

Montague expressed concern that the expense of security could discourage event sponsors.

City Manager Report

7:02 p.m.

Troedsson said in reference to Dennis's questions that the purpose of the new red-light cameras is to change behavior, not to raise funds. The program will cost money. If anything is left after expenses, it will be used for traffic safety improvements. Novak asked how many people have been hurt in traffic accidents in front of the schools on North Albany Road. Harnden said she will find out.

Kidd talked about the liability involved in the council giving public money to private parties without an official program and criteria for making decisions.

Troedsson said Albany has a lot of properties that are worthy of preservation, and the City has limited resources that are not being replenished. The Economic Development fund is one-time money, and the City's Economic Opportunities Analysis said we should focus on industry.

Newton recalled that she asked at a previous meeting for details of Economic Development fund spending so far. Troedsson said Finance Director Jeanna Yeager and Economic Development Manager Sophie Adams are working on the information.

Troedsson reminded the council that the April 22 work session has been canceled.

Next Meeting Dates

~~Monday, April 22, 2024; 4:00 p.m. work session~~ **Cancelled**

~~Wednesday, April 24, 2024; 6:00 p.m. meeting~~ **Cancelled**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 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@albanyoregon.org.