



MINUTES

Monday, September 23, 2024
Work Session
Council Chambers, City Hall
Approved: October 9, 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, Matilda Novak, Jackie Montague, Ray Kopczynski, Ramycia McGhee, and Marilyn Smith

Councilors absent: None

Business from the Public

4:00 p.m.

Laura DuBose shared concerns and personal experiences with criminal activity related to an alleyway near her home on Willamette Ave SE. DuBose requested the city close or restrict access to the alleyway and discuss the item. DuBose submitted written testimony* and additional testimony from James and Patty Howell* and Chastain DuBose* concerning that same alleyway.

Terry Mann spoke about an easement and crossing at Knox Butte.

Mike Quinn spoke about the proposed street maintenance fee and asked council to reconsider implementing a fee and instead implement a \$0.06 gas tax. Quinn also spoke about the city owned lots that were formerly Marvin's Garden and suggested that they be used for housing projects.

Bill Van Vleet, owner of Van Vleet meat and food service, said that his company would be interested in purchasing the city owned lots that were formerly Marvin's Garden. At the request of Johnson II, City Attorney Sean Kidd spoke about the process for the city to sell city-owned land.

Michael Thomson spoke in opposition to the street maintenance fee ordinance scheduled for the council meeting on September 25, 2024.

Granting public utility easement and dedicating right-of-way on South Albany Park property **4:15 p.m.**

Parks and Recreation Director Kim Lyddane spoke about the item. Responding to a question from Councilor Jackie Montague, Lyddane said the requested action does not have an impact on the city's ownership of the 26 acres of South Albany Park.

Public Works Director and Acting City Manager Chris Bailey answered questions from Councilor Matilda Novak about the City's water rights. Novak requested additional, written information regarding the city's water rights.

Business from the council

4:21 p.m.

Novak said a member of the public told her that the City has \$8.4 million available for discretionary use from the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and asked that the money be used for streets. Montague and Johnson II responded to comments from Thomson about the street maintenance fee.

Councilor Ramycia McGhee shared constituent concerns about wild turkeys and asked for the council to consider a feeding ordinances to regulate the turkeys.

City Manager report

4:34 p.m.

Bailey said the council will discuss the alleyway mentioned by DuBose and the disposition of the property that was formerly Marvin's Garden at future meetings. Bailey clarified that the ordinance under consideration at the September 25, 2024, council meeting establishes the council's legal authority to create a street maintenance fee and does not create the methodology or set the rate of any fee. Responding to a request from Novak, Bailey said she would distribute the full public opinion report compiled by consultants. Bailey said there is an effort to reschedule the September 30, 2024, work session to allow for councilors to attend the Downtown Association awards event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:41 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.*