



MINUTES

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Meeting

Council Chambers, City Hall

Approved: June 10, 2026

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:01 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:

3. Adoption of consent agenda

- a. Appointments
 - 1) Designating Community Development Commission members as appointees
- b. Approval of minutes
 - 1) May 13, 2026 city council meeting
- c. Adoption of resolution(s)
 - 1) Ambulance Service Fee Adjustments RES NO. 7497
- d. Award of contract(s) / bid(s)
 - 1) Award WL-26-01, 6th Avenue And Montgomery Street Water Line to AB Utility Contractors, Inc., of Harrisburg, Oregon, as low bidder to construct new water main in the amount of \$428,526

MOTION: Smith moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Newton seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

Presentations and Ceremonies

Republic Services Summer Schedule Adjustment Request

6:02 p.m.

Mayor Johnson adjusted the agenda order to hear this item before other presentations.

Republic Services Municipal Services Manager Sarah Steen presented. She said that historically Republic Services has started work shifts at 5am in the summer because of heat and health reasons. Republic Services wanted to make that schedule change permanent from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Staff would begin work at 5am and end work one hour earlier.

MOTION: Van Drimmelen moved to accept the Republic Services schedule adjustment to begin at 5am between Memorial Day and Labor Day on an ongoing basis. McGhee seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

Albany Police Department 2025 Annual Awards Presentation

6:05 p.m.

Police Chief Marcia Harnden presented awards to members of the Albany Police Department and members of the public.

Break: 6:25 p.m.

Reconvene: 6:35 p.m.

Adoption of the 2026-2030 City of Albany Strategic Plan

6:35 p.m.

Deputy City Manager Kayla Barber and Sarah Singer-Wilson of SSW Consulting presented.

Singer-Wilson presented a QR code and link to the Albany strategic plan. She discussed the strategic plan development process.

Newton said that she received a constituent email, and comments in the strategic plan survey which provided overwhelming feedback for single family homes and less multifamily. She wondered if that would be in the strategic plan? Barber said that comprehensive plan update process would be where those conversations would take place.

Council discussed the plan. Thomson said that it is difficult to compile all the different wants and needs. A good job was done. He said he had questions in the past but all the sentiment is captured in the plan and fairly.

MOTION: Smith moved to adopt the 2026-2030 strategic plan. Van Drimmelen seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

Public hearing(s)

Second Public Hearing and Ordinance Adoption – Downtown Economic Improvement District (EID)

6:49 p.m.

Johnson opened the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.

Finance Director Jeanna Yeager presented the staff report. She said that this is the second of two required public hearings, the first was April 22, 2026. The rates are the same as the last few EID's, notices were sent out as required by ORS and this is an opportunity for the public to speak.

Public Testimony:

Will Vellinga spoke by Zoom. He said that affordability, and attention for housing is a big thing. When the downtown is addressed; affordable options for people to have fun and hangout are desired. He said that this should not be about economic progress for business, but also community. Affordable community spaces are necessary in Albany.

Lonna Capaci said that she is with the Albany Visitors Association and is an Executive Assistant with the Albany Downtown Association. She said that the lights and flowers don't happen by accident. It happens with EID funds. She said the EID funds also support the downtown community and she wanted to thank the council and participants in the EID for the historic downtown and partnerships to keep it thriving.

Staff Response:

Yeager said that the EID is a voluntary program. Property owners have the opportunity to opt out until the second hearing is completed. She said at present the EID has 22% remonstrance (no), and if there is more than 33% the EID does not move forward.

Public hearing closed: Johnson closed the public hearing at 6:56 p.m.

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

MOTION: McGhee moved to read the ordinance for the second time in title only. Thomson seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

MOTION: McGhee moved to adopt the ordinance. Van Drimmelen seconded the motion which passed 6-0, it was designated ORD6079.

Public Comment

Written public comment was received.

Robert Morrical- signed up to speak virtually, but did not provide comment.

Elizabeth Rapp- signed up to speak, but did not provide comment.

The following provided comments about Flock cameras and ALPR technology/cameras. They were generally in opposition to the technology and requested the city council decline the Public Safety Commission recommendation to reinstate the Flock contract at the City of Albany.

John Schoenhals
Marc Trinks
Matt Aberle
Eric Tracy
Remi Hill
Denny Halbert
Taryn Borsch
Ava Butler
Kyle Tyler
Pat Duggen
Rose Ganni
Susan Leonard
Cypress Clark
Dyllan Murphy
Logan Asher
Max McConnell
Charlotte Campbell
Billy McGregor
Ferris Barker
Hunter Hawthorne
Ryan Barrett
Deacon Cook
Ben Lake
Ace Listro
Suzanne Phillips
Nathan Carasco
Diane Conrad
Marie Long
Esther Kim
Mark Ryan
Nick Price
Alex Rice

Win Eaton * provided a handout packet to the city council and provided comments about a UGB expansion and development proposal for 3.72 acres he owns. He encouraged the council to support his development proposal for housing for seniors on property in north Albany under HB4802.

Norma Eaton provided comments about the same topic, and said she was hoping that the council would annex the property in the city limits to support this development.

Ron Kloes provided comments about the Eatons' development proposal and encouraged the council to support the development.

Denny Halbert provided comments about the Eatons' development proposal and encouraged the council to support the development.

Jim Davis and **Connie Erickson** provided comments in support of Flock ALPR camera system technology and use by APD.

Dick Olsen provided comments about Simpson timber property and homeless camping. He encouraged support of homeless camping in the area.

Daniel Relehert-signed up to speak but did not provide comment.

Matt Bennett- signed up to speak, but did not provide comment.

Break: 8:34 p.m.

Reconvene at 8:43 p.m.

MOTION: Newton moved to extend the meeting past the normal ending time of 9:00 p.m. Van Drimmelen seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

Action Items(s)

8:44 p.m. Karsen O'Bryan Executive Director of ABC House and Chris Reese CEO of Mid-Willamette Family YMCA provided public comment about Flock ALPR cameras its use by APD, and was generally in support of the technology/use.

Adopt by motion- Flock Automated License Plate Reader Camera Discussion and recommendation from the Public Safety Commission **8:47 p.m.**

Police Chief Marcia Harnden presented*. She said that the presentation was also shared with the Public Safety Commission. Harden said that she has been in law enforcement for 33 years, used an ALPR camera mounted on her patrol car in the early 2000's. The technology is also in common use by states for toll charges on roads, parking garages and by universities.

She provided information about ALPR technology, and the City of Albany contract for ALPR with Flock.

She provided a summary of local and national crimes with a resolution assisted by ALPR technology, including a recent one in Austin, Texas. Harnden invited Keith Metting to speak about the Austin, Texas incident as he was present. Metting said that he is a North Albany resident, and was in Austin, Texas during the recent shooting event at police and fire stations. He said the City of Austin does not use ALPR technology, but Manor, Texas does. The cameras in Manor, Texas were able to help locate the suspects in approximately 30 minutes. Metting said that Albany PD does things the right way, and the city should use this system.

Harnden said that before the suspect vehicle was caught, over 200 law enforcement officers were deployed. It would be equivalent to every police officer from south Portland to Eugene, Oregon being brought in for an equivalent incident in Albany.

She said that misconduct with law enforcement technologies like Flock is always a concern. According to available reports, misconduct with the system has been .004 %. Harden said that with proper oversight the system can work. The contract with Flock has seven months remaining, and is asking the council to give it a chance. Harden said that she will provide reports to council every month, and if one concern comes in she will shut off the system.

Captain Jerry Drum presented/shared the inside of the admin portal of the Flock system.

MOTION: Newton moved to cancel the Albany contract with Flock Safety effective immediately. Thomson seconded the motion.

Lengthy discussion ensued and the council shared their thoughts on Flock ALPR camera technology and contract.

The motion passed 4-2 in a roll call voice vote. Yes-(Newton, Thomson, Van Drimmelen, McLeod) No- (Smith, McGhee)

Informational Briefings/Staff Reports

Transportation System Plan Update

9:38 p.m.

Public Works Director Paul Trombino and Assistant Engineering Manager Rob Emmons presented. They provided a summary of the TSP plan and process, and that the TSP is a required 20-year planning document.

Business from the Council

9:46 p.m.

Van Drimmelen said that he wanted to thank everyone who provided public comment, it is the largest amount he has seen during his time on council.

McLeod thanked everyone who showed up to speak. She said that she would like to explore an ordinance to prohibit ALPR (automated license plate reader) cameras within city limits, on public and private property.

MOTION: McLeod moved that the City Council direct city staff to prepare a draft ordinance prohibiting the use of automated license plate reader cameras within the City of Albany Oregon, the proposed ordinance should 1) prohibit the operation, deployment or use of any ALPR systems by a public agency, department or contractor acting on behalf of the City of Albany, 2) prohibit the operation, deployment or use of ALPR systems by any private organization, business or individual within city limits including on private property, 3) include appropriate definitions, enforcement mechanisms and exceptions only as required by state or federal law. City staff should return the draft ordinance to the City Council for review and consideration, at the next City Council meeting. NO SECOND.

Troedsson said that the quickest turn around for a legal analysis would likely be four weeks.

City Attorney Sean Kidd said that he is not aware of any cities with an outright ban on it, the city would likely be sued by businesses who have the technology already.

Discussion ensued.

Kidd said that Oregon State Police uses ALPR technology on their cars, if an ordinance was passed it would basically require them to turn off their cameras when they were driving through city limits. Benton County also may use the cameras on patrol cars and they patrol North Albany. McLeod requested that Kidd return with a legal analysis in four weeks. Kidd said that he would be able to get that done and present at the July 8 meeting.

Smith said that from all the testimony tonight the overwhelming thing to her seemed that people are afraid of so many things, and she doesn't know how to combat it. She said it starts at the top, which is not here. It affects everyone, and she feels very bad about that.

Johnson said that he received a lot of emails. Many of the people he works with are over 65, and they don't email, they show up at his office or house. He said that he was happy to see the turnout, as this is a big issue.

City Manager Reports

10:05 p.m.

City Manager Peter Troedsson thanked council and staff for staying late for the meeting. He thanked the public who participated in the discussions in a respectful fashion. He said that in the future ARA meetings will not be scheduled at 4:00 p.m. before the council meetings. They will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Troedsson said that information was provided on the dais. A question came in from Councilor Thomson regarding housing construction in the last 3 years. Additional questions came in from members of council. He summarized the handout as saying that 424 single family homes were built in the last 3 years, 142 apartment units were created, thus single family homes outpace apartment units.

Troedsson said that Matt Bennett originally signed up for public comment, but he had to leave. Bennett was going to share information with the council about a fundraiser for the Waverly Duck.

Next meeting dates

Monday, June 8, 2026; 4:00 p.m. hearing/work session

Wednesday, June 10, 2026; 6:00 p.m. meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:08 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.*