



ALBANY CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 9, 2023

Work Session

Council Chambers, City Hall

Approved: November 29, 2023

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, Matilda Novak, Jackie Montague, Ray Kopczynski, Ramycia McGhee (remote), and Marilyn Smith

Councilors absent: None

Business from the Public

4:00 p.m.

Janet Steele, President of the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce, invited councilors to a ribbon cutting event.

Cumberland Community Events Center

4:01 p.m.

Emma Eaton and Joel Orton presented slides* and a video about the Cumberland Community Events Center. Eaton and Orton requested that the city council consider extending the events center's lease agreement or consider selling to the center the land it currently leases from the city.

Councilor Matilda Novak and Councilor Steph Newton requested that staff bring back information about the lease agreement to a future city council meeting. The council agreed.

Zipty Fiber

4:13 p.m.

Jessica Epley, Vice President of Regulatory and External Affairs for Zipty Fiber, updated the council on the implementation of fiber and stated that Zipty's biggest issue is city permits.

Novak said she would like to make sure that Zipty is no longer causing negative experience for Albany residents on their property. Epley said Zipty has only received one complaint during the process and spoke about Zipty's complaint submission process.

Epley said she did not know why city permits were taking so long to process. Public Works Director/Interim Deputy City Manager Chris Bailey said staff would reach out to Zipty to hear about the issue. Responding to a question from Councilor Jackie Montague, Bailey said she would need to check with staff to see if the city received additional complaints beyond the one Zipty received.

Storm drainage SDC discussion

4:18 p.m.

Engineering Manager/Assistant City Engineer Rob Emmons and contractor Deb Galardi (virtual) shared slides* reviewing the concept of System Development Charges (SDCs), detailing proposed methodology for a new storm drainage SDC, and reviewing implementation options for the city.

Responding to a question from Councilor Marilyn Smith, Emmon said other communities have had storm drainage SDCs for quite some time. Responding to a question from Councilor Ray Kopczynski,

Emmons said the city is not legally required to set a storm drainage SDC, but the projects that the charge would fund would still need to happen. Funding would have to be found elsewhere.

The council agreed to move forward with a public hearing to consider setting the storm drainage SDC methodology. Newton, Montague, Novak, and McGhee expressed interest in implementing the recommended methodology and phasing in the charges.

Emmons said there is a public hearing scheduled for November 8, 2023, where the council will first consider adopting the storm drainage SDC methodology, and then consider where to set SDC fees.

Street funding discussion

4:45 p.m.

Civil Engineer III Chris Cerklewski presented slides* about the lifecycle of streets and the condition of Albany streets.

Johnson II recessed the meeting from 5:17 p.m. to 5:25 p.m.

License to occupy Oak Street

5:25 p.m.

City Engineer Staci Belcastro presented information about the requested license to occupy on Oak Street. Belcastro answered clarifying questions about the purpose of the right-of-way. Councilors agreed to keep the item on the consent agenda for the October 11, 2023, regular meeting.

Business from the council

5:27 p.m.

Smith said she attended an Oregon Government Ethics Commission training concerning executive sessions and encouraged councilors to take the online version.

City manager report

5:29 p.m.

Bailey said that City Manager Peter Troedsson would return the following day.

Recess to executive session to consider matters relating to the safety of the governing body, public body staff, volunteers, and public body facilities in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2)(o).

5:32 p.m.

Johnson II read the executive session script and recessed the council into executive session at 5:32 p.m.

Reconvene

6:12 p.m.

Johnson II reconvened into regular session at 6:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 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@cityofalbany.net.*