

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Municipal Court Room, City Hall
Monday, October 12, 2009
4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Konopa called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilors Present: Floyd Collins, Dick Olsen, Bill Coburn, and Bessie Johnson
Councilors Absent: Jeff Christman and Ralph Reid, Jr.

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

There was none.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN

Human Resources Director David Shaw said staff had provided the current Affirmative Action Plan to the Council, as requested, to compare the new language that is provided in the agenda. He asked the Council if they wished to formally adopt the new policy by resolution or have it simply approved by the Human Resources Manager or City Manager. Shaw said some minor errors will be corrected and brought to the October 14 City Council meeting. They include correcting the City's population on page 1 and renumbering the Roman Numerals starting on page 6.

Councilor Coburn suggested inserting the word "qualified" before "women" in the first sentence at the top of page 2 and rewording, "2. Setting goals and timetable to correct..." to read "2. **Suggest** setting goals and timetable to correct..." On page 3 Coburn suggested removing the word "special" before "emphasis" in the last sentence.

There followed a discussion regarding reverse discrimination.

City Attorney Jim Delapoer noted that no law requires the City to hire someone based on their minority or gender status. He also recommended that the Council adopt the policy by resolution.

The Council consensus was supportive of the document with the suggested changes and to adopt the plan by resolution, to be consistent with past practice.

Staff will make the minor grammatical changes and bring a resolution back to the Council for final approval at the October 14, 2009, City Council Regular Session.

AERIAL MAPPING PROJECT (SPRING 2010)

Data Systems Manager Pete Brandstetter explained that the aerial mapping of Albany had not been updated since 2006. The City saves \$20,000 per year to fund new photos every 5-6 years. The map in the agenda packet shows the areas that have changed since 2006. Money for this project was budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Budget. They expect the project to be done by the end of June 2010.

Konopa asked if the city of Millersburg is included in the mapping. Brandstetter said yes, Albany has utilities in the area. Millersburg was initially charged when the first mapping took place, but has not been charged since then. Konopa suggested staff reconsider charging Millersburg.

City Manager Wes Hare said that much of the revenue to pay for this project comes out of the Water and Sewer Funds for which Millersburg does pay. Information Technology Director Jorge Salinas said that 50 percent of Graphic Information Systems (GIS) is budgeted from the Water and Wastewater Funds. There followed discussion regarding other areas outside the city limits, where the City is maintaining or contributing to water and wastewater projects.

Councilor Collins mentioned that the data received from this project, on these outside areas, is very important to Albany's system.

INVESTMENT POLICY UPDATE

Finance Director Stewart Taylor explained that the Investment Policy is one of three published in the Budget document. Davidson Fixed Income Management is the City's Investment Manager.

Deanne Woodring, CFA, Managing Director of Davidson, provided a report to the Council (in the agenda file) on the City's policy and investment philosophy. She explained that their investment goals are to:

1. Manage to safety first, to provide for preservation of principal dollars.
2. Provide for sufficient liquidity in a low economic growth period.
3. Maintain market rates of return.

Woodring said their main intent is to focus on stability in the fund. State law dictates some investments and the Short Term Fund Board dictates others. There followed discussion regarding charging interest and earnings.

DEERFIELD AND BURKHART PARK LEASES

Parks & Recreation Director Ed Hodney explained that staff is asking the Council to discuss options for a new agreement with the Greater Albany School District (GAPS) for continued use of Deerfield and Burkhart Parks. He said the City has leased Deerfield Park since 1983 and Burkhart Park for more than 50 years. GAPS asked the City to buy these properties or enter into a long-term agreement that will more appropriately reflect the value of their properties. Deerfield Park has a market value of \$646,000 and Burkhart Park is valued at \$148,000. The City and GAPS have discussed alternatives. GAPS initially offered to sell the properties to the City, but the City doesn't have the money at this time to purchase both sites. Staff proposes to pay GAPS \$300,000 from the Parks System Development Charges program to build a new soccer field at the new Timber Ridge School. In exchange, the City would receive use of the field for its recreation programs. The school district is willing to maintain the soccer field at Timber Ridge. In addition, GAPS might be willing to convey ownership of Burkhart Park to the City and the City would enter into a long-term lease of Deerfield Park for an annual lease payment of \$1,000.

Collins said he supports this long-term plan.

Hodney said a 30-year agreement was considered and any agreement will come back to the Council for approval.

There followed a discussion about alternatives to the staff proposal, including securing new long-term leases, buying the parks with payments over time, or receiving title to Deerfield Park rather than Burkhart Park.

Hare said the good news is that the City and GAPS are considering an arrangement that both parties feel is reasonable.

The Council discussed having GAPS consider a balloon payment and spreading the cost out over a longer period of time.

The Council directed staff to continue negotiations to develop alternatives to the approach proposed by staff at this meeting.

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER REFRESHER COURSE

Delapoer gave a brief history of Robert's Rules of Order and the City of Albany Charter. He reviewed concerns in Robert's Rules of Order that contradict the way Albany typically does business in Council meetings. If the Council should occasionally violate Robert's Rules of Order, it would not make a difference legally because the Council has the authority to suspend those rules.

Delapoer explained that the motion "Calling for the Previous Question," which is often stated by saying "I call for the Question" immediately stops debate. It is not in order when another person has the floor, needs to be seconded, is not debatable nor amendable, requires a two-thirds vote of the Council present to pass, and can be reconsidered. Delapoer explained that the City's Charter requirement for four Council members to agree in order to pass a motion applies to this motion as well and supersedes Robert's Rule of Order.

There was discussion regarding setting time limits on testimony at public hearings and during Business from the Public. The Council will consider setting rules in advance.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS

Konopa said this past week she had dinner with Senator Merkley and went on a watershed tour sponsored by the Governor's Office. She also met with a group of people associated with the Albany Airport. They had no idea about the creation of the Airport Advisory Committee. They were worried about who would be on the committee. She explained that members would be appointed by the Council. Konopa will be in touch with staff regarding when a resolution will be coming to the Council creating the committee, setting membership requirements, and explaining duties.

Konopa invited the Council to participate in the Veterans Day Parade. They will consider riding in the City Trolley.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Betty Langwell, MMC
City Clerk

Stewart Taylor
Finance Director