



## MINUTES

Wednesday, October 9, 2024  
Meeting  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
Approved: October 23, 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-Azorr, Ray Kopczynski, Jackie Montague, Marilyn Smith, and Ramycia McGhee

Councilors absent: None

### Special Presentations

**6:01 p.m.**

- a. Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties – Christine Mosbaugh and Lacey Mollel  
Mollel distributed handouts\*. She said Community Health Centers have been around for 53 years. They are federally funded and don't turn patients away if they can't pay. The health centers focus on veterans, the homeless, and migrants. They are patient-governed. There are five clinics currently in Linn and Benton counties, and they hope to start one in Albany.

Councilor Ray Kopczynski asked if the clinic's purpose is to fill a gap, or to duplicate services? Mollel said they are a gap-filler for those who need integrated services.

Councilor Ramycia McGhee asked if they plan to partner with LBCC programs. Mollel said yes.

Johnson II asked if seniors are eligible for care. Mollel said yes, seniors and Medicare patients are eligible.

- b. Oregon Community Foundation – Jackie Roth, Ruby Buckholz **6:12 p.m.**  
Jackie Roth said she is the regional director of the southern Willamette Valley region of the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF). The OCF is a grant-making charity whose assets come from thousands of donations. The donations are established as charitable funds, and can be managed by the donors.

### Business from the Public

**6:22 p.m.**

John Pitsch said the City allows drivers on his street to get away with speeding. He has complained to the council three times and wants the City to do its job.

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

### First reading of ordinances

**6:29 p.m.**

Renewing franchise agreements

- 1) Lightspeed Networks, Inc, dba LS Networks  
City Attorney Sean Kidd read the ordinance for the first time in title only.

MOTION: Councilor Marilyn Smith moved to have the ordinance read a second time in title only. Kopczynski seconded the motion, and it failed 5-1, with Councilor Matilda Novak voting against. It takes a unanimous vote of the council to have an ordinance read a second time in the same meeting. This ordinance will come back to the October 23, 2024, council meeting for an automatic second reading.

Councilor Matilda Novak asked, if the City requires the franchisee to replace overhead lines with underground lines, can the franchisee recover its costs from its ratepayers? Finance Director Jeanna Yeager said potentially, yes. The Public Utility Commission regulates this.

Novak said the indemnity clause mentions hazardous substances. What kind of hazardous substances? Yeager said she talked with the City's engineering division. It's generic language that protects the City. Kidd said the mutual indemnity between the City and the franchisee does not affect a resident's right to sue if they are harmed.

Novak asked why the franchisee has 180 days to pay franchise fees, but residents can be fined \$1,000 per day if they are late paying the street maintenance fee. City Manager Peter Troedsson said the comparison is inaccurate, and utility billing staff routinely work with customers who are having trouble paying their bills. It is very rare that a fine is assessed. Novak said it "smells of a lack of integrity."

2) Astound Broadband, LLC

Kidd read the ordinance for the first time in title only.

MOTION: Smith moved to have the ordinance read a second time in title only. McGhee seconded the motion, and it failed 5-1, with Novak voting against. It takes a unanimous vote of the council to have an ordinance read a second time in the same meeting. The ordinance will come back to the October 23, 2024, meeting for an automatic second reading.

Award of contract

**6:48 p.m.**

Special procurement for police vehicle in-car cameras

MOTION: Smith moved to adopt the resolution awarding the contract. McGhee seconded the resolution, and it passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 7360.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

**6:50 p.m.**

a. Appointments

- 1) Accepting Karen Messer's resignation from the Library Board
- 2) Accepting Pat Kidd's resignation from the Public Safety Commission
- 2) Appointing Scott Kniefel to the Library Board

b. Approval of minutes

- 1) September 23, 2024, city council work session

MOTION: Koczynski moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented. McGhee seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0.

Business from the Council

**6:50 p.m.**

Novak read selections from several communications she has received. No copies were provided to the clerk.

Smith said she would like to remind the public and those present that there is no street maintenance fee. There is an ordinance to authorize study of a street maintenance utility. She also wished to defend the personal integrity of staff and councilors.

City Manager Report

**6:57 p.m.**

There was none.

Next Meeting Dates

Monday, October 21, 2024; 4:00 p.m. work session

Wednesday, October 23, 2024; 6:00 p.m. meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 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](mailto:cityclerk@albanyoregon.org).*