



Public Safety Commission

MINUTES

May 18, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Albany Police Department, Community Room

Approved: 06/03/2026

Call to Order

Chair Cynthia Green called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Cynthia Green; Bessie Johnson; Kevin Kreitman; Erik Rau; Sheree Speaks-Mahi, Nick Fowler; Joanna Robinson; Mark Stewart

Members absent: None

Staff present: Chief of Police Marcia Harnden; Fire Chief Chris LaBelle; Diana Eilers, Police Business Manager; Rochelle James, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Captain Jerry Drum; Sheerica Ware Wilkins, Flock Representative

Presentation

Chief Harnden explained how the Flock license plate readers can be utilized by the department for law enforcement purposes. She explained the laws governing its use in the State of Oregon, the benefits of the system, how it was funded, and how the Albany Police Department intends to use the system. She also discussed how the system is audited, how and when information is shared with other agencies, and what agencies the information can be shared with by law.

Captain Jerry Drum demonstrated how the system works, the types of criteria that can be searched for, and how those queries are made. Audience members were also shown examples of the vehicle license plate photos that are obtained by the system.

During the presentation and demonstration, several audience members asked questions and voiced concerns about the program and its use, how the data obtained is protected, how other agencies access that information, and how personal privacy is protected. Chief Harnden answered questions as they were posed from both the public and commissioners throughout the course of the presentation and discussion.

Business from the Commission

Commissioner Johnson moved to submit a recommendation to the City Council to reinstate the Flock license plate readers and require Chief Harnden to provide the monthly audit information to the commission for review at their regularly scheduled meeting. After an additional statement by Commissioner Robinson, the vote was held. The motion passed with five votes in favor and three against reinstatement.

Cynthia Greene was nominated for Chair and Bessie Johnson was nominated for Vice Chair simultaneously by Commissioner Fowler and the nominations were seconded by Commissioner Kreitman. Both were elected unanimously.

Business from the staff

Chief LaBelle advised that city Emergency Manager and Safety Officer Chuck Perino would be a guest speaker at the next meeting on June 3, 2026.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion for the commission to begin meeting monthly rather than bi-monthly. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rau. After some discussion, a vote was taken. The motion failed with two votes in favor and six votes against.

Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on June 3, 2026, at the Albany Fire Department.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chair Greene adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Rochelle James
Administrative Assistant I

Reviewer's Name
Reviewer's Title

**Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. The documents are available by emailing cityclerk@cityofalbany.net.*