



## **CITY OF ALBANY**

**MINUTES OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL  
AND THE ALBANY MUNICIPAL SERVICES JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2012**

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**6:45 p.m.**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

City Council convenes in the Council Chamber and then adjourns to Closed Session on the following items:

- 1) Labor Negotiations pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:
  - a) Agency Negotiator: City Manager & Glenn Berkheimer, IEDA  
Employee Organizations: Albany Peace Officers' Association
  - b) Agency Negotiator: City Manager  
Employee Organization: Albany Municipal Services Joint Powers Authority and City of Albany Public Safety Management
- 2) Recruitment, Selection and Appointment of Public Employee, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1):  
Position: Public Works Director/City Engineer

**7:30 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Javandel called the regular meeting of the Albany City Council and the Albany Municipal Services Joint Powers Authority to order on the above date.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Javandel led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel

Absent: None

Staff Present: Beth Pollard, City Manager; Craig Labadie, City Attorney; Anne Hsu, Deputy City Clerk; Jeff Bond, Community Development Director; Penelope Leach, Assistant City Manager, Rich Cunningham, Public Works Manager; Jeremy Allen, Recreation Supervisor.

**3. REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY**

Mayor Javandel reported that no action was taken regarding items 1-a and 1-b; and direction was given to staff regarding item 2.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**4-1. Minutes, May 21, 2012**

Staff recommendation: Approve

**4-2. a. Ratification of City of Albany net payroll in the amount of \$ 192,435.93; taxes, benefits & withholdings in the amount of \$264,545.22. Total payroll in the amount of \$456,981.15. Payroll period: 5/18/2012**

b. Ratification of Albany Municipal Services JPA net payroll in the amount of \$46,215.33; taxes, benefits & withholdings in the amount of \$55,350.17. Total payroll in the amount of \$101,565.50. Payroll period: 5/18/2012

Staff recommendation: Ratify.

**4-3. a. Ratification of bills, claims and demands against the City of Albany in the amount of: \$272,282.02 ( 04/13/2012 ); \$721,863.87 ( 04/27/2012 ); \$26.638/15 ( 05/01/2012)**

b. Ratification of bills, claims and demands against the Albany Joint Powers Authority in the amount of:  
\$250.00 ( 04/13/2012 ); \$742.70 ( 04/27/2012 )

Staff recommendation: Ratify

**4-4. Ratification of Police & Fire Pension Plan payments in the amount of \$118,697.48 for the month of May, 2012.**

Staff recommendation: Ratify.

**4-5. Pierce Street Pavement and Bikeway Project Speed Hump/Crosswalk Maintenance Agreement with City of Richmond**

Staff recommendation: Authorize the City Manager to sign the attached City of Richmond “Agreement for Maintenance of Speed Hump/Crosswalk on Pierce Street Adjacent to Albany City Limits”.

Mayor Javandel asked if anyone would like to remove an item. No items were removed.

There was no public comment regarding the consent calendar.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Council Member Thomsen, seconded by Council Member Lieber to approve the Consent Calendar, as submitted.

AYES: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel. ABSENT: None.

NOES: None.

Motion carried and so ordered.

**5. GOOD OF THE CITY/PUBLIC FORUM/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Javandel opened the Good of the City/Public Forum/Announcements.

The following people spoke: Preston Jordan, Allan Maris.

A summary of comments is as follows: Interest in Council approval of televising the Traffic & Safety Commission meetings, concern regarding the Marin/Buchanan Project related to the right-turn lane and importance of ensuring accessibility for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing San Pablo is a included in the project, appreciation for the 2012 Albany Civics Academy, encouraged attendance at the upcoming School District Civics Academy bonus session.

**6. PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARING**

**6-1. 2012 Albany Civics Academy Graduation Ceremony**

Assistant City Manager presented the item. Mayor Javandel presented the Civics Academy Graduates with certificates.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**7-1. Draft Capital Improvement Plan: FY 2012/13 – FY 2017/18**

Staff recommendation:

- 1) Receive information regarding status of draft CIP.

- 2) Review proposed new projects and advise incorporation into CIP:
  - a. Solar energy systems
  - b. Solano Avenue design improvements (Masonic to City boundary)
  - c. Senior Center expansion design
  - d. Active Transportation Plan

City Manager Pollard delivered the staff report. The CIP budget includes 27 projects during the five year period, intended to meet City goals, and policies or to comply with regulations. Additional projects for Council direction were identified and discussed individually as follows:

a. Solar energy systems: Ben Foster representing Optony, an independent consulting firm that conducted the solar installation feasibility study for City facilities, provided additional detail regarding the proposed projects. The full life cycle of solar panels has a positive net impact on reducing greenhouse gasses. Grant funds for the project are not anticipated, payback for the projects is anticipated between 7-11 years. Other cities in the Bay Area have conducted similar projects including County of Santa Clara, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Los Gatos and Milpitas. The California Solar Initiative provides rebates for installation of solar and is administered by PG&E. A nominal deposit is required, refundable to the City once the project goes forward. The rebate is available for a short time and must be reserved. The City would own renewable energy credits by conducting the projects.

The following people spoke: Preston Jordan

A summary of comments is as follows: concern that the proposed solar projects are costly as currently designed.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: interest in pursuing panels at the childcare center and interest in seeking additional funding to pursue additional solar installation projects.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Council Member Lieber, seconded by Vice Mayor Atkinson to pursue childcare center at present time and pursue funding for the other projects to be brought back to Council.

AYES: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel.

NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Motion carried and so ordered.

b. Solano Avenue design improvements: design work would performed on the remaining section of Solano between Masonic and the Berkeley border in the style of the lower Solano improvements from Masonic to San Pablo Avenue.

The following people spoke: Preston Jordan, Albany Strollers and Rollers; Clay Larson.

A summary of comments is as follows: support for improving sidewalks as part of the project, interest in making improvements to San Pablo Avenue.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: interest in conducting the design work, City of Berkeley will be pursuing improvements in the near future, interest in improving lighting.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Council Member Lieber, seconded by Council Member Thomsen to move forward with improvement plans for Solano Avenue.

AYES: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel.

NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Motion carried and so ordered.

c. Senior Center Expansion the project will be to conduct a design plan up to 35%.

No public comments.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: interest in pursuing 35% plans.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Vice Mayor Atkinson, seconded by Council Member Wile to approve performing the 35% design for the Senior Center Expansion.

AYES: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel.

NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Motion carried and so ordered.

d. Active Transportation Plan (ATP): future CIP projects will incorporate elements of the ATP.

The following people spoke: Preston Jordan, Albany Strollers & Rollers; Allan Maris; Nick Pilch, Albany Strollers & Rollers.

A summary of comments is as follows: interest in enhancing cycling routes in the City including paint and signage to identify cycle routes to meet City plan goals, interest in improving street lighting for pedestrians and cyclists.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: support for painting and signage for cycle routes, and making improvements for pedestrian and bicyclists as part of larger street construction projects, interest in increasing amount of street lighting.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Vice Mayor Atkinson, seconded by Council Member Thomsen that the Active Transportation Plan be included with the Capital Improvement Plan.

AYES: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel.

NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Motion carried and so ordered.

**7-2. Recommendations of Library Advisory Board regarding Library Bequest**

Library Advisory Board recommendation:

- 1) Approve \$45,000 in funding from Library Bequest to City for upgrade of AV system in Edith Room
- 2) Request Council direction to Board to review additional library needs which may be appropriate candidates for funding from Library Bequest.

Staff recommendation:

- 3) Add upgrade to community center main hall for cable-casting, including addition of remote cameras in Edith Stone room, and add to Capital Improvement Projects for Fiscal Year 2012/13.

City Manager Pollard delivered the staff report. The City Council had asked the Library Advisory Board to return with a recommendation on use of funds from a bequest made to the City for books and/or equipment in the Albany Library. The Board has identified audio visual improvements to the Edith Stone room to recommend with funding from the bequest.

Council Member Lieber added additional detail regarding the projects as he serves on the Library Advisory Board and the Alameda County Library Commission. The Advisory Board is holding off on recommending the purchase and installation of mounted cameras for the Edith Stone Room at this point in time as it is considering other potential needs for use of the bequest funds. In addition, such new cameras would trigger other improvements that would be needed in the Community Center, at an additional cost not applicable to the bequest.

Allan Riffer, Chair of Library Advisory Board added that improvement to the AV equipment as related to library space is a primary interest.

Jeremy Allen, Recreation Supervisor, clarified the proposed project and associated costs. Additional discussions will be held by both the Community Media Access Committee (CMAC) and the Library Advisory Board. The Edith Stone Room has been reserved for the week of July 12 in anticipation of installation of AV equipment.

Ellen Toomey, CMAC Chair added that PEG funding (Public Education Government cable revenue) is to be utilized for capital improvements, and CMAC is evaluating the best recommended use of these funds.

No public comment.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: support for mounted cameras in the Edith Stone Room and interest in doing the entire project by adding additional \$21,000 to the project above the \$45,000 to install mounted cameras in the Edith Stone Room.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Council Member Thomsen, seconded by Council Member Wile to approve \$45,000 in funding from the Library Bequest to the City for the upgrade of the AV system in Edith Room.

AYES: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel.

NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Motion carried and so ordered.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8-1. Recommendation to Submit a Letter to EBMUD to Encourage Community Choice Aggregation**

Staff recommendation: Authorize submittal of a letter to the East Bay Municipal Utility District stating that the City of Albany encourages them to continue research on the feasibility of Community Choice Aggregation as a method of purchasing renewable energy, and state the City's interest in discussing a potential collaboration.

Community Development Director Jeff Bond delivered the staff report. Per Assembly Bill 117, California cities can purchase electricity on behalf of customers within the city. A Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) allows for purchase of electricity from alternative energy sources as opposed to the traditional municipal utility. A CCA does not own the transmission and delivery systems for energy, but is responsible for purchasing electricity used by residents and businesses. Joining a CCA would allow the City to reduce electricity-related greenhouse gas emissions, in line with the City's Climate Action Plan goals. The East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) is currently looking into the feasibility of a CCA. The City's Sustainability Committee has recommended that the City collaborate with EBMUD and neighboring cities to explore the feasibility of a CCA.

No public comment.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: expressed support for EBMUD conducting analysis.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Council Member Lieber, seconded by Vice Mayor Atkinson to authorize submittal of a letter to the East Bay Municipal Utility District stating that the City of Albany encourages them to continue research on the feasibility of Community Choice Aggregation as a method of purchasing renewable energy, and state the City's interest in discussing a potential collaboration.

AYES: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel.

NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Motion carried and so ordered.

**8-2. City Council Designation of Voting Delegates and Alternates to California League of Cities Annual Business Meeting (Resolution No. 2012-37)**

Staff recommendation: The Council designate a primary representative and up to two alternates.

City Manager Beth Pollard delivered the staff report. The California League of Cities requests each City Council in the state select a voting delegate and an alternate for the Annual Business Meeting held during the Annual Conference.

No public comment.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: Mayor Javandel volunteered to serve as the delegate. Council Member Thomsen and Lieber volunteered to serve as the alternates.

**MOTION:**

Moved by Vice Mayor Atkinson, seconded by Council Member Wile to designate Mayor Javandel to serve as the delegate, Council Member Thomsen to serve as the first alternate voting delegate and Council Member Lieber to serve as the second alternate voting delegate to the California League of Cities Annual Business Meeting.

AYES: Council Members Lieber, Thomsen, Wile, Vice Mayor Atkinson, Mayor Javandel.

NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Motion carried and so ordered.



**9. OTHER BUSINESS, REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED, ANNOUNCEMENT OF EVENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

Council Member Lieber announced he attended an event with Loni Hancock and Nanci Skinner and he discussed the recent letter submitted by the City regarding concerns over redevelopment agency closure issues.


Council Member Lieber announced he will be running for the Bay Area Rapid Transit Board of Directors to represent District 3.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

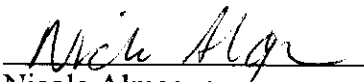
Adjourn in Memory of retired Fire Chief Horace (Mike) Koepke.

9:17 p.m. There being no further business before the City Council it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Nicole Almaguer, City Clerk.

  
Farid Javandel  
Mayor

Attest:

  
Nicole Almaguer  
City Clerk