



CITY OF ALBANY

**MINUTES OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2014**

7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Mayor Wile called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy City Clerk Anne Hsu led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Atkinson, Barnes, Maass, Vice Mayor Wile.

Absent: Mayor Thomsen

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

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

4-1. Minutes, March 3, 2014; March 5, 2014

Staff recommendation: Approve

4-2. Ratification of Payroll

a. Ratification of City of Albany net payroll in the amount of \$235,221.30; taxes, benefits & withholdings in the amount of \$306,091.75. Total payroll in the amount of \$541,313.05. Payroll period: 2/21/2014

b. Ratification of Albany Municipal Services JPA net payroll in the amount of \$42,271.67; taxes, benefits & withholdings in the amount of \$51,381.86. Total payroll in the amount of \$963,653.53. Payroll period: 2/21/2014

Staff recommendation: Ratify

4-3. Ratification of Bills, Claims and Demands

a. Ratification of bills, claims and demands against the City of Albany in the amount of: \$112,596.25 (2/24/2014); \$29,466.46 (2/25/2014); \$862.50 (2/25/2014); \$356,355.98 (2/28/2014)

Staff recommendation: Ratify

4-4. Expansion of the Edible Landscape Project in Memorial Park

Staff recommendation: that the Council approve the expansion of the Friends of Albany Parks Edible Landscape Project (ELP) at Memorial Park

4-5. Jacqueline Beale Jordan Memorial Tree Application

Staff recommendation: that the Council approve the placement of the Jacqueline Beale Jordan memorial tree and plaque and acceptance of a "Gift to the City" per AMC 2-27.8

4-6. Buchanan Marin Bikeway Phase III Measure B Grant agreement

Staff recommendation: that the Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract agreement with the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) in the amount of \$536,000 of Measure B funds for the construction of the Buchanan Marin Bikeway Project-Phase III (Bike Trail Connector)

4-7. Establishment of a qualified Bicycle Advisory Committee for the review of projects proposed to be funded by the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 purposes

Staff recommendation: this is an informational item for Council for future consideration of assigning the Traffic and Safety Commission or the Alameda County BPAC to serve as the Bicycle Advisory Committee to the City for the review of projects funded by TDA Article 3 funds

Vice Mayor Wile asked if anyone would like to remove an item, items 4-4, 4-6 and 4-7 were removed from the consent calendar.

Item 4-4: Council Member Atkinson expressed appreciation for the edible landscape project at Memorial Park. Council Member Maass asked about water conservation with regard to the project.

Alexa Hauser, Volunteer Coordinator for the Edible Landscape project addressed the Council. The project utilizes permaculture to manage water resources and plants are drought tolerant.

Item 4-6: Council Member Atkinson asked about the bulb outs and whether they impact bike lanes. Transportation Planner Aleida Andrino Chavez responded that

the improvements will be designed to ensure bike lane accessibility. Grant funding opportunities may be available to implement this project.
Item 4-7: Maass confirmed that the item is an informational item at this time.

MOTION:

Moved by Council Member Atkinson, seconded by Council Member Maass to approve the Consent Calendar items as submitted.

AYES: Council Members Atkinson, Barnes, Maass, Vice Mayor Wile.

NOES: None

Absent: Mayor Thomsen.

Motion carried and so ordered.

5. PRESENTATION

5-1. Proclamation in honor of the Albany Rotary's 85th Anniversary

Council Member Atkinson presented the Proclamation to the Albany Rotary.

5-2. Review of Advisory Body Work Plans

Staff recommendation: that the Council receive presentations regarding the 2014 Work Plans developed by the Community Media Access Committee, Park & Recreation Commission, and the Planning & Zoning Commission outlining the priority tasks for each respective group, and provide any comments or direction regarding each advisory body work plan

City Manager Penelope Leach delivered the staff report and introduced the representatives from the Advisory Bodies.

Terry Lamb, Vice Chair of the Community Media Access Committee presented the work plan.

Alene Pearson, Chair of the Park & Recreation Commission presented the work plan.

Nick Pilch, Vice Chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission presented the work plan.

6. GOOD OF THE CITY/PUBLIC FORUM/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Mayor Wile opened Good of the City/Public Forum/Announcements.

There was no public comment.

Vice Mayor Wile announced the Paws to Read program at the Edith Stone Room. Council Member Maass announced that Donald Shoup will be speaking this Wednesday night regarding parking reform.

7. PUBLIC HEARING**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS****9. NEW BUSINES****9-1. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Annual Audit for the Year Ended June 30, 2013 and Supplemental Reports Issued by the Auditors**

Staff recommendation: that the Council 1) Receive presentation by the City's independent auditors of the results of their examination of the City's financial reports for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 and 2) Accept and file the reports

The independent auditors presented results of the annual audit. The auditors issued an "unmodified opinion" meaning that the financial statements are a fair representation of the City's financial position.

Interim Finance Director Paul Rankin delivered the staff report. Annually the City prepares financial statements which are audited by the independent auditors. The City retained the services of a Certified Public Accounting firm of Badawi & Associates, LLP, to serve as independent auditors of the City's financial reports. The reports are compiled into a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The Auditors have also completed supplemental reports including: 1) Compliance Review of Measure B Funds; 2) Compliance Review of Vehicle Registration Fee Funds; 3) Transportation Development Act Fund Audits for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013; and 4) A review of the Annual Appropriations Limit Calculation.

Timeliness of completing the CAFR has been a challenge due to staff turnover. Staff will make this item a priority in the future.

Two of the reports will be presented to the City Council at a later date. The Albany Police and Fire Relief or Pension Fund audit report will be presented first to the Pension Board of Commissioners, which is expected to occur at their March meeting. The Federal Single Audit is an expanded audit that is required when an agency expends more than \$500,000 of Federal grant funds in a Fiscal Year. This report is required to be submitted to the granting agencies and the State Controller by March 31, 2014. The Auditors are in the process of completing their review and issuing the final report.

A summary of Council comments is as follows: expressed appreciation for the comprehensive report; asked about property transfer tax outlook and the adequacy of the sewer system budget; asked about unfunded liability expenses.

Interim Finance Director Paul Rankin responded to Council questions noting that the transfer tax and sales tax have increased in line with an improved economy; currently the sewer system budget has covered identified improvement projects and a master study is being conducted to plan future sewer system projects; PERS has adopted a policy that will increase pension contribution rates over the next five years.

The following people spoke: Caryl O’Keefe.

A summary of comments is as follows: expressed appreciation for the detailed report, expressed concern with expenses to the City including legal expenses and money already spent, expressed concern with the upcoming budget cycle and how to identify all expenses that will be needed.

MOTION:

Moved by Council Member Maass, seconded by Council Member Atkinson to accept and file the reports regarding the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Annual Audit for the Year Ended June 30, 2013.

AYES: Council Members Atkinson, Barnes, Maass, Vice Mayor Wile.

NOES: None

Absent: Mayor Thomsen.

Motion carried and so ordered.

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

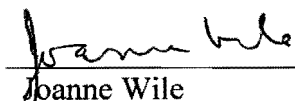
Atkinson reported that she attended a rally in Sacramento regarding, and congratulated the Albany High School girl’s wrestling team.

Maass attended a Stopwaste meeting regarding business energy efficiency.

11. ADJOURNMENT

9:20 p.m. Vice Mayor Wile adjourned the meeting in memory of former Mayor Richard Clark.

Minutes submitted by Nicole Almaguer, City Clerk.



Joanne Wile
Vice Mayor

Attest:



Nicole Almaguer
City Clerk