6:45 p.m. SPECIAL MEETING - CLOSED SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

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

a) Labor Negotiations pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Negotiator: Mayor Peggy Thomsen
Unrepresented Employee: Assistant City Manager/Recreation & Community Services Director Penelope Leach

b) Labor Negotiations pursuant to Government Code Section 59457.6

Agency Negotiator: Interim City Manager Patrick O’Keeffe & Glenn Berkheimer, IEDA
Employee Organization: Albany Fire Fighters’ Association

3. ADJOURNMENT
7:30 p.m. CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Thomsen called the regular meeting of the Albany City Council to order on the above date.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Thomsen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. ROLL CALL
Present: Council Members Atkinson, Barnes, Maass, Vice Mayor Wile, Mayor Thomsen
Absent: None.

3. REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY
Mayor Thomsen reported that the Council gave direction to the Mayor regarding item #1, and gave direction to the consultant regarding item #2.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

4-1. Minutes, November 18, 2013
Staff recommendation: Approve

4-2. a. Ratification of City of Albany net payroll in the amount of $209,309.97; taxes, benefits & withholdings in the amount of $281,036.69. Total payroll in the amount of $490,346.66. Payroll period: 11/15/2013.

b. Ratification of Albany Municipal Services JPA net payroll in the amount of $43,010.52; taxes, benefits & withholdings in the amount of $49,046.49. Total payroll in the amount of $92,057.01. Payroll period: 11/15/2013.

Staff recommendation: Ratify

4-3. Ratification of bills, claims and demands against the City of Albany in the amount of: $756,738.97 (11/8/2013);

Staff recommendation: Ratify

4-4. Council Member Barnes appointed Alan Eckert to the Charter Review Committee.

Staff recommendation: Information only

4-5. Quarterly Cash and Investments Treasury Reports for the Quarters Ending June 30, 2013 and September 30, 2013
4-6. 2013 Building & Fire Codes Ordinance – Ordinance No. 2013-03

Staff recommendation: that the Council adopt Ordinance No. 2013-030, Amendments to the Building & Housing, Fire Prevention, Chapters of the Municipal Code related the Adoption and Local Amendments to the 2013 California Building Standards Code, pass to print

4-7. Ordinance No. 2013-02 Amending Section 15-2.4 of the Albany Municipal Code to Authorize Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills by Placement on the County Tax Rolls

Staff recommendation: that the Council adopt Ordinance No. 2013-02 amending Section 15-2.4 of the Albany Municipal Code to authorize collection of delinquent garbage bills by placement on the Alameda County tax rolls, pass to print

Mayor Thomsen asked if anyone would like to remove an item. Item 4-6 was pulled by Interim City Manager Pat O’Keeffe. Additional revisions to the Ordinance will be made by staff for review at the next Council meeting.

MOTION:
Moved by Council Member Atkinson, seconded by Council Member Maass to approve the Consent Calendar with the exception of item 4-6.
AYES: Council Members Atkinson, Barnes, Maass, Vice Mayor Wile, Mayor Thomsen.
ABSENT: None
NOES: None
Motion carried and so ordered.

5. PRESENTATION

5-1. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Swearing In Ceremony
Mayor Thomsen presented certificates to the CERT graduates. Fire Chief Lance Calkins conducted the swearing in ceremony for the recent CERT graduates choosing to serve as Disaster Service Workers.

5-2. Waste Management of Alameda County Recycling Promotional Video
Sustainability & Transportation Coordinator Claire Griffing introduced the video. Rebecca Parnes, Recycling Coordinator from Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC) expressed appreciation for the collaboration between the City and Waste Management. Jack Kenney, Community Media Access Committee Member expressed appreciation for WMAC sponsorship of the film fest and the collaborative effort to make the video.
5-3. Federal Health Care Act – Presentation by Alex Briscoe, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
Alex Briscoe, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency provided a presentation on the Federal Health Care Act.

6. GOOD OF THE CITY/PUBLIC FORUM/ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mayor Thomsen opened the Good of the City/Public Forum/Announcements.
The following people spoke: Amber Whitson.
A summary of comments is as follows: expressed concern with the temporary transition shelter.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS
9-1. City Council Health Benefits

Staff recommendation: that the Council receive the report and provide Staff with any further direction on modification of current policies or additional information needed

Interim Finance & Administrative Services Director Paul Rankin delivered the staff report. City Council Members are eligible to receive health insurance benefits. Currently, the health plan providers include Kaiser and Blue Shield. Council Members may enroll in either plan, and the premium is fully paid by the City. The policy negotiated and applicable to other City employees caps the City contribution at the Kaiser rate. Employees who are enrolled in a plan which has a higher cost pay the cost difference through payroll deductions.

The following people spoke: Brian Parsley; Peggy McQuaid; Amber Whitson.
A summary of comments is as follows: expressed support for parity with City employees.
A summary of Council Comments is as follows: the item was raised during a candidate forum, expressed interest in fairness and that Council Members should have the same level of coverage as City staff; expressed support for existing benefit structure; suggested comparing benefits packages and salaries with other City Councils, not City employees; expressed interest in additional research regarding City Council salaries and benefits, and the item returning to the Council in January.
9-2. Nomination and Election of Mayor and Vice-Mayor

Staff recommendation: that the Council nominate and elect members of the City Council to the positions of Mayor and Vice-Mayor for a one-year term.

Council Member Maass nominated Vice Mayor Wile for Mayor. Vice Mayor Wile withdrew her name, and nominated Mayor Thomsen to serve as Mayor, seconded by Council Member Barnes. Unanimously approved.

Council Member Atkinson nominated Council Member Maass to serve as Vice Mayor. Mayor Thomsen nominated Council Member Wile for Vice Mayor. The nomination of Vice Mayor Wile to serve as Vice Mayor was seconded by Council Member Barnes. Council Member Maass withdrew his name. Unanimously approved.

Nominations carried and so ordered.

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

10-1. City Hall will be closed the week of December 23 – 27, and reopen on December 30, 2013.

Council Member Atkinson announced the Senior Center Holiday Sale Saturday, December 7.

11. ADJOURNMENT

8:50 p.m. Mayor Thomsen adjourned the meeting in memory of Albany resident John Koehn, former City of Albany Mayor Bill Lewis.

Minutes submitted by Nicole Almaguer, City Clerk.

[Signatures]

Peggy Thomsen
Mayor

Attest:

Nicole Almaguer
City Clerk