

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

January 20, 1998

The minutes of the proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, beginning with a work session in the Council Chambers at 7 p.m. and proceeding to a regular session in the Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m.

Those Present

Those present were Mayor Joanne Verger, Councilors Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler, Kevin Stufflebean, and Judy Weeks. Councilor Joe Benetti was absent. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Accounting Systems Manager Mary Beth Holst, Police Chief Chuck, Library Director Carol Ventgen, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Community Services Director Bruce.

WORK SESSION

Finance Department Report

Accounting Systems Manager Mary Beth Holst reported the finance department is on target for budget expenditures and the revenues are coming in good. She commented staff has been very busy with business license renewals and budget preparation. Mayor Verger commended staff on keeping the department running well in the long-term absence of the finance director.

Other Discussion

Mayor Verger reviewed the applicants for the design review board and Councilor McKeown expressed a desire to interview the applicants he had not yet met. Councilor Spangler suggested moving ahead with the appointments. Mr. Grile reported the Council had three alternatives for the city logo to review. Discussion followed on the shape, banner style, and background of the design. Mr. Grile reviewed the recommendation for rerouting the traffic from Anderson Avenue to 4th Street to Elrod Avenue. Mayor Verger noted another public hearing would be scheduled to take additional input on the Kittelson study. Mr. Grile reviewed the urban growth boundary extension application and the possible need for a pollution insurance policy. He explained the policy would be approximately \$20,000 annually and suggested considering placing the money in a self-insurance fund.

COUNCIL MEETING

Flag Salute

Mayor Verger opened the meeting and led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

Consent Calendar

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Mayor Verger read the consent calendar which consisted of Resolution 98-1 — Accepting the Traffic Safety Grant from ODOT. Councilor Spangler moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which carried with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Report from Marshfield High School Representative Miliah Masibu

Miliah Masibu reported on the students of the month, the play Exit the King, the drive for five program, upcoming sports events, and the dance team invitational. Miss Masibu commented on the Marshfield magazine which is published one a year and on the Mr. MHS pageant to be held on March 12th. Mayor Verger encouraged the student council to invite members of the City Council to school.

Introduction of the New Coos Bay Volunteer Firefighter's Association President

Jon Eck, past president of the volunteer firefighters association, introduced the new president Randy Booker. Mr. Eck reported Mr. Booker has been a member of the volunteer firefighters for five years. Mr. Booker invited the Council to attend the annual banquet on March 21st.

Appointments to the Design Review Board

Mayor Verger reported one of the applicants has not been interviewed by the Council and consensus of the Council was to conduct an interview and place the matter on the next agenda.

Consideration of New City Logo

The Council reviewed the proposed logos and consensus was to go with option #2 done in the oval shape, and with the ship slightly larger. City Manager Grile will take the suggestions to the artist.

Enactment of Ordinance No. 249 Amending Ordinance No. 69 Regulating the Construction, Alteration, Maintenance and Repair of Sidewalks and Providing a Penalty

City Manager Bill Grile reported the ordinance had been redrafted at Council's request. Councilor Spangler noted the old ordinance had the Council looking at everything and appreciated the amendment which would allow the city manager to make the decisions. Mayor Verger moved to enact Ordinance No. 249. Councilor Miller seconded the motion.

Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title only and the Council was polled with the following results:

Voting Aye:	Mayor Verger and Councilors McKeown, Miller, Spangler, Stufflebean and Weeks
Voting No:	None
Absent:	Councilor Benetti

Consideration of Staff Recommendation on the Downtown Circulation and Parking Study

Community Services Director Meithof reported the study was performed by Kittelson and Associates

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and various public meetings and information gathering sessions had been held. The study covers traffic flow, parking, signage, and some pedestrian and bike path considerations. Mr. Meithof reviewed the recommendations from staff to reroute east and south bound traffic from Anderson Avenue to 4th Street to Elrod Avenue which would alleviate much of the downtown congestion. There would be no changes on Bayshore and Broadway. He explained the change on Anderson would allow for diagonal parking in the downtown area. Mr. Meithof reported 2nd and 3rd Streets would remain one-way, as they are now. Mr. Meithof reviewed the zone parking system outlined in the Kittelson report and the locations of the parking lots. He commented the report suggests the parking system be kept simple and there is enough parking to accommodate the parking needs of downtown. Mr. Meithof said part of the plan is to improve the parking lots by resurfacing, additional lighting, signage, and landscaping.

Flora Lee Lockhart, Chair of the parking advisory committee, expressed appreciation to ODOT for funding the study, and commended Kittelson on the study. Mrs. Lockhart also thanked the committee members for committing their time. She then reviewed the committee recommendations for employee parking; behind Jennie's, lot A, 14 spaces in the lot behind Kaffe 101, and 16 spaces in the Chamber lot. She said it is estimated that there are approximately 250 downtown employees. Other committee recommendations were that the lot next to the Hall Building, beside Payless, next to Fiddlesticks, behind Coast to Coast, Lot E, the lot south of Kaffe 101, and the Chamber lot remain for customer parking. The committee supported diagonal parking on the south side of Anderson, on-street parking limited to one hour, traffic lights to be synchronized, removal of yellow spacers on curbs where trees used to be planted, and designation of the spaces in the Payless lot facing north marked for compact cars only.

Ralph Larson, Coos Bay, expressed there is a need for customer parking and disagreed with designating more employee parking in area of Bayshore and Broadway businesses. Councilor Spangler noted that employees are customers as well. Mayor Verger suggested a public hearing be scheduled for 7 p.m. on February 2nd, and this was the consensus of the Council. Councilor Stufflebean inquired about the cost of implementing the changes. City Manager Grile reported an estimate of \$20,000 to do the striping, and reprogramming the traffic signals. Councilor McKeown asked if there was a potential to receive State dollars for the project and Mr. Grile said yes.

Initiation of an Amendment to the Land Development Ordinance and Setting a Public Hearing

City Manager Bill Grile reported the existing ordinance allows commercial development on substandard streets and is not a huge problem. Mayor Verger commented on the need to plan for future growth and that now may be the time to make some changes. She suggested the planning commission review the LDO for other areas in need of amendment. Consensus of the Council to have the planning commission review the ordinance and set the public hearing.

Review of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment to Extend the Urban Growth Boundary to Allow for Annexation of Old Wireless Road

Community Services Director Bruce Meithof reported an application to annex Old Wireless Road, located south of the Englewood district, has been submitted to the city. The applicants' desire the annexation to allow them to hook up to the wastewater system. Mr. Meithof noted the decision from the Council would be tentative at this time because the County also needs to act on the request. Mayor Verger moved to adopt the Planning Commission's recommendation which includes findings, justifications, and conditions that address the applicable criteria and approve Comprehensive Plan Amendment 97-76 and Annexation 97-55. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

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Discussion Regarding Pollution Liability Insurance

Harry Abel, city insurance agent of record, reported the city's general liability policy does not include pollution hazards and because of the city's exposure to this type of hazard, the city may want to consider an additional policy. Councilor Spangler commented that since OMI has taken over, it seems the risk factor has greatly diminished. Mr. Abel agreed and commented the Council should be aware of the exposure. City Manager Grile commended Mr. Abel on his performance as the city's agent of record. Councilor Weeks moved to accept staff's recommendation to take no action at this time to purchase additional insurance and consider setting aside money in FY 98-99 if revenues will accommodate that choice. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Public Comments

Roger Gould, Coos Bay, reported he would be representing Mrs. Dorothy Davis and hoped to secure her property back into her name. Mr. Gould commented Mrs. Davis does not have the funds to repair the house and Mr. Landrum has been in contact with agencies to help Mrs. Davis with her problems. He commented on the volunteer efforts to clean up her property.

Geno Landum, 2800 Libby Drive, thanked the Council for their effort in this matter and said the clean up of Mrs. Davis' property was proceeding. Mr. Landrum asked the Council to be involved with helping businesses move to Coos Bay, and commented Coos Bay is not known to be a business friendly city. He commented he has heard that the Council does not want retailers in the downtown area.

Mayor Verger acknowledged there is concern of economic development in the city and the Council does want retail business in downtown Coos Bay. Councilor Weeks reported FONSI was formed for the purpose of getting concerned individuals together to work on economic development for the area. Councilor Spangler commented FONSI is a positive step and will bring the area's resources together.

Roger Gould invited everyone to attend a luncheon on the 24th to kickoff the fundraising event for phase 2 of the Boys and Girls Club building project. Mr. Gould supported the Kittelson report and the designation of the lot behind Jennie's for employee parking. He noted that the lot frequently has many empty spaces.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported the Council will be presented with four different options for the smoking advisory measure at the February 3rd council meeting.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile reported the library project appears to be two months off schedule due to a miscommunication regarding the dates of the project and bill schedules. He commented Rich Turi is doing a fine job as the project architect. Mr. Grile reported the Blue Ribbon Committee is being organized and should be meeting the first part of February.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilor McKeown congratulated the police department on securing the traffic safety grant He commented the Boys and Girls Club provides an important service for the youth and encouraged everyone

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to be active in the second phase of the building project.

Councilor Weeks reminded Council of the employee appreciation luncheon on Friday and commended Geno Landrum on his volunteer efforts to help Mrs. Dorothy Davis.

Councilor Miller commented the Eastside boat ramp ground breaking did not receive adequate exposure on the TV news. She reported the Coos Stop Crime committee will be partnering with other agencies to resolve their funding situation, and announced she will co-chair the Governor's tourism conference to be held in Coos Bay in April 1999.

Councilor Stufflebean reported the public access TV board adopted new rules and regulations at their January 14th meeting and requested Council appoint another member to the board.

Councilor Spangler reported the owners of the hardware store, Mr. and Mrs. Plummer, have indicated they are willing to have the gateway signs put up on their property. Mayor Verger commented the urban renewal agency has already acted on the location site and would need to meet again to make changes.

Mayor Verger reported the Eastside boat ramp ground breaking ceremony went well although the television media did not cover the event. She noted the facility will be a great addition to the city and noted the improvements to D and F Streets. The mayor commended Bruce Meithof, Steve Doty and Gary Combs for their participation in the project. Mayor Verger reported welcoming the mid-winter postmaster conference on Saturday and noted the Mayor's conference will be held in Coos Bay in August.

Executive Session

The City Council met in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (h) for the purpose of discussing potential litigation and receiving advice from legal counsel.

The Council reconvened into regular session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to February 2, 1998 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Joanne Verger
Mayor of the City of Coos Bay
Coos County, Oregon

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen
Deputy Recorder of the City of Coos Bay
Coos County, Oregon