

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

January 5, 1999

The minutes of the proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, beginning at 7 p.m. with a work session in the Council Chambers and proceeding to a regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Present

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

WORK SESSION

Mayor Verger reviewed the consent calendar and agenda items. Mr. Grile introduced Rob Porter who will be giving a report on the pool house project. Mayor Verger reported Councilor Spangler had been contacted about serving on the Tree Board and he is willing to serve. Mr. Grile reported meeting with North Bend interim city administrator Jim Watson and attorney Bob Thomas regarding the government access channel. Mr. Grile commented North Bend has expressed concern the access channel will cost money to sustain the program, and reported the North Bend Council would be discussing this at their next meeting and would submit a counter proposal to Coos Bay. Mayor Verger asked if the non-profit organization would be responsible for funding and Mr. Grile said that was the intent behind the proposal. Mr. Grile encouraged Council to give some thought to having a peg fee. Councilor Miller reported Mayor Golder said North Bend is in support of the government channel but have major concerns about public access. Mr. Grile commented Coos Bay has been a strong supporter of peg access TV and he would like to see three things come out of the discussion; additional funding to keep the programming, address the camera needs, and urge the Council to encourage North Bend to make a decision one way or the other. Mayor Verger inquired when Falcon expects to have South County on board and Mr. Grile said in March. Councilor Spangler asked how the City can move forward without North Bend when the equipment is jointly owned. Mr. Grile said they would sign the equipment over to Coos Bay. Councilor Weeks commented the Joint TV Committee had talked about the formation of a 501C3 and inquired where the City was with this process. Mr. Grile said the City was waiting for North Bend to make a decision. Mayor Verger reported the North Bend Mayor requested until their second meeting in January to make a decision on the matter. City Attorney Tosh noted the Public Access TV Board was dissolved when the ordinance was repealed. Councilor Spangler requested the executive session be held after the Urban Renewal Agency meeting.

COUNCIL MEETING

Flag Salute

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

Consent Calendar

City Council Minutes – January 5, 1999

Mayor Verger reported the consent calendar consisted of acceptance of the agreement with Oregon State Department Fish and Wildlife for the Eastside boat ramp project and Resolution 99-1 accepting and appropriating the traffic safety grant. Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Presentation of Appreciation Awards to Jo Schima and Zane Burris by Library Director Carol Ventgen

Library Director Carol Ventgen commended library staff members Jo Schima and Zane Burris for excellent performance above and beyond the call of duty. Ms. Ventgen reported Zane Burris has been a library user and volunteer for a number of years, and he designed and painted the donated book drop box. Jo Shima came to the aid of an elderly woman who had fallen on the sidewalk near the library. Ms. Ventgen presented both employees with certificates of appreciation.

Department Head Report – Finance Director Janell Howard

Finance Director Janell Howard reported the audit has been completed, business license renewals are coming in, the department is preparing for the budget season, and the monthly finance summary reports are now caught up. Ms. Howard reported the accounting of Bay Area Public Access funds has been completed and shows the \$10,000 grant had been spent by the end of June 1997. Funding for programming since that time has been from underwriting funds and sponsors.

Presentation of FY 97/98 Audit by Jessie Bridgham of Yergen and Meyer

Jessie Bridgham of Yergen and Meyer presented the 1997-98 fiscal year audit report and thanked finance staff for their good work. Ms. Bridgham noted the opinion letter is longer than last year due to the Y2K issue. She commended the City on their excellent accounting practices.

Mingus Park Bath House Progress Report by Rob Porter, Architect

Rob Porter reported the drawings for the bath house are 50% complete and they are ready to go to bid. Mr. Porter explained the design will be built on the existing foundation and includes the addition of bleachers for observers. Mayor Verger asked about the seating capacity of bleachers and Mr. Porter responded the capacity would be 66 people. Councilor McKeown inquired if treated lumber would be used. Mr. Porter responded that treated lumber will be used some areas and the shower room and the shower facility designed appropriately. Councilor Stufflebean asked if building would be heated and Mr. Porter said the plans included a new forced air system. Caddy McKeown inquired about the construction schedule and Mr. Porter responded the project has been set for a five-month construction schedule for the building, taking into consideration use by the school and summer use.

Council Appointment to the Tree Board

Mayor Verger moved to appoint Councilor Spangler to the Tree Board. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Additional Direction for Operating Government Access TV Channel

City Council Minutes – January 5, 1999

City Manager Bill Grile asked for direction regarding an additional \$1,000 funding for the government access channel and for repairing the camera during the interim while the City of North Bend makes a decision on the channel. Mayor Verger commented the Council needs North Bend's decision before the City can move forward with RFPs for a non-profit to run the channel, and suggested a time limit of January 31st be set. Mr. Grile noted that the RFPs would need to be drafted and could possibly go out the end of February. There was discussion on the \$10 hourly rate covering the expenses and Mr. Grile reported that some programming is being aired without payment. Councilor McKeown commented perhaps some of the public does not distinguish between government access and public access. Mr. Grile explained there are three parts to PEG access; education, public and government and what the Council has done is activate the government channel. Councilor Miller moved to authorize transfer of \$1,000 to the government access program and urge the City of North Bend to decide by January 31, 1999 about a partnership with the City of Coos Bay. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported an ordinance regarding littering will be presented to the Council at their next meeting.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile reported Phil Worth of Kittleson and Associates, will be in town next Thursday to review the 4th and Anderson and 4th and Elrod intersections. Councilor McKeown suggested a free right on Elrod onto Hwy 101 be considered. Mr. Grile commented a meeting with local trucking firms will be scheduled to discuss truck parking on City streets. Mr. Grile reported Langdon Marsh, Director of DEQ, had contacted his office regarding setting up another community solutions team meeting about the Front Street project.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilor Weeks reported the planters are available for downtown and Empire and staff is currently getting prices on plants. Conrad Wood Preserving donated the beams to rebuild the bridge in John Topits Park which was completed with 133 manhours involved and for a cost of \$518.

Councilor Spangler reported the next OCZMA and CPACT meetings will be held in Salem and invited ideas for transportation funding be submitted to him. Councilor Spangler noted two methods are currently being considered; a \$10 increase on licensing vehicles and a 6% increase at the gas pumps over the next three years.

Councilor Miller reported receiving a number of comments regarding downtown parking and requested a Parking Committee meeting be scheduled in January.

Councilor Stufflebean commended the city manager and staff on meeting council goals, specifically in the areas of economic development and PEG access.

Councilor McKeown commented a number of the City's goals are being accomplished and commended Mayor Verger for setting up the economic forum meeting. Councilor McKeown suggested staff review the bid process and timing of going out to bid as a way of possibly saving money.

Mayor Verger reported the City of North Bend has appointed Councilor Howard Graham to the Tourism Promotions Committee, and commented the historic district in downtown Coos Bay needs named and signed before the Governor's Tourism Conference in April. Mayor Verger noted the economic forum

City Council Minutes – January 5, 1999

meeting is the first in a series of meeting to help the Council determine where Coos Bay's niche is in business recruitment. She reported the meeting in Springfield with Senator Byer regarding public/private partnerships was very successful. Mayor Verger reported contact with the Governor's office regarding what the state might be able to do to help our area and someone for the Oregon Development Department is to contact her.

Recess of the Council Meeting

Councilor Miller moved to recess the Council meeting to call to order by the Chair the Urban Renewal Agency meeting. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. The Council continued the City Council meeting in Executive Session following the Urban Renewal Agency meeting.

Executive Session

The City Council met in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (d) for the purpose of consulting with legal council regarding labor negotiations. The Council reconvened into regular session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to January 7, 1999 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 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