

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

February 2, 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 Joe Benetti, Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler, Kevin Stufflebean, and Judy Weeks. 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, Captain Jack Bushmaker, and Police Chief Chuck Knight

WORK SESSION

Mayor Verger reported the land use appeal for 1995 Newmark Avenue would be removed from the agenda and rescheduled due to notice requirements. Councilor Stufflebean suggested the appeal be heard on March 2nd at 6 p.m. Mayor Verger added an executive session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations to the agenda and reviewed the agenda. City Manager Bill Grile reported North Bend had not yet responded to our letter regarding a joint meeting to discuss PEG TV. Mr. Grile noted North Bend Interim Administrator Jim Watson had left a message they were interested in the government access channel but not in public access, and the North Bend Council feels the draft agreement gives too much authority to the body that would manage PEG TV. Mr. Grile reported North Bend has decided to pay only half of the billing submitted by Stephanie Kilmer because they did not authorize showing the council meetings. Ms. Kilmer commented the billing was for 149.5 hours of program time through December 8th, billed at the \$10 per hour rate. She noted the programming time was higher than normal because there were fewer programs to air. Councilor Spangler commented on the need to clear the air with North Bend so they understand what Coos Bay has in mind for PEG TV. Councilor Weeks suggested a work session be held and Councilor McKeown agreed. City Attorney Tosh expressed concern that all documents had not been forwarded to the North Bend Council. Mayor Verger reported the North Bend attorney and city administrator have requested a joint meeting be postponed until after they could meet with the Coos Bay attorney and city manager. Mayor Verger asked if Coos Bay could move forward on the public access channel and Mr. Tosh said it is open and the city could move ahead. Mayor Verger suggested a joint meeting be scheduled for March 4th at 7 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING

Flag Salute

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

Consent Calendar

Mayor Verger reviewed the items on the consent calendar which consisted of approval of the minutes of the December 1 and December 8, 1998, approval of the Coos Art Museum modifications to the building, Tax Mobile Days in Coos Bay proclamation, and approval of installation of stop signs at Fenwick and

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Margaretta. Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which carried with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. Mayor Verger read the proclamation to the assembly as attached. hereto and made a part of the record.

Report from Onno Husing, Director of Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association

Onno Husing explained the association was founded in the 1970s because the feeling was the coast needed to be able to deal with the legislature and congress on matters pertaining to the coast. OCZMA deals with land use planning, ports, fisheries, and transportation. Mr. Husing reported Senator Wyden, Senator Smith and Representative DeFazio are receptive to the needs of the fishing industry and support funding to help save salmon and promote clean water. Mr. Husing reported OCZMA also works closely with the Oregon Department of Transportation promoting the needs of the coast. He commented on marketing the port to other parts of the state; and noted other ports are overcrowded and the coast has the potential to be an economic power house in the state. Mr. Husing noted OCZMA is a non-profit organization with the goal of helping coastal communities be recognized in Salem legislature and throughout the state.

Department Head Report – Police Chief Chuck Knight

Chief Knight reported a letter had been published in the public forum from the Police Association regarding the recent labor settlement. Chief Knight commented the Council has limited funds and has a lot of priorities to be considered for funding, and he noted local officers do not make the same as other cities, but compared to other local agencies, we're not doing that bad. Chief Knight reported the city hall security system is almost complete and will be tested in the near future to make sure it works. He commented the recruitment for police officers was in the testing phase and a retirement dinner for John Bender would be held on February 26th. With Sgt. Bender's retirement the department will be holding a sergeant's promotion process. Chief Knight reported Mayor Verger spoke at the January 27th DARE graduation, and upcoming graduations will be held on February 4th at Milner Crest and on February 9th at Charleston. Chief Knight commented he has been asked to host a meeting regarding future training of police officers in Oregon at various college campuses rather than the academy in Monmouth will be under consideration.

Consider Parking Committee Recommendations

Trish Midyette, Parking Committee Chair, reported the committee's recommendation to the Council is that all parking lots would be designated three-hour parking with employee permits allowed, and all on-street parking from Bayshore to 4th Street and from Market to Elrod would be designated 90 minutes parking. The exceptions would be the Anderson and Curtis parking lot would be free parking, and on-street parking from Anderson to Market on Bayshore would be designated three-hour parking with employee permits allowed. The committee's recommendation included changing the permit fee from \$15 to \$6.50 per month with no discounts given for multiple permits. Ms. Midyette suggested the finance department do an informal survey of where permit holders will be parking and the parking control office also do a survey as to how many employees are not following the rules and where shoppers/visitors are parking. She commented the statistics would be helpful in making recommendations for parking. Mayor Verger expressed concern that employees would take parking away from shoppers/visitors and noted the thrust of the Kittleson report was to try to alleviate employees moving their vehicles all day long.

Councilor McKeown commented the current plan is too complicated and people are confused about where they can park, and agreed that collecting parking data would be very useful. He suggested that if an

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area becomes a problem, the committee could address the problem at that time. Mayor Verger commented that employees are also customers; however, the part that bother her is the front lots where tourists would park. If these are full, they will keep going without stopping in the downtown area. Ms. Midyette suggested only part of the Chamber lot be used for employees and noted that a number of employees have indicated they are willing to park along Hwy 101 where tourists do not normally park because there is no sidewalk or lights. Councilor Weeks expressed concern that people would use the free lot that should be buying permits and suggested using a color code for the permits.

Councilor Spangler commented there are two groups using downtown, retail customers and office workers, and all of downtown should not be employee parking. Councilor Stufflebean commented on the 90 minutes on-street parking and Ms. Midyette said that was from the Kittleson study. Councilor McKeown commented the problem with color coding is that it would be confusing for visitors to the area, and suggested a simplified plan would be best for everyone. City Manager Bill Grile reported when the complaints were analyzed, the number one concern was the cost of the permit, and employee only parking at the 4th Street and Curtis parking lot which took care of about 51% of the complaints. Ms. Midyette commented the committee heard concerns about the Jennie's lot and the Payless lot be used for customers.

Mayor Verger reported parking has been an on-going problem and the plan is not cast in concrete. She supported the recommendation with a change to keep the 30 minute spaces in the Chamber lot. Mr. Grile noted a resolution would be required to change the fee and would be prepared for adoption at the next council meeting and would go into affect March 1, 1999. The parking changes would be tested during the months of March and April. Councilor Benetti commented the Kaffe 101 lot should be designated for customers and tourists and employees could park along Bayshore.

Mayor Verger moved to accept the parking committee's recommendation that all parking lots, with the exception of the 30 minute spaces in the Chamber parking lot, be designated three-hour parking with employee permits allowed, all on-street parking from Bayshore to 4th Street and from Market to Elrod would be designated 90 minute parking, with free parking designated in the Anderson and Curtis parking lot, and the on-street parking from Anderson to Market on Bayshore be designated three-hour parking with employee permits allowed, and setting the parking permit fee at \$6.50 per month. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Verger and Councilors McKeown, Miller, Spangler, and Weeks voting aye. Councilors Benetti and Stufflebean voted no.

Review of the Emergency Operations Plan

Fire Chief Stan Gibson reported after six months in the works, the Emergency Management Agency has adopted the Emergency Operations Plan for the city. The plan enables the city to continue on with basic services in the event of a disaster and lays out responsibilities and roles for each department, employees and City Council. The plan establishes a partnership with a number of agencies including Bay Area Hospital, the school district, Red Cross, National Guard, Coos County, and the City of North Bend. Chief Gibson recommended the Council study the plan and become familiar with the document. Lisa Wampole, Coos County Emergency Management Director, commented on the importance of agencies working together to establish emergency plans, and commended the city with putting together a very good plan. Ms. Wampole said the County would like to use Coos Bay's plan for a model for other cities.

Mayor Verger said she was pleased with the plan but had serious concerns about city hall in the event of an earthquake, and inquired if it would be a good idea to have the 911 dispatch center located outside city hall. Chief Gibson reported a few years ago the state did an analysis of the downtown buildings and city hall is not a good earthquake building. Mr. Grile commented the Emergency Management Agency has discussed concerns about the building and recommended looking at a different location for the emergency center.

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Award of Bid – Restroom Project for the Eastside Boat Ramp

City Manager Bill Grile reported two bids were received for the Eastside boat ramp restroom project and both were under the engineer's estimate of \$131,645. Bids were received from Steve Auer Construction in the amount of \$107,750 and Centrex Construction for \$110,700. Councilor Miller moved to award the bid to Steve Auer Construction in the amount of \$107,750. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Verger and all Councilors present voting aye.

Award of Bid – Parking Lot Project for the Eastside Boat Ramp

City Manager Bill Grile reported bids for the Eastside parking lot project were received from Bracelin and Yeager for \$106,324, Johnson Rock Products for \$132,300, Laskey-CLifton Corp. for \$145,888.98, and Umpqua River Navigation for \$156,962. The engineer's estimate was \$143,000. Councilor Miller moved to award the bid to Bracelin and Yeager in the amount of \$106,324. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Verger and all Councilors present voting aye.

Authorization to Purchase Police Department Vehicles

Chief Knight reported the City has previously purchased patrol vehicles from Salt Lake County in 1996 and has been pleased with the cars. Staff compared the cost of the vehicles with state purchasing and the City would save \$14,024 by purchasing from Salt Lake County. Councilor Weeks moved to authorize the Police Department to purchase four police car units in the amount of \$99,164. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Verger and all Councilors present voting aye.

Progress Report on PEG TV by City Manager Bill Grile

City Manager Bill Grile reported a joint meeting with North Bend City Council has been proposed for March 4th at 7 p.m. to discuss the PEG TV proposal submitted to North Bend some months ago.

Resolution 99-5 – Bonds for Rebuilding the Mingus Pool House

On November 3, 1998, Coos Bay voters authorized the sale of up to \$500,000 in general obligation bonds to replace the Mingus Park Pool House. The City retained Harvey Rogers with Preston, Gates and Ellis as bond counsel, and Mr. Rogers prepared the bond resolution which delegates final authority to negotiate the terms of the bond to the city manager and finance director. Councilor Stufflebean moved to adopt Resolution 99-5 authorizing sale of the City's general obligation bonds, series 1998. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Verger and all Councilors present voting aye.

Initiation of Plan Amendments for the Front Street Master Plan and Setting a Public Hearing before the Planning Commission

City Manager Bill Grile explained the need for an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan regarding the Front Street Master Plan which requires the Council to review the plan and a public hearing be held before the Planning Commission. Councilor Spangler moved to set a public hearing on April 13, 1999 before the Planning Commission. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Verger and all Councilors present voting aye.

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Public Comments

Flora Lee Lockhart, Coos Bay, expressed concern about the changes in parking times in the downtown area would allow employees to take spaces which should be for shoppers. Councilor McKeown commented the changes would be given a two month trial run and a review would be held at the end of that time. Mayor Verger reported the changes were recommendations from the Parking Committee.

Julia Spangler, Coos Bay, invited everyone to attend a benefit performance of Guys and Dolls on February 18th at Little Theatre.

Geno Landrum, Coos County, strongly encouraged the City to build public restrooms in the downtown area.

Gary Rifkin, Coos Bay, expressed concern about the changes in parking and suggested the three spaces in front of the Egyptian Theatre be utilized.

Sargent Webster, North Bend, thanked the Council for development in the Empire Urban Renewal District and expressed concern about people standing around and materials stacked around the Mission. He suggested the Mission be relocated and business would improve in Empire.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile reported the USS Dolphin, a navy submarine, will arrive in port on September 11th and depart on the 13th; a work session regarding the wastewater rate study has been scheduled for March 18th at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers; the Community Solutions Team will meet regarding the Front Street redevelopment; and Brian Bond will retire from the library next month.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilor McKeown — no report

Councilor Stufflebean reported the Airport Advisory Committee will meet twice a month and the Port of Coos Bay will take over airport operations July 1st. He commented matters under consideration by the committee are a way to dispose of sludge, fire coverage contract, repavement of the runway and expansion of the business park.

Councilor Benetti suggested location of the handicap parking spaces in the Chamber parking lot be reviewed as they are currently positioned in the middle of the lot.

Councilor Miller reported arrangements for the Governor's Conference on Tourism are coming along well and the conference committee will be approaching local businesses for donations for the conference. She invited everyone to attend the Zonta fund raiser for the Little Red School House program on February 6th.

Councilor Spangler encouraged the fire department to look at contracting service for the North Bend airport. City Manager Grile requested direction from the Council concerning having contracts outside our City limits, and commented he and the fire chief have discussed opportunities for joint services with North Bend. Chief Gibson reported the issue right now is that Coos Bay does not currently have staff trained at the level FAA would accept, but could cover North Bend while their staff covers the airport. Mayor Verger commented cities are looking into any way to partner and save taxpayer money.

Councilor Weeks reminded staff of the city employee recognition luncheon on February 12th at Paul's Pizzeria.

Mayor Verger inquired about the status of the downtown restroom project. Community Services Director Bill Finney responded staff is waiting on the architect and hope to bring the matter to the Council at the next regular meeting.

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Recess of Council Meeting

Mayor Verger recessed the Council meeting to the Coos Bay Urban Renewal Agency meeting. Following the Urban Renewal Agency meeting, the City Council reconvened in Executive Session.

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 for firefighter association..

The Council reconvened into regular session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to February 16, 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