

## **MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**March 16, 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, Finance Director Janell Howard, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Police Chief Chuck Knight.

### **WORK SESSION**

Mayor Verger reviewed the consent calendar, reported the department head report would be given by the finance director, a request for at stop sign at 13<sup>th</sup> and Juniper, and request for use of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Curtis parking lot for a carnival will be considered. Mayor Verger noted the parking lot had been recently resurfaced and City manager Bill Grile commented the City would require a bond to cover any damage to the surface. Councilor Benetti inquired if the funds from the carnival would be used to purchase fireworks for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Larry Goodman, Bay Broadcasting, reported they would not be doing a fund raiser for the fireworks but would be sponsoring other community functions. Mr. Goodman commented the Downtown Association had given their support for the carnival.

Mayor Verger commented on the cost to resurface the 10<sup>th</sup> Street tennis court. Community Services Director Bill Finney reported the problem with maintaining the court surface is due to water coming up through the asphalt and forms under the court cover. Councilor McKeown asked if comments from local tennis groups had been received. Ken Griffin, high school tennis coach, reported this court has had water problems for some time and suggested the City make other courts available. Councilor Spangler inquired if additional parking was needed and Mr. Finney responded a formal study had not been done, but the lot is frequently full during the summer months and there is very little on-street parking available.

Mr. Grile reported even though the Urban Renewal Agency is separate from the City Council, the Council needs to an opportunity to review the project the project list as a formality to keep the Council and Agency as separate bodies. Councilor Stufflebean suggested the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Plaza be added and Councilor Spangler commented the Agency should finish some of the projects before beginning new projects. Mayor Verger noted the final order of appeal was ready for adoption, and the Water Board manager has requested time to present the Board's annual report at the next Council meeting. Mayor Verger reported the Focus program had been recorded this morning and Dr. Giles Parker and Dale Inskeep were the guest speakers and would be talking about youth at risk. She also reported the City's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in Mingus Park would be held on Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> with fireworks over the bay on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Verger commented the Rite Aid parking lot appears to stay full all the time. Councilor McKeown commented the Jennie's lot is rarely full, the Fiddlestick's lot is always full, and expressed frustration that employees are taking spaces that should be for customer parking.

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### **COUNCIL MEETING**

#### **Flag Salute**

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

#### **Consent Calendar**

Mayor Verger reported the consent calendar consisted of the minutes of a special meeting on January 29, 1999 and February 2, 1999. Councilor Weeks moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which carried with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

#### **Department Head Report – Finance Director Janell Howard**

Finance Director Janell Howard reported business license renewals coming in, payroll busy with retroactive adjustments, parking has a lot of questions and have had several compliments on the new system, budget preparation has gone well.

#### **Marshfield High School Report – Maliah Masibu**

Maliah Masibu reported March girls of the month are Amanda Ferry and Kelly Sighting and March boys of the month are Francisco Farias and Tim Schweitz; and Will Farr received the honor of being named an Advanced Placement Scholar by the Advanced Placement Program. The Mr. MHS padgent will be held on April 6<sup>th</sup> and is a fund raiser for Sacred Heart Hospital. Ten boys are participating and their goal is to raise \$10,000. The dance team will be competing in the state competition on Friday and Saturday at the Rose Garden in Portland. The MHS Council will be participating in the Oregon beach clean up on March 27<sup>th</sup>; the student council will be doing the blood mobile on March 31<sup>st</sup>; and the City will soon be presented with the MHS school flag. Mayor Verger commended Maliah on her presentation and thanked her for attending the meeting.

#### **Authorization for Installation of a Stop Sign at 13<sup>th</sup> and Juniper**

City Manager Bill Grile reported receiving a petition for a stop sign at 13<sup>th</sup> and Juniper and Dr. Joseph Morgan would be speaking for the petitioners. Dr. Morgan reported petitioners are requesting the stop sign due to the speed vehicles travel in this area. The stop sign would not be an inconvenience for drivers and would enhance the safety of the neighborhood. Councilor Weeks moved to approve placement of the stop sign at 13<sup>th</sup> and Juniper. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

#### **Authorization to Allow Limited Use of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Curtis Parking Lot for a Carnival**

City Manager Bill Grile reported a request to use the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Curtis parking lot for a carnival has been received from Bay Broadcasting Corporation. Staff does have some concern about potential damage to the newly refinished surface of the parking lot and suggest the City require a bond to cover costs of any necessary repairs. Councilor Benetti inquired if other costs would be incurred and Mr. Grile reported nothing had been budgeted for the event. Larry Goodman, Bay Broadcasting Corporation, commented he has dealt with Davis

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Carnival for years and has not had any problems with them. Mr. Goodman reported they have looked for other places to hold the carnival without success. He noted they also have the support of the Downtown Business Association to hold the carnival in the downtown area. Councilor McKeown commented if the Downtown Association supports the carnival, then he would as well, but would want any damages to be covered by a bond. Chief Knight reported there were no problems with the carnival last year when it was held on the old Safeway lot at 4<sup>th</sup> and Elrod. Mr. Grile noted that there could be costs incurred with Police and Community Services overtime. Mayor Verger commented the Davis family have always been good to deal with and the Downtown Association supports the event, and if the issue of repairs is addressed, then she would support use of the lot. She expressed concern that there had been complaints from parents about the expense keeping some children from participating. Mr. Goodman replied that Davis Carnival provides a time for special needs children. Mr. Goodman commented the revenue from the carnival will not be used to purchase fireworks this year and explained for a number of years the radio station has paid for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks but most of the community has not be aware who paid for them. His radio station has decided to sponsor other events in the community instead of the fireworks. Councilor Weeks moved to authorize use of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Curtis parking lot by Davis Carnivals Northwest from May 4<sup>th</sup> through May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1999 subject to provision of a bond to cover costs of any necessary repairs to the parking lot, acquisition of an event permit and business license. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Approval to Convert Tennis Court B at Mingus Park into a Parking Lot**

City Manager Bill Grile reported the Parks Commission has recommended converting the 10<sup>th</sup> Street tennis court into additional parking for Mingus Park. He noted the City has had difficulty in maintaining the surface due to a drainage problem in this area. Kim Griffin, North Bend, reported he has played tennis since the 1960s and has taught tennis since the 1980s, and is aware of the maintenance problem. However, there is a need for outdoor courts for practice and tournaments, and requested that the City look into replacing the court if it is turned into a parking lot. Councilor Spangler expressed reluctance to close down a recreation facility and was concerned about replacing the court. Councilor Weeks commented Mingus Park gets a lot of use and current parking is inadequate. She inquired about the courts located in North Bend and Mr. Griffin explained they get a lot of usage as well. Councilor Benetti inquired about the water problem if the area were a parking lot and about the cost of replacing the court. Community Services Director Bill Finney reported the drainage problem would be addressed in the design of the lot. Mr. Grile commented there is property on Morrison Street that could be looked at for placement of tennis courts, and suggested the City look into a partnership with the school district to help finance the courts. Councilor Stufflebean moved convert the tennis court B into a parking lot and direct staff to research replacement of the court. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Review and Make Recommendations Regarding the Urban Renewal Project List**

City Manager Bill Grile reported the project list will be adopted by the Urban Renewal Agency and Council comments will be considered. He reported it is important for the public to understand funding the projects will not cost them additional tax money. Councilor Benetti suggested the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Plaza project be included in the list, and consideration be given to opening up the breezeway from Broadway to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Curtis parking lot. Mr. Grile reported the Urban Renewal Agency is considering selling bonds to facilitate moving ahead with urban renewal projects, and will be reviewing the project list and setting priorities of projects to pursue should a bond sale be authorized. Mayor Verger commented the anchors from

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the New Carissa could be used in the maritime museum or in the Empire area. She suggested perhaps the Agency could look at spending some fund on recovering the anchors. Mr. Grile reported an approximate cost of \$20,000 had been given for recovering the anchors. Councilor Weeks moved to include the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Plaza and improvements to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Curtis parking lot be added to the project list. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which carried with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Final Order for Appeal of SPAR – Staples, 1995 Newmark Avenue**

City Manager Bill Grile reported the proposed order of findings of fact on the appeal of land use at 1995 Newmark has been reviewed by the city attorney and is ready for adoption by the Council. The hearing was held before the City Council on March 2, 1999. After hearing testimony from Mr. Bill Kloos for the appellant Tom Wilson, and from Mr. Mike Robinson for Staples, the City Council determined that the appellant did not have standing to appeal the Planning Commission decision to approve a Site Plan and Architectural Review (SPAR). The prevailing attorney, Mr. Mike Robinson, was instructed by the Council to draw up a Final Order for Council approval. Councilor Weeks moved to adopt the final order as presented. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **City Attorney's Report**

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported he is working on a brief to appeal the Fire Department's unfair labor practice suite.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Bill Grile reported the City of North Bend contacted him about forming an agreement with Coos Bay to share the use of the street sweeper. He commented there would be a number of important matters to consider before entering into such an agreement, such as the life expectancy of the vehicle and the hours required to sweep our streets. Mr. Grile noted that another service that could be shared is building inspections and inquired if the Council was interested in pursuing shared services with North Bend. Mayor Verger commented North Bend is in the process of selecting a new administrator and this would be best discussed with the new person. Councilor McKeown said he would like to see more cooperation between the two cities and shared services is a place to start. Councilor Spangler commented the concept is excellent if there is a cost savings and is a more efficient use of taxpayer dollars. He supported having the city manager move ahead with discussions. Consensus of the Council was to request a letter from the North Bend City Council indicating their support for shared services.

Mr. Grile reported a meeting with hospital staff, North Bend and the Coquille Indian Tribe regarding an intergovernmental agreement for developing a Bay Area communications center at the hospital has been planned and he will report back to the Council. Mr. Grile commented his office had received a letter confirming a meeting concerning the New Carissa stern will be held next Friday at the BLM office. He noted the meeting is DEQ's meeting with BLM acting as the facilitator. He further noted the press is being prohibited from attending the meeting, and a public meeting is being planned for a later date. Consensus of the Council that the city manager and mayor should attend the meeting, and the stern should be left if it is environmentally safe and the liability issues are addressed. Mr. Grile reported there is concern regarding the clutter and debris in front on the Bay Area Rescue Mission on Newmark Avenue. City staff has previously discussed the appropriateness of the items on the sidewalk and public right of way with Pastor Ellis and he indicated the matter would be taken care of. There was further discussion regarding drafting an ordinance to keep certain items from public right of ways for consideration at the April 6<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

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**Mayor and Council Comments**

**Councilor McKeown** commented there is a lot of concern in the community regarding the New Carissa and whether citizens will have an opportunity for input on the matter. Councilor McKeown noted he was pleased to have the report from the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board at the next meeting.

**Councilor Stufflebean** reported he would be attending a meeting on the April 24<sup>th</sup> regarding the closure of Pony Road at the airport.

**Councilor Benetti** reported the air show will be held during the weekend of the Blackberry Arts Festival and commented it was good to have the Marshfield High School report back at the City Council meetings. He further commented there are a great number of youth in the community involved in good activities at the high school and throughout the community.

**Councilor Miller** reported the area wide clean was very successful and the Governor’s Conference on Tourism is only one month away.

**Councilor Spangler** had no comments.

**Councilor Weeks** reported the Mingus Stage Committee has set a goal to raise \$30,000 for the project, and expressed concern that some members of the committee are not attending the meetings. Councilor Weeks commented Steve Doty has done a great job with the committee. She reported contact with a North Bend City Councilor regarding the government access channel and he was receptive to a joint meeting and perhaps another try at a joint meeting should be pursued.

**Mayor Verger** commended the city manager for increasing the budget carryover this year. She noted Bill Milwee, representing the owner of the New Carissa, will be at the March 18<sup>th</sup> special council meeting to present the City with the flag and life ring from the ship. Mayor Verger reported the City will also be receiving one of the lifeboats from the New Carissa.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to a work session on March 18, 1999 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

ATTEST:

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Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder  
City of Coos Bay

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