

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

November 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, Finance Director Janell Howard, and Police Chief Chuck Knight.

WORK SESSION

Leslie Davis, Boys and Girls Club, reported the Southwestern Oregon Youth Association (SWOYA) has been in existence for 17 years and is now associated with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Ms. Davis commented the City of Coos Bay has shown over the years clearly that youth are important, and currently is the administrator of a \$600,000 Community Development Block Grant being used to complete the Boys and Girls Club facility. Ms. Davis reported 42 percent of the youth served by the club come from families of \$22,000 annual income or less. The Boys and Girls Club is the number one youth organization in America and is the fastest growing youth organization in the USA. Ms. Davis commented staff training is exceptional and studies show that youth participating in the programs have an 11 percent higher GPA over a two-year period which is the difference between a C and an A; and also shows an 87 percent decrease in absences from school. An independent study of alumni of Boys and Girls Clubs shows 52 percent of the alumni said the Boys and Girls Club literally saved their life.

Ms. Davis briefly reviewed the history of SWOYA beginning in 1982 with a budget of \$44,738 serving 1800 youth to 1999 with a budget of \$798,000 serving 4,421 youth. Ms. Davis commented there are a number of outreach programs through the club at local schools and in neighborhoods. The programs cover areas in career preparation, positive self esteem, health and well being, emotional well being, moral compass, drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs, community and civic involvement, character development, school performance, and cultural awareness. Ms. Davis commented building self esteem in youth is very important and they also need something to do after school. Ms. Davis thanked the City Council and staff for stepping up and applying for the Block Grant to help the club. She noted the club is successful due to dedicated staff and the help of 1500 to 1700 volunteers.

Councilor Weeks inquired about the percentage of children in outlying areas participating in the programs offered by the club. Ms. Davis reported there are some outreach programs such as Saturday Academy with future plans to extend more programs to the outlying areas once the club is completed and established. The club is committed to serving 51 percent of low and moderate income children. Ms. Davis commented the club actively seeks youth to serve and School District 9 will be providing bussing to the club. Councilor McKeown asked Ms. Davis to read the SWOYA mission statement, which is as follows: The Boys and Girls Club of Southwestern Oregon is dedicated to assisting youth of all backgrounds and financial circumstance achieve their potential as human beings by enhancing their self esteem, providing positive role models, and by helping them to develop the qualities needed to become responsible citizens and leaders.

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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 reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of approval of the minutes of September 21, October 5, and October 12, 1999; accepting the 1999 ODOT Fund Exchange Program Agreement for North Front Street overlay and repairs; Resolution 99-33 adopting local law enforcement Block Grant funds; authorizing an agreement for proceeding with a timber sale on the Water Board; and Resolution 99-34 appointing a pro-tem municipal judge. Resolutions 99-33 and 99-34 are attached hereto and made a part of thereby. Mayor Verger requested an addition on page 129 of the minutes to state that Gail George was deceased. Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar as amended. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Department Head Report – Finance Director Janell Howard

Finance Director Janell Howard reported the audit for Fiscal Year 1998/99 has been completed and will be presented by Rob Wall. Ms. Howard noted the audit was completed earlier than in past years and she expects the end of month reports will now be caught up. The department has completed implementing Y2K process and she is confident the department is prepared, although contingencies are in place. Ms. Howard commented the process for Urban Renewal bonding is going very well.

Presentation of Fiscal Year 1998/99 Audit Report by Rob Wall

Rob Wall, Wall and Wall, P.C., presented the audit report for Fiscal Year 1998/99 and thanked the City Council for the opportunity to do the audit and give the report. Mr. Wall reported Finance Director Janell Howard had the city's records well organized and ready for the audit and the staff was very helpful. Copies of the audit were distributed to the City Council and Mr. Wall reported there were no significant material deficiencies in the City's accounting system and the City's records are being properly maintained. The City has received a clean opinion. Councilor Spangler inquired about inter-fund accounting procedures and Mr. Wall recommended a blanket resolution to cover cash-flow items. Ms. Howard explained this was due to street improvements that general fund paid the expenditures in advance to cover cash flow which created an inter-fund loan for STP funds.

Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Kay Straub by Police Chief Chuck Knight

Chief Chuck Knight reported volunteers in the Police Department do a great deal of work in the department and commended them for their dedication to the City. Chief Knight commented volunteers also appreciate volunteers and have selected Kay Straub for special recognition for over 800 hours of service to the department. Mayor Verger presented public service award to Kay Straub. Chief Knight also recognized the volunteers who work at the Empire Police Sub-station for their contribution to the community.

Time Capsule 2000 Proposal from the Downtown Association

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Mr. Gary Rifkin, representing the Downtown Association, reported the Time Capsule 2000 project planned by the Coos Bay Downtown Association would be filled with community memorabilia and buried either inside one of the concrete planters located on the Fifth Street Plaza or near the fireplace at the Rhododendron Garden in Mingus Park. Mr. Rifkin reported the kickoff celebration would be held on November 20th. He explained the capsule would be on display at the gazebo near the Chamber of Commerce and a celebration would be held when the capsule is buried. Mr. Rifkin requested the City co-sponsor the project and help with moving and burying the capsule. Consensus of the Council to support the project and move forward with the plans.

Public Hearing – Regarding the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board Applying for Funds from the Oregon Economic Development Department for the Water Expansion Project

Rob Schab, Manager of the Water Board, reported a mile-stone has been reached in the water expansion project and the Board is close to completing the environmental permits and studies process. He noted the project objectives are to meet the community's near and mid-term needs, increase the peak season demand reliability, expandable to meet long-term demand, environmental consequences that can be reasonably mitigated, develop a time frame necessary to avoid supply deficits, and reasonable costs to maintain stable rates. Mr. Schab explained the expansion project is projected at \$19,506,000 and will be financed with grants and loans to supplement funds set aside over the past several years for the project. Mr. Schab reported the Water Board is recommending each city apply for \$6.2 million loan and \$500,000 grant from the Oregon Economic Development Department (OEDD). In reviewing the financing options for the project, the Board recognizes a major savings by going with OEDD. The Board would like to begin the financial process immediately to allow the dam construction to begin next Spring.

Councilor Spangler inquired if the revenues from current rates would be sufficient to pay off the bonds. Mr. Schab said it would be very close and the next rate adjustment is planned for 1 percent next July. Councilor Spangler asked if the rates had not been increased steadily over the past several years, what would the increase have had to been to finance this project. Finance Director Joe Colo said approximately 40 percent increase would be required.

Mayor Verger opened the public hearing for citizen comments. There being no comments, the hearing was closed. Councilor Weeks moved to authorize the City of Coos Bay pursue a grant application in the amount of \$500,000 and a loan of \$6.2 million. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Award of Construction Contract for the Boys and Girls Club Phase 4

Mr. Grile reported the SWOYA project has been moving forward. Bids went out and were opened on August 19th with Don Thompson coming in as the low bidder. Mr. Grile noted some items were cut to bring the project in line with the resources available which include \$600,000 from the Community Development Block Grant, \$300,000 cash from SWOYA, and \$250,000 from the Meyer Trust Grant. A trust deed and letter from the Meyer Trust were delivered to the City this afternoon, and the Oregon Economic Community Development Department has reviewed the project construction plans and the project is significantly ready to proceed. Mr. Grile expressed concern that the contingency at approximately \$44,000 for the project is a bit slim, and noted it is the same percentage the City used for the library expansion and Mingus Park bath house projects. Mr. Grile noted if expenses exceeded this amount, the City does not have funds to cover the overage. Mayor Verger inquired about the time line for the project and Stuart Woods, architect, responded completion is expected by the end of March.

Councilor Spangler suggested the project be scaled back as was done with the library project. Mr.

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Grile reported \$390,000 has been cut already and credited the management team, city staff and the contractor and architect with doing a good job. Roger Gould, board member, reported a lot of time has gone into the project to fine tune the plans. It is not a standard project and is unique because the foundation is already done, so there are no structural items to address, just the interior to finish. Mr. Gould commented the Board is comfortable with the contingency and expect to be able to use the contingency to add things back to the project. He further noted the board would be working with the architect on a bi-weekly basis to make sure the project moves along smoothly. Mayor Verger moved to award the contract to Don Thompson, Inc. for SWOYA Boys and Girls Club Phase 4 in the amount of \$1,071,928. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Enactment of Ordinance No. 285 Providing a Procedure for Appointing Representatives to the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board

City Attorney Randall Tosh explained Ordinance No. 285 would establish a procedure for the appointment of representatives to the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board and establishes the expiration date as December 31st. Councilor Stufflebean moved to enact Ordinance No. 285 providing a procedure for appointing representatives to the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board. 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 Benetti, McKeown, Miller, Spangler, Stufflebean, and Weeks.
Voting No:	None
Absent:	None

Public Comments

Robert King, Coos Bay, displayed his phone number for the audience and asked Mayor Verger to require Mr. Grile to respond to his May 24th letter. Mr. King reported at the June 15th City Council meeting Flora Lee Lockhart made comments regarding the parking enforcement officer's practice of selective enforcement of downtown parking. Mr. King reported he has documented a number of violations of the City's ordinance on parking, and encouraged citizens to contact the city regarding corrupt practices by the City of Coos Bay.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile expressed condolences to the family of Bruce Meithof who passed away October 30th. Mr. Grile asked if the Council would like staff to move forward on Springfield ordinance and Councilors McKeown and Stufflebean commented they understood staff would be bringing a draft to the Council for review. Mr. Grile reported North Bend City Administrator Gary Combs will be reviewing the public access issue and will report back on North Bend's position on this matter. Mr. Grile reported the City will be receiving a safety award at the League of Oregon Cities conference, and City Planning staff is reviewing the environmental assessment from the Confederated Tribes for their Fulton Street project.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilor McKeown complimented Finance Director Janell Howard on her tremendous organization and preparation for the audit, and reported the Livability Committee will be presenting their economic development strategies proposal Thursday evening at Eden Hall at SWOCC.

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Councilor Stufflebean reported attending the for Community Coalition for Non-profit organizations meeting at which Representative Ken Messerle was the speaker, and South Coast Business Employment Corp. business after hours will be held Thursday.

Councilor Miller also expressed condolences to Bruce Meithof's family and commented on Bruce's accomplishments and impact to the communities of Coos Bay and Coquille. Councilor Miller commended Janell Howard on the audit, and commented she was looking forward to the League of Oregon Cities Conference in Eugene.

Councilor Spangler commented Bruce Meithof is a big loss to Coos County and will be greatly missed, and requested the City's flags be flown at half-staff in his honor.

Councilor Weeks also expressed condolences to Bruce Meithof's family. Councilor Weeks commended Janell Howard on the audit, the Boys and Girls Club on Phase 4 of their project, and the Water Board on the water expansion project. Councilor Weeks commented many of the business leads her office receives from the state require natural gas, and she expressed support for the gas line project.

Mayor Verger reported her tribute to Bruce Meithof would be in the newspaper tomorrow and she has been asked to speak at his memorial service on behalf of the City of Cos Bay. Mayor Verger commented the area has lost someone who has given much and had more to contribute, and noted he was to be a guest on the Focus program to speak about the South County Vision.

Executive Session

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

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to November 16, 1999 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