

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

**February 1, 2000**

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 out of town and excused from the meeting. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Police Chief Chuck Knight, Building Codes Administrator Joe McClay, Engineering Administrator Karen Turner, and Codes Enforcement Officer Mike Martin.

### **WORK SESSION**

Mayor Verger reviewed the consent calendar and commented she was glad to see the resolution supporting the youth at risk committee's recommendation. Councilor Spangler inquired about the make up of the committee and why the recommendation was only directed at Coos Bay youth. Mayor Verger responded the members represented agencies throughout the county and were included for their expertise. Mayor Verger reported Madison School would be making a presentation regarding safety matters. City Manager Bill Grile reported their requests appear do-able although installation of an additional traffic light would be expensive. Councilor Spangler explained the current traffic light is too far from the school to be effective and they are concerned for the younger children. Mr. Grile commented there could be some savings if the light were relocated to Cammann and Newmark rather than installing an additional light.

Mayor Verger commented the Livability Committee would be making a presentation to the Council and noted there are changes in the budget portion of the proposal. Councilor McKeown noted the budget and funding is preliminary at this point. Councilor Spangler inquired if the Council can commit to a three-year period on a budget item. Mayor Verger reported the Council can recommend it, but the Budget Committee has the final approval. Councilor McKeown commented the committee is still working on the draft of the inter-governmental agreement. Mayor Verger commented the Livability Committee will dissolve once their task has been completed and the South Coast Development Council will be making the decisions.

Mayor Verger briefly reviewed the stop sign request and reported the neighbors are concerned about traffic on Lindberg. She has been in the area during the day and has not noticed much traffic; however, when the Boys and Girls Club is further developed there will be more traffic. Councilor McKeown commented there will also be buses operating in this area. Mayor Verger reported the dangerous building situation on Newmark has been looked at for some time without resolution and a public hearing is requested for February 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Grile reported the City is concerned about threat to life and safety.

Mr. Grile reported the high bid for the Water Board timber sale was received from DR Johnson for \$906,368.56 and the City's share would be approximately \$483,000. A portion of the sale proceeds goes to the Water Board.

### **COUNCIL MEETING**

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### **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 December 21, 1999 and January 4, 2000 meeting minutes, approval to underwrite insurance for the Veteran's Day Parade, and adoption of Resolution 00-5 adopting the recommendations from the Youth at Risk Committee. Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. Mayor Verger read the resolution to the assembly and thanked the committee members and Councilors Miller, Mckeown, and Stufflebean for their service.

### **Report from Marshfield High School Representative Laurie Brands**

Laurie Brands reported Meliah Masiba has been chosen as Girl of the Month, Mr. MHS pageant will be held to raise money for Doernbecker's Hospital, cheerleader competition will be held in February, and the South Coast dance competition was held last weekend with 17 teams from across the state participating. The American Political Process event will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> and MHS student body will be hosting the Association for Student Councils next week. The next report from Marshfield High will be at the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting because of spring break the week of March 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Presentation from Madison School**

Principal Nancy Tedder reported there are a number of safety concerns expressed by parents and staff in the area around Madison School. Most of the children walk to school and when the school day ends there are three hundreds students on the streets. A meeting was held with parents regarding school safety and Councilor Spangler was invited to attend. A number of solutions were reviewed and Councilor Spangler invited her to present the suggestions to the Council. 1) move the sidewalk to the north side of Flanagan and place speed bumps at the Flanagan/Madison intersection, 2) improvements to the Madison/Garfield crosswalk, 3) make a four-way stop at Flanagan and Morrison because there is no traffic control on Morrison, 4) replace current signs with the newer brighter school signs. The concern is for safety around the school and the management of the traffic in the vicinity of the school. Ms. Tedder reported she had approached the school district about using crossing guards but was told because of the liability issue, the district did not use crossing guards. Other suggestions include making Madison/Michigan a three-way stop, placing a traffic light at Newmark and Cammann, and a four-way stop at Cammann and Pacific.

Mr. Grile reported the issue of another traffic light would require further review due to the cost of installation and he suggested considering relocating the current traffic light. Mayor Verger suggested Chief Knight call a meeting of the Safety Committee to review the suggestions and prepare a recommendation for the next council meeting.

### **Presentation from the Livability Committee on the Proposal for a South Coast Development Council by Arnie Roblan and Councilor Jeff McKeown and Adoption of Resolution 00-06 Supporting the Proposal**

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Councilor McKeown briefly reviewed the formation and purpose of the Livability Committee. He commented it was not an individual effort, but a community effort, for the development of a proposal for county-wide economic development strategy. Mr. Roblan reported the committee has representatives from public entities and the private sector, and considerable work and thought has gone into preparing the strategy. He commented we are not unique and other communities have been through this process. The goal is to create new jobs while retaining current jobs and to succeed, a partnership needs to be formed with local communities as well as private business. Mr. Roblan explained the structure of the group would have each group that wishes to be a voting member put up \$10,000 annually for a three-year commitment and there would be a provision for smaller communities to join together to have a vote. Mr. Roblan reported the next step for the committee will be draft an inter-governmental agreement and at this time they are requesting the City Council formally make a commitment for funding the South Coast Development Council. Mr. Roblan commended the Mayor and City Council for getting the process started a year ago; it has been very positive for the community and will bring economic development efforts into one focus.

Councilor McKeown reported the board of directors will be balanced with public and private members, a tentative budget has been prepared, and funding commitments from both public and private have been made. Southwestern College President Steve Kridelbaugh has experience in this type of process and has stated his willingness to work with the Livability Committee. Councilor McKeown requested the City Council adopt the resolution and make a commitment of \$50,000 annually for the next three years. Councilor Spangler commented this process goes back many years and thanked Mayor Verger for getting the process started. He expressed concern regarding budget oversight and suggested measurements to gauge progress be included. Mayor Verger moved to adopt Resolution 00-06 supporting the proposal for a South Coast Development Council and commit \$50,000 annually for the next three years with the understanding that the City Council approve the inter-governmental agreement. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Department Head Report from Police Chief Chuck Knight**

Police Chief Chuck Knight introduced Officer Scott Snyder as the new School Resource Officer. The previous resource officer was Darrell King who was recently promoted to Sergeant. Officer Snyder commented he is looking forward to the opportunity to work with the youth and it has been a very positive experience. Marshfield High School Principal Arnie Roblan commented the City has a great police force and the district appreciates the close partnership between the City and the schools.

Chief Knight reported the Police Department is in the process of recruiting officers, two new officers will be going to the Police Academy on the 14<sup>th</sup>, and another officer is leaving the department. He reported the Meth Task Force started some years ago by Mike Lehman has been picked up by Greg Stevens from The World. Presentations will be made to the local Rotary Clubs and he expects the clubs to become involved. Chief Knight briefly reported on the public meeting held on January 19<sup>th</sup> on the chronic property ordinance and staff's recommendation is to shelve the ordinance. Capt. Washburn made a presentation to the Rental Owners Association on how to partner with the City and received a good response. Councilor Spangler inquired if the City did not already have an ordinance that would address the problems. Chief Knight responded the solution is to partner the City with the property owners, use other legal resources, and current ordinances. Councilor Spangler suggested the department follow-up with citizens in the Blossom Gulch neighborhood.

### **Authorization for Installation of Stop Signs at 34<sup>th</sup> and Walnut**

City Manager Bill Grile reported the City received a petition from citizens for installation of stop

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signs at 34<sup>th</sup> and Walnut. This is in the vicinity of the Boys and Girls Club and residents are concerned about the increase of traffic due to the club. Mr. Grile noted request does not meet the warrants for placement of stop signs and in consideration of the increase in traffic, staff is recommending Council approve the additional signs. Councilor Miller moved to authorize installation of stop signs at 34<sup>th</sup> and Walnut. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Request to Set a Date for a Public Hearing for the Determination of Dangerous Buildings**

City Manager Bill Grile reported there is a public safety situation with property located at 1432 Newmark Avenue and staff is requesting a public hearing to take testimony on whether dangerous buildings exist. Councilor Miller moved to set a public hearing for February 15, 2000. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Award of Timber Sale 99-1 Contract**

City Manager Bill Grile reported steps were taken last October to move forward with a timber sale. Bids were opened this afternoon and the high bid was from DR Johnson for \$906,368. The City's share will be approximately \$483,000. Councilor Miller moved to award the bid to DR Johnson for \$906,368. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Public Comments**

Arnie Roblan, Coos Bay, expressed appreciation to the Council for the City's participation in the Focus program and noted the students learn a great deal from the experience and also about their community. He invited the Council to stop by the school when the program is being taped. Mr. Roblan commented on the importance of having a school resource officer and commended the Police Department for their long-standing partnership with the school district.

Denny Powell, Coos Bay, expressed concern about use tax dollars to fund the South Coast Development Council and suggested the proposal include private sector funding as well as accountability for SCDC's actions. Councilor McKeown reported public entities would not be involved without an inter-governmental agreement. He explained the City Council has an opportunity to make a difference and the SCDC will provide a united effort in recruiting business to the area. The Board of Directors will be balanced private/public and SCDC will be a positive step for the community. Councilor McKeown commented if the City Council does not take action, the economy will continue to decline. Councilor Spangler commented the Livability Committee was appointed by the City Council and the Budget Committee had allotted funding for economic development, and is not the same as other non-profits that approach the City for funding.

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

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported a right-of-way ordinance and a telecommunications ordinance will soon be given to Council for review, and he has received the first draft of the amendment for Front Street.

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

City Manager Bill Grile reported the meeting with the Confederated Tribes for negotiating city services has not yet been scheduled due to changes in positions within the Tribe leadership. Mr. Grile

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requested a Councilor also attend the negotiations and Councilor Spangler volunteered. A meeting with the three taxi companies had been held regarding proposing an ordinance to regulate taxi service with another meeting scheduled for February 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Grile asked if a Councilor would be willing to attend the meeting and Councilor Weeks indicated she would. Mr. Grile reported the City is not interested in setting rates but will be addressing reliability of vehicles, guarantee of insurance, and driving record. Mayor Verger suggested a work session with the cab companies be held prior to the ordinance coming before the Council.

Mr. Grile reported the final report on the park house has been received and there is no detectible asbestos in the structure. The house will be used by the Fire Department for a burn to learn exercise. Staff has begun the outline for the Newmark/Ocean master plan for Council consideration. Mayor Verger commented telecommunications should be tied in with the South Coast Development Council and Mr. Grile noted the Chamber of Commerce established technology-related jobs as their top goal. The City is one player in the effort to bring telecommunications here and Mr. Grile commented Southwestern College is doing a fine job with telecommunications.

### **Mayor and Council Comments**

**Councilor McKeown** complimented the City Council for their leadership in pursuing an economic development plan for the area. Councilor McKeown expressed appreciation to the Police Department in providing the DARE program and noted the program is a good way of reaching youth.

**Councilor Miller** reported the Fun Festival has been an event in the Bay Area for 25 years and in order to keep the festival going they need help from the community. Councilor Miller encouraged citizens to call her or attend the next meeting February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the 5 p.m. at the Port office. Councilor Miller commented the telecommunications workshops were very informative and commented on the importance of citizens completing their Census 2000 forms.

**Councilor Spangler** reported the next Fiber Optics Consortium meeting will be held February 7<sup>th</sup> in Eugene and commented fiber optics will tie in with economic development.

**Mayor Verger** reported the State of the City Address will be given at the Chamber Forum this month and North Bend's Mayor Golder will also be giving his address at this meeting. Mayor Verger suggested the library project be submitted for consideration for the Governor's Livability Award, and reported on funding received by the Coos Curry Housing Authority for programs to fight drug activity.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to February 15, 2000 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

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

ATTEST:

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