

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

July 5, 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 and Councilors Joe Benetti, Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler, Kevin Stufflebean, and Judy Weeks. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Finance Director Janell Howard, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Community Services Director Bill Finney, Police Chief Chuck Knight, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Library Director Carol Ventgen.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Verger reported John Craig, Corp of Engineers, would be speaking during the meeting regarding the Pony Creek Watershed. Councilor Spangler commented the garbage haulers had last received a cost of living increase in 1999 and Finance Director Janell Howard reported the entire 30 cents per can increase had gone to the City for the franchise increase from three percent to five percent. Moving the government access channel operations to the Ed Lund building was discussed and Councilor Weeks inquired if the work on the building would be done by employees or contracted out. Community Services Director Bill Finney reported City employees would perform the cleanup work and painting and roof repairs would be contracted out. Approval of an OLCC license for China Bay was added to the consent calendar.

Using STP money for funding part of the Front Street project and holding off on the remainder of the project in the hope of receiving a \$300,000 grant from the State was discussed. Councilor Spangler did not support a piece-meal approach to the project. Councilor McKeown suggested beginning on the south end of the project where local businesses are already established.

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 Resolution 00-26 supporting library grant applications, Resolution 00-27 authorizing inter-fund loan transfers, approval of management salary increases per FY 2000/2001 approved budget, approval to use jurisdictional exchange funds for street maintenance, approval of a special events permit for the Downtown Association, approval to waive cable franchise 45 day notice requirement, approval of the minutes from the May 16, 2000 meeting, and approval of an OLCC license for China Bay. 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.

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Department Head Report by Library Director Carol Ventgen

Library Director Carol Ventgen reported the library has new open hours, the summer reading program is off to a great start, and today more than 187 children attended the live reptile program. Paintings by June Davenport will be displayed at the library for the month of July, and the Friends of the Library book sale will be held August 5th and 6th. Ms. Ventgen thanked everyone for attending the library planning session on June 1st.

July 4th in Mingus Park Report by Marty Crouse

Marty Crouse reported that due to being rained out on the 4th, a family concert will be rescheduled in the park for September. Ms. Crouse commented that planning for the event began in November with letters being sent to vendors in January. There were many vendors and activities scheduled for the 4th but due to the rain many cancelled or just didn't show up. Plans for the September event will be discussed with Mayor Verger.

Report from John Craig, Corp. of Engineers, Regarding Pony Creek Watershed and Consideration of Pony Creek Watershed Assessment and Action Plan

John Craig, representing the Corp. of Engineers, reported the desire for an assessment of the watershed began with several private and public parties, including cities, the port, DEQ, ODF&W and private property owners. Mr. Craig recommended beginning with an assessment of the watershed and encouraged the City of Coos Bay to be a partner in the process as the City is a property owner at the upper end of the system. Mr. Craig reported six responses were received from the RFP. Councilor McKeown inquired what the Corp.'s role in the assessment was and Mr. Craig responded he was the volunteer coordinator. Councilor McKeown expressed concern about the length of time for the project and Mr. Craig reported there would be specific short-term and long-term recommendations. Mr. Craig noted this is a unique situation and the assessment process would lead the way for what is to come with the new regulations. Mayor Verger commented that Portland put together their own plan. Councilor Stufflebean asked what the benefit to the City of Coos Bay would be and Mr. Craig responded the problems within the watershed must be answered and going in with a team approach would be less expensive. Councilor Spangler commented a study at this time is premature and suggested letting the State do the study. Mr. Craig commented North Bend is looking at the study as a way for the two cities to work together. Councilor Benetti commented that Pam Blake, DEQ, in her report to the Council indicated the City would be mandated to do the study with the next two years. He expressed concern about who will be responsible for the situation after the study has been completed. Mayor Verger commented she would like the City of Coos Bay to be more involved than just writing a check. Councilor Weeks agreed with the concerns expressed and suggested waiting until the City is mandated to do the study. Councilor Miller supported working together as a team but did not support giving \$5,000 for the study. Mayor Verger moved to participate in the Pony Creek assessment plan with \$5,000. Councilor Benetti seconded the motion. The motion failed with Mayor Verger and Councilors Benetti and McKeown voting yes, and Councilors Miller, Spangler, Stufflebean, and Weeks voting no.

Public Hearing Regarding the Proposed Increase in Garbage Collection Rates

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Mayor Verger opened the public hearing. There being no comments to be heard, Mayor Verger closed the hearing.

Consideration of Adoption of Resolution 00-28 Increasing Garbage Collection Rates

City Manager Bill Grile reported the collection companies have not received a cost of living increase since 1995 and that all previous increases have been pass through as a result of increases in the County's tipping fees. The requested increase would be \$1 per can per month for residential customers and a modest increase for container service. Councilor Weeks moved to approve Resolution 00-28 approving a rate increase for the solid waste collection franchise holders. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Authorization to Proceed with Converting the Ed Lund Park Building into a Studio for Government Access

City Manager Bill Grile thanked Charter Communications for installing the line to the Ed Lund building at no cost. Mr. Grile reported the building is in need of repairs, interior painting, and installation of a security system before the government access studio can be established. The repairs total \$2,338 with an additional \$22 per month for the security system. The repairs would come from the government channel equipment line item and the month security system charge would come from the Parks Division grounds and maintenance budget. Councilor Miller moved to authorize Channel 14 to move to the Ed Lund building, authorize staff to proceed with the necessary repairs and maintenance work as outlined in the factsheet using funds from the government channel equipment line item, and recognize Linda Kimberly and Charter Communications for the company's outstanding public spirit. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Approval to Modify the Front Street Paving Project

Community Services Director Bill Finney reported the Council has designated STP funds be used for the Front Street project and the Urban Renewal Agency has committed \$30,000 to the project. The combination of funds, amounting to \$187,700, has been designated for the overlay paving project. The engineering estimate to pave the street, not including sidewalks, curbs and gutters, is \$272,900. An additional \$45,200 would be required to pave the side streets, Alder, Birch, Cedar and Date. Expanding the scope of the project to include sidewalks and street lighting would bring the project to an estimated \$804,500. Staff has looked into applying for an OECD block grant in the amount of \$300,000 and if successful in obtaining the grant, the funds could be used on the Front Street project. Mr. Finney reported the project length could be shortened and include sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and street lights beginning at Fir Street and continuing to Date Street.

The total cost of the recommendation is \$165,760. City Manager Bill Grile reported the State had approached staff about the grant through the Community Solutions Team. Councilor Weeks supported beginning on the south end of the project because businesses are already located in this area. Councilor Benetti recommended proceeding with the proposal and if the grant money comes through, do the remainder of the project. Jack Schniederma inquired why the need for sidewalks in this area and Councilor Stufflebean responded the master plan for the area provides for a major pedestrian area. Councilor McKeown supported paving the streets but not including the sidewalks and other improvements. Councilor Benetti moved to approve spending \$165,760 of STP money. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the

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Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Authorization to Refund Sewer Bonds Resolution 00-29

Finance Director Janell Howard reported the City has outstanding sewer bonds originally issued in 1988 with an advanced refunding in 1992. The bonds have an early call date of September 1, 2000 that allows the City the option of a current refunding. The estimated net savings would be \$75,000 in interest costs. Councilor McKeown asked what the City is paying now on the bonds and what would the City lose by waiting. Ms. Howard said if there were no cost savings wouldn't do the sale and the \$75,000 is the net savings. The interest rate varies with each payment every six months, 5 or 6 percent. Councilor Spangler commented the charter requires going to the voters if the city sells bonds. Ms. Howard reported the City's bond council has reviewed the charter requirement and it is his opinion the City may refinance without going out for a vote. There was further discussion on interest rates and refinancing. City Manager Bill Grile commented the City has refinanced bonds in the past. Councilor Spangler asked for a legal ruling on whether the City can sell the bonds without going to the voters. City Attorney Randall Tosh agreed with the bond counsel. Councilor Benetti moved to adopt resolution 00-29 authorizing staff to sell the bonds; Councilor Miller seconded which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Amendment to the Motion to Adopt the Consent Calendar

Mayor Verger reported the motion for approving the consent calendar did not include minor changes in the minutes as noted by Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen. Corrections on page 120 and page 122 were noted. Councilor Miller moved to reconsider the adoption of the consent calendar. Councilor Benetti seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. Councilor Miller moved to amend consent item #g council minutes for the May 16, 2000 meeting. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

City Attorney Report

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported he should be hearing soon on the LUBA decision for the Water's Edge case.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile commented he had submitted a written report, there were not questions from the Council.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilor McKeown attended a meeting with Senator Gordon Smith, and recommended a report on the Fiber South Consortium be on a future Council agenda.

Councilor Stufflebean thanked Marty Crouse for organizing the 4th of July event; reported a swim meet at the Mingus Pool will be held the same weekend as the Oregon Coast Music Festival and suggested having the Explorers help with traffic during this time.

Councilor Miller commended Marty Crouse on her work in organizing the 4th of July event and

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noted that it takes many hours to organize the event.

Councilor Spangler reported Chief Knight will attend the next Fiber South meeting as he will be out of the country at that time. Councilor Spangler commented that communication with the North Bend City Council regarding the 911 situation is needed. If we cannot come to an agreement with North Bend, the City needs to ask the 911 Council to hold to the current agreement with the six-month notice. City Attorney Tosh reported this is a complicated legal matter.

Councilor Weeks reported attending the Confederated Tribes open house and congratulated Marty Crouse on the 4th of July event.

Mayor Verger expressed her surprise when Council President Miller dedicated the Mingus Stage to her and the citizens of Coos Bay. Mayor Golder from North Bend sent a letter congratulating her on the completion of the permanent stage. Mayor Verger asked the city manager to explain the 911 situation. Mr. Grile reported the North 911 and South 911 organizations are two distinct organizations. The North 911 agreement specifically states that all parties must agree to let them out of the agreement. Mayor Verger reported Mayor Golder submitted a letter stating the City of North Bend decided in a work session to discuss going with the County for 911 service. She noted that North Bend has not directly told Coos Bay they do not want a meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to July 18, 2000 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