

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

August 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 6:30 p.m. with a work session in the Council Chambers and proceeding to a regular session at 8:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Present

Those present were Council President Cindi Miller and Councilors Joe Benetti, Jeff McKeown, Don Spangler, and Kevin Stufflebean. Mayor Joanne Verger was out of town, and Councilor Judy Weeks was absent. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Police Chief Chuck Knight. Parking Committee members Flora Lee Lockhart, Ralph Larson and Connie Aurdahl were present.

Work Session

Flora Lee Lockhart reported the Parking Committee is requesting the Jennie's lot and the Commercial and 4th lot be designated as two-hour parking with some spaces designated for permit parking. The committee felt there is a need for customer parking and is concerned the Kaffe 101 and Fiddlesticks lots are full much of the time. Councilor Benetti reported he spoke with a number of the downtown businesses about the parking system and they want the parking left as it is currently. Ms. Lockhart said this does not take into consideration customers for the Harvest Book Store or the Hall Building. Connie Aurdahl commented there is not sufficient parking for her customers, many of whom used to use the Jennie's lot. Councilor Benetti referred to the parking survey which indicates five to six spaces are available on average during summer months and nine spaces during winter months. Ms. Lockhart commented the city needs to focus on what the customers need and Ms. Aurdahl commented everyone believed the current plan was temporary. Councilor Stufflebean reported he has not received complaints and would support looking at empty lots for additional parking. Councilor Spangler commented that no parking plan will satisfy everyone and suggested the Parking Committee meet with the Downtown Association to develop a recommendation to present to the Council. Councilor Spangler inquired if the Farmer's Market on Wednesday has had an impact on parking. Ms. Aurdahl and Ms. Lockhart indicated it has not. Councilor Miller, the Council representative on the Parking Committee, reported many of the people stopping at the market are tourists and she has not received complaints about parking. Councilor Spangler noted that a good number of spaces are being taken by the market and without complaints. Councilor Miller reported there are three vacant lots the committee is recommending for review as potential parking lots; the corner of 2nd and Commercial, 2nd and Market, and 3rd and Market. Ralph Larson commented many of the shops along Broadway do not have adequate customer parking because employees are taking the spaces and signage to other parking areas is inadequate. Councilor Benetti reported a number of businesses in this area are happy with the parking system. Councilor McKeown noted that many employees park in front of businesses and suggested each business be contacted about having their employees not park in retail spaces. Councilor Spangler recommended designating a percentage in each lot for employees to park. Councilor Stufflebean said employees would shuffle between spaces.

City Manager Bill Grile reported staff has received fewer complaints with the current parking plan. Parking Control Officer Jim Rowe said the Fiddlesticks lot is full much of the time because of movie matinees during the summer months. Consensus of the City Council to not change the current parking system and have staff review the vacant lots for possible development as parking lots.

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COUNCIL MEETING

Flag Salute

Council President Miller opened the meeting and led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

Consent Calendar

Council President Miller reported the addition of an item to the consent calendar for approval of additional space for the Farmer's Market. Other items on the calendar included approval of the minutes from the June 6, 2000 and June 13, 2000 meetings, and a request to surplus Police Department vehicles. Councilor Stufflebean moved to approve the consent calendar as amended. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Department Head Report from Fire Chief Stan Gibson

Chief Gibson reported the July 4th fishing derby was a success and the fireworks went very well. He reported the bids for a new command unit came in under budget and will be presented for approval at the next council meeting. The department participated in the National Night Out with the police department with staff distributing fire safety material, home safety plans and a display of fire equipment. Chief Gibson cautioned citizens regarding grass fires due to the very dry conditions of the area, and reported the New Carissa salvage company will be providing safety and rescue training for local entities.

Report on the Fiber South Consortium by Councilor Don Spangler [Fiber South Vice-Chair]

Councilor Spangler reported a group of counties and cities formed the Fiber South Consortium to coordinate efforts to bring fiber to all communities in southern Oregon. The Consortium controls 12 lines and a request for proposals for a provider has been prepared and will include doing "the last mile" which would bring the fiber into the city. Councilor Spangler commented the provider will bring customers in and provide the connections at an affordable cost. City Manager Bill Grile reported SB622 provides funds for educational services and the City has completed a notice of intent to apply for funding with the assistance from the Oregon Economic Development Department. Councilor Spangler commented Bonneville Power is putting in more lines than they need and would do the first hookups at an affordable cost to get people signed up and then increase the fee as more customers come on to enable Bonneville to re-coop their costs. This is the same way rural America received electricity years ago. He noted there is a lot of fiber in the ground, but much is not accessible. Councilor McKeown commented bringing fiber to the community will be a great help economically.

Authorization to Proceed with Charter Amendment for the Streets and Roads Trust Fund

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported that based on the Council's desire to place the ODOT funds received from the jurisdictional exchange in a trust, a charter amendment has been prepared for the November election. Four options are available: Option 1 would allow invasion of the principle when determined necessary by the City Council and requires a vote to issue bonds; Option 2 allows invasion of the principal when determined necessary by the City Council, but exempts bonds from the vote requirement; Option 3

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prohibits invasion of the principal by the Council, and allows invasion to repay bonds if the issue is first submitted to a vote, but allows bonds to be repaid from income to be exempt from the vote requirement; and Option 4 prohibits invasion of the principle and requires a public vote for all bonds.

Councilor Spangler recommended the funds be used only for those 23 miles of roads in the jurisdictional exchange with ODOT and the Council would go to the voters for approval to invade the principal or to use any of the trust fund. Councilor Stufflebean agreed and added that both the interest and principal would be dedicated to these streets. Councilor Benetti agreed that citizens should have the control over the trust fund and supported using the interest to maintain the 23 miles of roads in the exchange. Mr. Tosh noted that all four versions state any unexpended interest would be placed in with the principle and not available for expenditure. Mr. Tosh further explained the purpose is to bring the principle to a higher level of generating a yearly income for street maintenance. Councilor Spangler commented the interest would be used for maintenance and would not require a vote of the people to spend; he did not support adding the interest to the principle.

City Manager Bill Grile commented the interest will compound, the only issue is whether to consider it as part of the principle. Mr. Grile commented if the Council was interested in making the improvements to Newmark Avenue now, the interest income from the trust fund could be leveraged against bonds for the project. Councilor Spangler commented if the Newmark improvements are important, then it could be taken to the voters for approval.

Councilor McKeown suggested that the ability to issue bonds would allow the City to complete the Newmark project and noted the initial intent of the bond amendment was not to authorize higher taxes for citizens. The City needs the flexibility to do projects. Councilor Benetti noted Option 4 places the unused interest with the principle and does not limit the use of the funds to the 23 miles of roads. Councilor McKeown expressed concern about going to the voters for every project requiring bonding and commented that the City Council is voted in to make decisions. Councilor Stufflebean commented if there were a major repair needed which required using some of the principle and the City had to have voter approval before spending, it is likely they would not get voter support. Councilor Spangler commented there should be a way to invade the principle and suggested the amendment allow citizens to vote on the use of the principle.

Councilor Benetti moved to amend the charter to state the principal (\$4.8 million) and interest can be only used on the 23 lane miles which were included in the exchange and the principal cannot be used without a majority of voters approval. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion. Councilor Spangler suggested adding the Council may submit the request to the voters or upon receiving a request from 10 percent of the voters. Mr. Tosh said he would research and if it is necessary, add the language to the amendment. The motion passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Review of Proposals for Service Contract for Analysis of Newmark Avenue Between [Staples] and the Intersection at Ocean Boulevard [The Y]

City Manager Bill Grile reported at the June 20th meeting the Council directed staff to go out for proposals to address Newmark traffic circulation and storm drainage. Proposals were received from Group MacKenzie for \$14,950 plus reimbursable, Branch Engineering for \$23,580 and TriLand Design Group, Inc. for \$30,000. Staff has reviewed the proposals and recommends the contract be awarded to TriLand Design Group, Inc. The spread between the costs is attributed to the consultant's degree of understanding of the city's needs in the project, the amount of analysis to be completed, and the assessment of future travel demand for the study area. Mr. Grile commented the work includes holding public meetings and participation with local businesses. Councilor Benetti inquired without the study, would there be any chance for development in this area. Andy Nasburg responded no development is possible without access to the property and reported he

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will be meeting with TriLand for their preliminary ideas and work with the developers. Councilor Benetti moved to award the contract to Triland Design Group, Inc./Stein Engineering in the amount of \$30,000. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion. Councilor McKeown inquired where the project would be funded from and Mr. Grile reported it would come from the interest proceeds of the jurisdictional exchange funds. The motion passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Enactment of an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 114 to Restrict Parking in City Parking Lots and on Streets Temporarily During City Events

City Manager Bill Grile explained the amendment would provide enforcement of no parking in certain posted areas during special events such as the Blackberry Arts and Fun Festivals. Councilor Stufflebean moved to enact the ordinance. Councilor Spangler and Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title only. The Council was polled with the following results:

Voting aye: Councilors Benetti, McKeown, Miller, Spangler and Stufflebean
Voting no: None
Absent: Mayor Verger and Councilor Weeks

Enactment of an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 181 by Changing the Procedure for Appointment of Members to the Tree Board

City Manager Bill Grile explained the ordinance would amend the Tree Board ordinance to eliminate term limits for board members. Councilor Stufflebean moved to enact the ordinance. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion and Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title only. The Council was polled with the following results:

Voting aye: Councilors Benetti, McKeown, Miller, Spangler and Stufflebean
Voting no: None
Absent: Mayor Verger and Councilor Weeks

Public Comments

Julia Spangler, Empire Community Association, thanked the City Council and staff for the fast work on replanting the bumpouts in Empire and the second phase of the streetscape project. Councilor McKeown inquired if the bollards are too bright and Ms. Spangler said they were not.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile reported Columbia Management has purchased the sewer bonds and the refinancing of the bonds saved the City approximately \$100,000. Security Bank will be conducting fund raising to provide seating for the Mingus Park stage; Senator Wyden will hold a town hall meeting August 9th at 9 a.m. at city hall; and a temporary occupancy permit for the Boys and Girls Club has been issued for the gymnasium. Mr. Grile reported he will be on vacation next week and Joyce Jansen will be the acting city manager and acting community services director.

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Council Comments

Councilor McKeown reported the South Coast Development Council has begun the process for a search for a recruiter.

Councilor Miller reported meeting with the skateboarders at the park to review pictures of skateboard parks in Roseburg and Albany. She requested the \$6,000 originally set aside for a matching grant for the park be used for making improvements once a plan has been presented and approved.

Adjournment

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

Cindi Miller
Council President of the City of Coos Bay
Coos County, Oregon

ATTEST:

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