

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

October 17, 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, and Kevin Stufflebean. Councilors Joe Benetti and Judy Weeks were absent. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Finance Director Janell Howard, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Police Chief Chuck Knight.

Work Session

Mayor Verger reviewed agenda items and noted the department head report would be given by Finance Director Janell Howard, presentation of the audit report would be made by Rob Wall, and the Council would designate the voting delegate for the League of Oregon Cities conference. Mayor Verger reviewed the meetings for the remainder of the month.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile reported the deadline for registration for the League of Oregon Cities is October 23rd and the OMI dinner will be on Friday at Salty's. Mr. Grile reported Tom Rumreich of ODF&W has volunteers lined up to paint the boardwalk aquarium and a local artist has been contacted about developing a mural on the west and south sides of the aquarium. If the Council approves, the mural would cost \$250.

Mayor Verger asked if fish can live in the aquarium and Mr. Grile reported the earlier problem was due to the pump not functioning properly. He noted Mr. Rumreich stated there will be some fish mortality from time to time. Parks Foreman Phil Christiana will be working on techniques to keep the glass cleaner and the aquarium maintained. Mayor Verger reported receiving a letter from a couple who told her they enjoyed the boardwalk and aquarium, and she also has had downtown property owners complain about the aquarium. They don't feel it is attractive, it does not enhance the boardwalk and they asked to have the aquarium removed. Another complaint was from the owners of the Rendevous because it blocks the view of their ticket booth. Councilor McKeown had also heard such comments, but no request to remove it had been made. He suggested grant funding be sought for construction of a larger aquarium. Mayor Verger asked if the ticket booth could be moved. Mr. Grile reported he spoke with Mr. Ron deRonden-Pos and was told it was not a significant problem. Councilor Miller noted comments have been made on the size of the aquarium. Mr. Grile explained the size and type of the glass is expensive and there are some vandalism issues. Councilor McKeown suggested proceeding with the mural and seeing how it looks. Councilor Stufflebean reported he has receive nothing but compliments about the aquarium. Councilor Spangler commented the aquarium project was done totally with volunteers and without taxpayer dollars and he does not understand downtown property owner's concerns. Mayor Verger noted the comments were on the aesthetics of the aquarium. Consensus of the Council was to proceed with the mural.

Mr. Grile reported there would be one more meeting in Salem regarding building codes issues and

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he explained cities and counties support the Oregon Building Officials Association; the association hires lobbyists and unfortunately the lobbyists have taken positions not consistent with the best interest of city government. One of the meetings on Friday will be to discuss this matter.

Mayor Verger reported the League of Women Voters will be holding a forum on the ballot measures on Thursday at 7 p.m. and a candidates forum next week.

Councilor Miller reported there are 50 downtown businesses participating in the Safe Trick or Treating program this year. The Farmer's Market will be doing pumpkin decorating tomorrow with final judging next week. Councilor Miller reported the ribbon cutting for the Channel 14 studio was held today and she was impressed with the job Laurel McGuire has done with managing the government access channel.

Councilor McKeown reported while driving through the Empire area he noticed a difference – it is clean and uncluttered in appearance. The downtown area has a lot of yellow paint and looks cluttered. Councilor McKeown suggested the Empire not have such clutter. Councilor Spangler commented he has addressed this matter in the past and suggested staff look at the yellow painted areas and inventory the number of signs in the downtown area. Mr. Grile reported at one time a committee surveyed the signs. Councilor McKeown reported the South Coast Development Council met Monday to review applications for a recruiter. Four applicants were selected for phone interviews and from that process one or more will be selected for personal interviews.

Councilor Spangler commended Councilor McKeown for the work he has done with the South Coast Development Council and commented a lot of people are getting excited about the process. The Fiber Consortium is in negotiations with PCI to provide service to our area. A letter of agreement had been signed previously with Williams Communications, which gives them first right of refusal. The Consortium is now working on memorandum of understanding with PCI.

Mayor Verger commented the Councilors work in many ways to make things happen in the community by serving on various committees and organizations. Councilor McKeown with SCDC, Councilor Miller with the Downtown Association, Councilor Stufflebean with youth activities, and Councilor Spangler with the Fiber Consortium. Mayor Verger noted CPI is located in Lakeside and is a local company. Councilor Spangler reported other companies offering the service required a market survey first and CPI said the market is already here.

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 5, 2000 and adoption of Resolution 00-34 establishing a policy for use of the Mingus Park Stage. 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.

Department Head Report by Finance Director Janell Howard

Finance Director Janell Howard reported the City has entered into an agreement with a software contractor for new computers for the department and training has been arranged for late January. The audit for FY 1999/2000 has been completed and will be presented by Rob Wall. Ms. Howard noted the audit was

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completed early and the department is running smoothly.

Presentation of the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 1999/2000 by Rob Wall

Rob Wall reported the audit process went smoothly; the preliminary work was done mid-July and the field work done in mid-September and the City has a clean unmodified audit. It is a single audit which entails the City expended over \$300,000 in federal monies, mainly the block grant for SWOYA. Mr. Wall commented grant funds benefit the community but also bring with them regulations that must be complied with. Mr. Wall complimented staff for being very helpful during the audit process and commended Susanne Baker for doing an excellent job of administering the SWOYA grant for compliance with the regulations. Mr. Wall reported the fund structure will be changing due to new requirements by the governmental accounting standards by 2002. The city is considered to be low-risk and no findings, deficiencies or items of non-compliance were noted.

Mr. Wall commended the Council for approving new computer software for the Finance Department and commented it will address areas in need of improvement such as fixed assets, assessments, and will provide more accurate and efficient information. Councilor Spangler inquired if the auditor ensures that the recipient of the grant is doing what the grant was designated to be used for. Mr. Wall stated the city's auditor would not audit the records for SWOYA and explained the process he uses for checking city records. Councilor Stufflebean reported the State audits the use of grant funds.

Designation of Voting Delegate for the League of Oregon Cities Conference

Mayor Verger moved to designate as the League of Oregon Cities voting delegate Councilor Joe Benetti and as alternate Council President Cindi Miller. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Public Comments

Helen Scully, Coos Art Museum, introduced Reed Lockhart the new museum administrator. Mrs. Scully expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to serve as the museum's administrator and invited everyone to attend the November 3rd dedication of permanent collection facility. She reported the new web site for the art education program is www.coosart.org

Reed Lockhart commented he is looking forward to working in the community and brings with him experience in business, is an art collector, and moved to the coast from Hong Kong some years ago.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported completing a memo on the railroad issues. He has received a signed order dismissing the writ of review by Mr. Olayee and Mr. Tosh requested authorization from the Council to proceed to the next step. Councilor Miller moved to authorized the city attorney to bring action for an injunction. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Adjourn

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There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to October 18, 2000 at 7 p.m. in the Manager's Conference Room 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