

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

October 16, 2001

The minutes of the proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, held at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Present

Those present were Council President Jeff McKeown and Councilors Anna Marie Larson, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler, Kevin Stufflebean and Judy Weeks. Mayor Joe Benetti was absent. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Community Services Administrative Assistant Susanne Baker, Deputy Chief Mark Anderson, Library Director Carol Ventgen, and Police Chief Chuck Knight.

Flag Salute

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

Consent Calendar

Council President McKeown reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of approval of the minutes of August 7, 2001 and OLCC license for Cedar Grill. Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Department Head Report by Library Director Carol Ventgen

Library Director Carol Ventgen reported the annual Fall into Books Program began today and will run throughout the month. The second series of authors speaking program will begin Thursday with Barbara Drake and next week the library will host the Gouls Goblins and Giggle Halloween program for children. Ms. Ventgen reported 24,000 items were checked out last month. Council President McKeown asked if library usage has changed since the September 11th World Trade Center attack. Ms. Ventgen commented usage did drop for a short time, but is back to normal now.

Report from OMI Operations Manager Gary Young

OMI Operations Manager Gary Young presented the Council with OMI's annual report and credited the efficient operation of the wastewater system to a great staff. Mr. Young presented the City with a rebate check in the amount of \$18,400. He noted over the past five years OMI has presented \$133,000 in rebates to the City. Council President McKeown commented last year was very dry and inquired if that has an impact on wastewater operation costs. Mr. Young reported one of the major costs of operation is electricity and during a dry year there is a dramatic decrease in electricity consumption, although with a low flow in collection, there is more potential for odors. Council President McKeown commented the City Council appreciates OMI's efforts.

Appointments to the Historic Design Review Committee

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Council President McKeown reported the Planning Commission is recommending the City Council appoint Andrew Locati, Bill Blumberg and Hilary Baker for three year terms and Steve Miller and Robert Sasanoff for two year terms to the Historic Design Review Committee. Councilor Stufflebean asked if the ordinance requires committee members to live within the city limits and City Attorney Randall Tosh said not for this committee. Councilor Spangler stated when there are qualified candidates, the City should use our citizens rather than those from outside the City. Councilor Miller commented all applicants should have been interviewed and Councilor Weeks commented two of the applicants are from the same firm. Councilor Stufflebean also agreed appointing Coos Bay citizens to the committee. Council President McKeown supported the Planning Commission's recommendation and suggested looking upon ourselves as a unit, rather than a separate community. Councilor Weeks moved to direct the Planning Commission to interview the applicants who did not get interviewed and consider appointments to Coos Bay citizens. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Authorization to Purchase New Police Vehicles through the State of Oregon Bid and Rejection of Previous Vehicle Bids

Chief Knight reported the previous bids need to be rejected due to a procedural error in the bid process. City Attorney Tosh commented the problem was due to not fulfilling the requirements for accepting out of state bids. Councilor Weeks moved to reject previous the bids for police vehicles. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye. Councilor Stufflebean moved to authorize purchase of four 2002 Ford police package vehicles through the State of Oregon Cooperative Purchasing program. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Presentation of a Draft Ordinance Amending the City's Transient Room Tax Ordinance

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported the ordinance is mostly a housekeeping amendment that came about because of the Horizon tax appeal and the transient occupancy issue at Southwestern College. Mr. Tosh briefly reviewed the proposed changes and explained the revisions will clarify the Council's intent of the ordinance. Mr. Tosh briefly reviewed the changes to the ordinance. Councilor Spangler commented the city attorney has done an excellent job with the ordinance and consensus of the Council to direct staff to prepare the ordinance for enactment by the Council November 20, 2001.

Approval of the Needs and Issues Priority List

Council President McKeown reported the needs and issues priority inventory is a process developed to collect and respond to the locally-identified needs of local governments, tribes, ports, and special districts throughout the state. Councilor Stufflebean moved to approve the needs and issues priority list. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Public Comments

Julia Spangler, Coos Bay, reported while on vacation she saw a lot of really pretty towns, as well as a lot of sad places, and it makes you appreciate what we have in the Bay Area. Ms. Spangler commented a number of cities also use artwork out in the public ways and suggested the city also consider using art. Frances

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Cooley, Coos Bay, reported while traveling in Eastern Oregon, she noticed in Baker City large arrows pointing out parking to travelers and a number of cities have clean sidewalks and streets and use planter boxes.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported he is working on the Dyer contract for the design work on the Newmark project. The State will do a certification of compliance on the Olayee injunction issue and will look at other compliance issues after that.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile commended Mr. Tosh for his work on the Dyer contract which is very complex. He and Mr. Tosh met this afternoon with Vaughn Raines of PCI regarding fiber service to the area and Mr. Raines is optimistic that the deployment schedule for Coos Bay by the end of December will be met. Mr. Grile reported they are continuing to negotiate the franchise agreement. Charter Communications is currently stringing fiber and will have five fiber nodes operating in the bay area. Mr. Grile commented city staff is concerned about public safety since the September 11th World Trade Center attack and the police department is on heightened alert.

Chief Knight reported the police department is prepared for emergencies and he receives daily briefings from the FBI. A memo of guidance for handling of mail and packages has been distributed to city employees, city hall surveillance cameras and alarms have been tested, and additional measures are being considered. The department is also doing extra patrols of key facilities such as the water board, wastewater treatment plants, schools, and the hospital. Chief Knight commented staff is taking the situation seriously and in 35 years of service he has never seen more cooperation among the City's departments any greater than it is today. Council President McKeown stated the City is lucky to have such professional public safety personnel and staff. He noted the cooperation among other agencies is also very good. City Manager Grile commended public safety personnel and the whole team for their efforts.

Council Comments

Councilor Weeks commented she was pleased to read that Wal-Mart is moving forward with their expansion. She expressed surprise that the County is appealing the Coos Art Museum tax decision, and she is anxious to have the 4th Street project completed. Mr. Grile commented the project is expected to be done November 30th. Councilor Weeks reported she will not be available for the city manager's evaluation next week and will meet with Mr. Grile personally.

Councilor Spangler commented visiting small rural communities opens your eyes to things that are possible in your own city. He stated he is proud of what this council has done in Coos Bay when compared to what other communities have done. Councilor Spangler commented the next fiber optics meeting will be held October 26th in Klamath Falls.

Councilor Miller reminded everyone of the safe trick or treating event in downtown Coos Bay Halloween evening. There will also be a costume parade and a Halloween maze at the convention center.

Councilor Larson invited children to enjoy the downtown trick or treating event and thanked Councilor Miller and the Downtown Association for sponsoring the event.

Councilor Stuffbean reported he will be out of town Nov. 6th on business. He noted 1200 kids

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attended swim meets in Coos Bay from around Oregon, Washington and California and Coos Bay will be hosting another swim meet next October.

Council President McKeown commented swim meets are often three day events and families come with the swimmers. He reported the next South Coast Development Council meeting will be held in Reedsport on the 24th and they have a potential business wanting to relocate to the area. Council President McKeown commend Chief Knight and staff for their efforts in keeping our community safe. He expressed appreciation for Shanda Shribbs' efforts in bringing the Oregon Downtown Development Association to Coos Bay. The public presentation of ODDA's report was excellent and pointed out we need a vision for the city. Another message was that we need to shop locally, it costs money to drive out of town, we can spend our dollars here and support the local economy.

Council President McKeown recessed the Council meeting to go into the Urban Renewal Agency meeting. The Council reconvened after the Agency concluded their meeting.

Executive Session

Councilor Miller moved to go into an executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (d) for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

The Council reconvened into regular session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President McKeown adjourned the meeting to November 6, 2001 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Jeff McKeown, Council President

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder