

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

December 3, 2002

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

Those Attending

Those present were Mayor Joe Benetti and Councilors Jon Eck, Roger Gould, Anna Marie Larson, Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, and Kevin Stufflebean. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Nathan McClintock, Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Police Chief Chuck Knight, Finance Director Janell Howard, and Library Director Carol Ventgen.

Flag Salute

Mayor Benetti led the assembly in the salute to the flag and a moment of silence was held in remembrance of the City's fallen firefighters Randy Carpenter, Jeff Common, and Chuck Hanners.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Benetti reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of approval of the minutes of the November 19, 2002 meeting and adoption of Resolution 02-37 accepting the voter canvass from the general election. 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 Captain Eura Washburn

Capt. Washburn commended city staff and other public safety agencies for their support and cooperation during the November 25th. Capt. Washburn reported the upgrade on the communications system is being installed and is expected to be operational in two weeks. Mayor Benetti thanked the police and fire departments for their work and Councilor Eck commented all the city departments worked very well together. Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs also thanked Marshfield High School Principal Arnie Roblan for helping with arrangements for the memorial.

Authorization for the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board To Purchase Property for Mitigation Purposes

Water Board General Manager Rob Schab reported the mitigation plan is the final component of the water enhancement project and the Board is requesting authorization to purchase two pieces of property and a wetlands easement. The Water Board has reviewed a number of alternatives to meet the requirements of both fresh water and estuary water and the site they have approved is located in the Catching Slough area. Councilor McKeown inquired what resources would be used for the purchases and Mr. Schab reported the acquisition is not covered under the loan and Water Board funds would be used. Councilor Stufflebean moved to adopt Resolution 02-33, which is attached and hereby made a part of the record, authorizing the purchase of the properties and an easement. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

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Fire Chief Stan Gibson – Update on the November 25, 2002 Fire

Chief Gibson reported investigations into the November 25th fire are being conducted by OR-OSHA, NIOSH, and the State Fire Marshall. OSHA has conducted a number of interviews and has collected data and records from the City. It is anticipated OSHA representatives will be back next week to complete their investigation and hold a closing conference with the City. NIOSH, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, will be looking at the building and make a determination on why the building acted the way it did. An independent testing of the breathing apparatus, radios, and protective clothing will be done to see if they performed properly. Chief Gibson reported the NIOSH investigation is done at no charge to the City and is expected to take six to nine months to complete. The State Fire Marshall's investigation will determine the cause and origin of the fire and will include interviews of fire personnel before the final report is released. Chief Gibson commented in addition to these investigations there are four insurance companies involved and each is conducting an investigation.

Consideration of Proposed Signage for the Sportsman Pedway

Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs explained the original intent of taking out the Sportsman Building was to open space for a plaza and give visibility to parking areas. The Oregon Downtown Development Association suggested the space could be used for public art and with that in mind, staff has prepared four alternatives for signage. Three of the alternatives would place signs on the building wall to the south of the plaza and one alternative would place signs on the street. Concerns were expressed regarding the stability of the wall surface if signs were attached and negotiating approval from the building owner. Staff's recommendation is to add street signs directing vehicles to the parking areas.

Councilor Larson stated a preference for painting signs on the wall. Councilor McKeown suggested beginning with the street signs, and reviewing after a period of time to determine if additional signage is necessary. Councilor Miller agreed and recommended using a larger sign than is currently used. Ms. Shribbs commented ODOT is willing to approve the signs quickly and there are several good locations available, and the new signs would replace existing signage. Mayor Benetti also agreed with Councilor McKeown's suggestion and recommended providing some RV parking in the lots. Councilor Gould supported the street signs and commented the plaza has a lot of potential as a gathering space and the City needs to keep in mind that quality of space is important to people. Mr. Grile's recommendation was for signage on the wall as it was his understanding that that was the kind of signage the Agency wanted. Mayor Benetti noted the consensus of the Council is to move forward with staff's recommendation for street signage.

Consideration of the Proposal to Establish the Marshfield Parking District - Adoption of Resolution 02-34

Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs reported a neighborhood meeting was held recently to discuss parking issues around the high school. Consensus of the residents attending the meeting was to form a parking district providing for permit parking during school hours. Marshfield High Principal Arnie Roblan commented there is more parking available on campus and the school supports the parking district plan. Councilor Gould commented if parking is restricted on Ingersoll, students will find other places to park and he recommended students park on campus. Officer Scott Snyder reported the police department has responded to a lot of calls in the Ingersoll area regarding students congregating in the area, litter problems, and loud music, and he supported establishing the parking district and having students park on

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campus. Councilor Gould moved to adopt Resolution 02-34 establishing the Marshfield Parking District, which is attached and hereby made a part of the record. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Benetti and Councilors Eck, Gould, Larson, McKeown and Miller voting aye; Councilor Stufflebean voting no.

Authorization to Proceed with Refinancing City 2000 Sewer Bonds, 1993 Water Bonds, and Hotel/Motel Revenue Bonds – Adoption of Resolutions 02-32, 02-35, and 02-36

City Manager Bill Grile reported refinancing the bonds would save tax dollars. Councilor Gould moved to adopt Resolutions 02-32, 02-35 and 02-36, which are attached and hereby made a part of the record, authorizing staff to proceed with refinancing City 2000 sewer bonds, 1993 Water Bonds, and Hotel/Motel Revenue Bonds. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Approval of Appointments of Council Representatives to Various Committees

Mayor Benetti reported after each general election the mayor and deputy recorder review council appointments to various boards and committees and contact Councilors regarding their preference of service. A recommendation for appointments is attached and hereby made a part of the record. Mayor Benetti moved to approve the appointments of Council representatives as presented. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. Mayor Benetti expressed appreciation to the City Council for their willingness to serve on the committees.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile commented it has been a difficult and tragic week for the City of Coos Bay and stated his great respect and admiration for Fire Chief Stan Gibson. Mr. Grile noted he has received many reports from the community about the support shown by the City Council during this time.

Council Comments

Councilor Larson expressed condolences to the families of Firefighters Randall Carpenter, Jeff Common, and Chuck Hanners, and thanked all the volunteers for making the Downtown Tree Lighting a success. Councilor Stufflebean also expressed condolences to the families of the firefighters and reminded everyone of the Boys and Girls Club auction to be held December 6th. Councilor Gould expressed pride in the staff and citizens of Coos Bay, and gratitude for the support of the City Council. He also thanked Andrew Sirocchi from The World newspaper for the way he covered the incident. Councilor Gould commented the outpouring of support from the fire department and community has been unbelievable and the community memorial service was exceptional.

Councilor Eck also expressed sympathy for the families of the fallen firefighters and commented as a volunteer firefighter, the incident impacted him very closely. He thanked the City Council, staff, citizens, and other fire departments for their support. Councilor Miller also extended condolences to the families, and commended Chief Gibson for his leadership of the fire department and the citizens and staff for coming together in a difficult time. Councilor McKeown expressed appreciation for the team of professionals who immediately came to Coos Bay to help the City work through a difficult situation. He

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also expressed appreciation to Mayor Benetti for providing support and leadership to the City Council and community.

Mayor Benetti recognized Jon Eck and Roger Gould for their years of service on the Budget Committee in citizen-at-large positions and presented each with a New Carissa myrtlewood paperweight. He also recognized Judy Weeks for her service on the City Council during the years of 1995 through 2002. Mayor Benetti thanked the community for their support during this time and commented all the departments were fantastic. He reported Senator Smith will put into the congressional record recognition of our firefighters Randy Carpenter, Jeff Common, and Chuck Hanners, and he announced a firefighters memorial will be established.

Executive Session

Councilor Miller moved to go into an executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (f) for the purpose of considering records exempt from public inspection, and (h) consulting with legal counsel concerning litigation likely to be filed. Councilor McKeown seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. The Council reconvened into regular session.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to December 17, 2002 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Joe Benetti, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder