

MINUTES OF THE COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL

January 21, 2003

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 President Jeff McKeown and Councilors Jon Eck, Roger Gould, Anna Marie Larson, Cindi Miller, and Kevin Stufflebean. Mayor Joe Benetti was out of town. City staff present were 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

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

Consent Calendar

President McKeown reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of the following items: adoption of Resolution 03-02 accepting and appropriating a Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, adoption of Resolution 03-03 transferring funds contingency to general government attorney special counsel to cover legal and public relations expenses related to the November 25, 2003 fire and legal expenses related to the Walberg lawsuit, adoption of Resolution 03-04 transferring funds from contingency to general government to city council miscellaneous to pay the December 3, 2002 special election expenses, adoption of Resolution 03-05 transferring funds from contingency to public safety, fire operations miscellaneous to cover expenses related to the November 25, 2002 fire incident including the public memorial service, adoption of Resolution 03-06 accepting funds received from the State of Oregon, Department of State Police for expenses related to the Emergency Conflagration Act, authorization to proceed with an intergovernmental agreement with Coos County transferring library computers to the city of Coos Bay, and approval of council minutes from the December 17, 2002, January 7, 2003 and January 14, 2003 meetings. Councilor Stufflebean moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Jon Eck seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors presents voting aye.

Department Head Report by Library Director Carol Ventgen

Library Director Carol Ventgen reported the library was recently closed for technology changes and will be closed again on the 30th for computer hardware upgrades. The Oregon Coast Music Association is partnering with the library to present Kinder Konzert on Saturday, a chautauqua program on the apple and a Latino program will be presented next week, and bilingual story time continues to be a favorite.

Highway 101 Flags and Flowers Project Presentation by Deanna Scott

Deanna Scott reported the Flags and Flowers Project started a year ago as a subcommittee of the SCDC Tourism Committee and includes Shanda Shribbs from the City, Steve Clay from Crow/Clay and Associates, Chris Coles from the Downtown Association, and Melinda Anderson from SCDC. Ms. Scott explained tourism is a major component of economic development and to attract tourism-based entrepreneurs certain community amenities need to be available. First impressions are important and draw in tourists, attract new businesses, and encourage property owners to make improvements. Ms. Scott reported the committee developed a master plan for the project which encompasses the major travel corridor. The initial focus is the gateway area beginning with the airport and Hwy 101 entrances to

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the Bay Area. Development is planned in phases to allow the program to start immediately and continue as funding becomes available. Ms. Scott commented it is anticipated it will take three years at the very least to do the project and fund raising is the next step. Committee members will be visiting all service clubs, downtown associations, businesses, etc. to encourage participation in the program, and individuals may also participate. Current partners include the City of Coos Bay, City of North Bend, CEDCO, Crow/Clay and Associates, the Chamber, The World, and Coos County. Ms. Scott commented the committee is not asking for funding, but is looking for a letter of support for grant applications.

Steve Clay reported the concept builds on public private partnership such as when the city started the work on Central Avenue and then private enterprise began making investments. In addition, the committee is also suggesting our communities come together, not reinvent what is already there. Mr. Clay commented the plan travels through four different government entities beginning in Bunker Hill through North Bend. Each design will be carefully considered before being adopted and implemented, and all are intended to be low maintenance. The designs will respect zoning ordinances and the vision of each community, as well as the historic fabric along the route. Mr. Clay commented the ability to walk from Bunker Hill to North Bend is also being considered. Ms. Scott commented the initial cost makes the project seem prohibitive, but with a grass-roots effort, it can be done. Councilor Miller moved to have a letter of support of the Flags and Flower Project prepared. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Appointment of Council Representative to the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board

City Attorney Nathan McClintock reported North Bend's city attorney had contacted him regarding North Bend's concerns about a city councilor being appointed to the Water Board. Mr. Stebbins cited rules regarding incompatibility of office and Mr. McClintock stated after researching, he does not see a problem of conflict with Councilor Gould serving on the Water Board. President McKeown commented having a councilor on the Water Board will help communication between the Water Board and the City. Councilor Miller moved to ratify the Mayor's appointment of Councilor Gould to the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Appointments to the Parks Commission

Appointments to the Parks Commission were made by ballot with the following results: reappointment of Nancy Jarvis, Bill Otton and Floyd Vanderveldon; and ratification of Chris Coles as the Planning Commission's representative to the Parks Commission.

Appointments to the Budget Committee

Appointments to the Budget Committee were made by ballot with the following results: Michele Burnette and Sam Roth appointed to three-year terms, and Linda Doman and Ron Optiz to fulfill unexpired terms for two years.

Public Comments

Randy Miles, President of the Firefighters Association [IAFF], reported serious discussions regarding problems in the department had been held by the association members long before the November 25th fire and they had tried to get the message across to the city a number of times. Mr. Miles commented he had personally gone to councilor's homes and talked to them, spoken at council meetings, and placed a public notice in the paper. An employee survey was done and nothing has been done from the survey. Mr. Miles commented the association members want a leader that leads in a positive way and inspires employees, and they want progress. Mr. Miles then read the association's vote of no confidence in Chief Gibson to the assembly, which is attached and hereby made a part of the record.

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President McKeown expressed the Council's appreciation for the firefighter's concerns and noted the city has been through a difficult time and a terrible tragedy. He further commented the chief and firefighters are professionals and the Council appreciates their service to the community. President McKeown suggested a meeting be scheduled to discuss the firefighter's concerns when the city manager returns.

Steve Schneiderman, representing the Volunteer Firefighter Association, commented the IAFF is not voicing the opinion of the volunteers and the volunteers have not been a part of the discussion on the vote of no confidence.

Council Comments

Councilor Eck reported the Airport Board is working on their charter, deciding on insurance issues, and reviewing proposed projects for the airport. Councilor Miller commented the Commission on Children and Families will be meeting to discuss budget shortfalls, the Downtown Association's Bridal Fair will be held February 8th at Old City Hall, and the foreign exchange student program is looking for a home for a Japanese student for the next four months. Councilor Larson thanked the Parks Commission and Budget Committee applicants for their interest in serving the city and congratulated those who were appointed. Councilor Stufflebean reported proposals for architect agent of record have been received and he will be reviewing those with Community Services Department staff.

President McKeown reported SCDC will meet tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. at the Enterprise Business Center in North Bend. He thanked the Flags and Flowers Committee for their work on the developing the project, the IBO program this week will be an update from Verizon on the fiber lines they have installed, next week's IBO will be presented by Carson Carney from American Bridge, and the Chamber's annual banquet will be held February 1st.

Executive Session

An executive session was held pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (h) for the purpose of discussing with legal counsel potential litigation matters and (1) (d) labor negotiations. The City Council reconvened in regular session.

Adoption of Resolution 03-07 Authorizing the City to Participate in an Appeal of the PERS Order

Councilor Stufflebean moved to adopt Resolution 03-07 authorizing the City to participate in the appeal of the PERS order. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye. Councilor Miller moved to authorize President McKeown to sign an agreement with Mersereau and Shannon, LLP, as the City's representative in the appeal. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, President McKeown adjourned the meeting to February 4, 2003 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Jeff McKeown, President

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder