

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

May 6, 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 Mayor Joe Benetti and Councilors Jon Eck, Roger Gould, Anna Marie Larson, Jeff McKeown, and Cindi Miller. Councilors Jeff McKeown and Kevin Stufflebean were absent. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Nathan McClintock, Police Chief Chuck Knight, and Library Director Carol Ventgen.

Flag Salute

Mayor Benetti opened the meeting and led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Benetti reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of approval of the April 15, 2003 meeting meetings and adoption of the proclamation for Foster Care Month. Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. Greg Reichenberger, Department of Human Resources, briefly explained the foster care program and read the proclamation which is attached and hereby made a part of the record.

Department Head Report by Police Chief Chuck Knight and Adoption of the Peace Officers Memorial Day Proclamation

Chief Knight reported the call load for the Police Department has increased from the same time period last year from an average 72 cases per officer to 81 cases per officer. The department has fewer staff members this year and prioritizes the calls. Chief Knight introduced Officer Ken Labrousse and K9 Charlie and explained Charlie is in training to replace K9 Officer Cutter. Officer Labrousse reported Charlie is two years old, likes to work and is being trained to detect drug odors. Charlie has been in training since January and should be certified within a few months. Chief Knight reported May 15th is Peace Officer Memorial Day and the week of May 12th is National Peace Officer Week. The proclamation was read to the assembly, and is attached and hereby made a part of the record. Councilor Gould moved to adopt the Peace Officers Memorial Day proclamation. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Public Hearing on the Proposed Rezone of Property Located on Thompson Road – Ordinance No. 333

Planning Administrator Laura Barron read the public hearing disclosure for the proposed rezone of property located on Thompson Road. Ms. Barron reported the applicant, Dr. Dara Parvin, has requested the property currently zoned residential be rezoned to medical park. Bay Area Hospital, numerous clinics and medial facilities are located in close proximity to the subject property. Ms Barron reported the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed rezone April 8, 2003 and concerns were expressed by neighbors regarding traffic and impacts to the residences close to the proposed development. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of the rezone with a condition that a SPAR be approved prior to development of the property.

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Mayor Benetti opened the public hearing for comments. There were no comments presented and the mayor closed the hearing. Councilor Gould moved to adopt the Planning Commission's findings and conclusions as set forth in Exhibit B of the ordinance. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. Councilor Miller moved to enact Ordinance No. 333 changing the zoning from residential to medical park, and Councilor Gould seconded the motion. Deputy Recorder Jansen read the ordinance by title only and the ordinance was enacted by the following vote:

Voting Aye:	Mayor Benetti and Councilors Eck, Gould, Larson and Miller
Voting No:	None
Absent:	Councilors McKeown and Stufflebean

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Nathan McClintock commented the new lights at the Mingus Park softball field were on during a recent game and are very impressive. Mr. Grile reported the lights around the lake will also be replaced. Mayor Benetti noted the softball field was in need of some fill work.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile reported Sgt. Kevin Hedgepeth has expressed a desire to retire and contract back to the city, similar to contracts the city has negotiated with other employees. Mr. Grile commented Councilor Stufflebean expressed concern last year about going out for an RFP for a new auditor and the finance director's recommendation is to keep the current auditor due to GASB 34 implementation. Consensus of the Council to accept staff's recommendation. Mr. Grile reported the groundbreaking ceremony for the Newmark Improvement Project will be held Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. at the west entrance of the college.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Council Comments

Councilor Larson reported attending the Back to School program at Bunker Hill School and the appreciation breakfast at Marshfield High School. Councilor Eck thanked Linda Clem for inviting the Council to the MHS appreciation breakfast, and commented on the draft transportation plan distributed to the Council. A joint work session has been scheduled for June 10th to receive input from the City Council and the Planning Commission on the plan. Councilor Gould congratulated Mr. Grile on being one of two finalists for the Springfield position and commented this speaks highly of Bill's quality of work. Councilor Gould expressed concern about the 4th and Anderson intersection and suggested the area be changed back to its original configuration. Mayor Benetti explained ODOT had previously contacted the City with concerns about on-street parking on Broadway and congestion, and changing the intersection to direct southbound traffic onto 4th Street was an acceptable solution to the congestion at 4th and Broadway. There was further discussion on the subject and Mayor Benetti suggested the Council look at this for future discussion.

Mayor Benetti thanked staff and councilors for attending the MHS appreciation breakfast and Back to School events. KEZI will be featuring "Our Town" programs and Coos Bay will be the first one, a letter of condolence has been sent to the City of Bandon for the loss of Officer Carl Neyheart, the annual Salmon release will be held Thursday at Blossom Gulch Creek, and keys to the city will be presented to two local soldiers for service in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Mayor Benetti reported Stan Blackwell has expressed concerns about the placement of barricades and parking availability during the Farmer's Market. Councilor Miller will follow up with the Downtown Association on this matter.

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Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to May 20, 2003 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder

Joe Benetti, Mayor