

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

May 20, 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, Cindi Miller, and Kevin Stufflebean. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Nathan McClintock, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, 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.

Presentation of the Key to the City to Airman Dustin Williamson

Mayor Benetti presented Airman Dustin Williamson with a key to the City in recognition of his service in Operation Iraqi Freedom aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln.

Presentation by the Verizon Foundation of a Grant to the Coos Bay Public Library

Don Bomar, Verizon, presented the Friends of the Library with a \$3,000 grant. Mr. Bowman reported literacy is of high priority to Verizon and this is the third year they have given funding to the library.

Presentation by Volunteer Firefighter Association President Mike White

Mike White, President of the Coos Bay Volunteer Firefighters Association presented an award to Bill Grammi in recognition of outstanding service during the firefighters' memorial service in November. Mr. Grammi organized pictorial documentation of the service for the Fire Department. Mayor Benetti announced it is also Steve Schneiderman's 21st anniversary as a volunteer firefighter for Coos Bay.

Report from Marshfield High School Representative Leslie Wall

Leslie Wall reported the appreciation breakfast organized by Mrs. Clem was well attended, Jaime McDermott is the State soloist champion, the year-end vocal concert is being held this evening, and the awards assembly was held today. The senior awards dessert will be held on Thursday and Mayor Benetti will be the guest speaker, and graduation will be held June 7th.

**Report by Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board
Manager Rob Schab**

Water Board Manager Rob Schab reported the water board plans to upgrade the facility's security plan beginning with a vulnerability assessment. The Joe Ney and Upper Pony Creek dam project has been completed, and 25 percent of the dunes wells reserves has been completed with completion of the project expected in the winter 2004/05. Mr. Schab reviewed the Bay Crossing project which would replace the current 16 inch water line to the North Spit with two 22 inch lines. The Water Board plans to use \$200,000 from timber sale funds not budgeted this year, and \$260,000 from their 2004 timber sale, and will partner with Northwest Natural Gas on installation costs. The County Urban Renewal Agency has also pledged \$100,000 towards the project which is estimated at \$1,670,000. Mayor Benetti thanked Mr. Schab for the report and thanked Arnie Roblan and Mike Helfrich for serving as the city's representatives.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Benetti reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of approval of the May 6, 2003 minutes. Councilor Stufflebean moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Nate McClintock reported the ordinance establishing a franchise with Northwest Natural Gas will be on the June 3rd council agenda.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile introduced Cornelis Supit, Jantje Takasihaeng, and James Rompas from Bitung, Indonesia. Mr. Grile explained the guests are visiting Coos Bay to learn about local government through a grant funded by the International City Management Association. There was a brief discussion regarding the importance of public transportation and the affect the lack of public transportation has on many residents in the community. Councilor Stufflebean reported several agencies and local governments in the county have pledged contributions to help provide public transportation in the bay area. Mr. Grile recommended a \$1500 grant be awarded to Bay Area Transportation. Consensus of the Council was to approve the amount for inclusion in the 2003/04 budget.

Public Comments

John Hill, representing the Vietnam Veterans Association, commented on a letter he submitted to the City Council and The World newspaper regarding the lack of high school bands participating in the Memorial Day parade, and he expressed concern for the lack of community support. Mayor Benetti inquired if Mr. Hill had talked with the principals of Coos Bay and North Bend high schools and Mr. Hill responded that he had personally hand delivered the letters to both high schools. No action was taken by the council.

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Council Comments

Councilor Gould reported on a recent trip to Washington DC and that he would be participating in the first organizational meeting of the Randy Carpenter Foundation. He commented he was out of town during the OSHA press conference and has contacted people regarding the report and is comfortable with the City's position regarding the report. Councilor Eck reported attending the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association awards dinner and a medal of honor was presented to each of the fallen firefighters, Randy Carpenter, Jeff Commons, and Chuck Hanner. The Coos Bay, North Bend, and Charleston Fire Departments were each awarded unit citations for their efforts in the rescue operation during the November 2002 fire.

Councilor Miller reported the Farmers Market will open on May 28th and concerns previously raised about the market have been discussed. The market has grown substantially over the past three years and a plan has been adopted to address the parking situation. Councilor Larson welcomed the Indonesian guests to the city and wished everyone a happy and safe Memorial Day weekend. Councilor Stufflebean expressed appreciation to the mayor and council president for their time and dedication to the city. Councilor McKeown also welcomed the guests, and expressed appreciation for the information from the Water Board. He commented the OSHA violations and fines are part of the healing process, and are an opportunity to make a good fire department stronger and better.

Mayor Benetti welcomed the Indonesian guests to the city of Coos Bay. He reminded everyone of the Memorial Day parade on Saturday and thanked Councilors Larson, Miller and Eck for attending the Newmark Improvement Project groundbreaking ceremony.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to June 3, 2003 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Joe Benetti, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder