

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

February 3, 2004

The minutes of the proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, held at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Attending

Those present were Council President Jeff McKeown and Councilors Jon Eck, Roger Gould and Cindi Miller. Mayor Joe Benetti and Councilors Anna Marie Larson and Kevin Stufflebean were absent. City Staff present were Finance Director Janell Howard, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Nathan McClintock, Library Director Carol Ventgen, Engineering Services Coordinator Steve Doty, and Sergeant Rodger Craddock.

Flag Salute

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

Consent Calendar

Council President Jeff McKeown reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of approval of the January 6 and January 20, 2004 minutes, adoption of Resolution 04-01 applying discretionary immunity to city recreational facilities, and setting a date for the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing on vacating a portion of North 3rd Street. Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

Report on the Progress of the Northwest Natural Gas Project

Cal Grimmer, District Manager for Northwest Natural Gas, explained the construction procedure for the grid system and the smaller lines to businesses and residences. Mr. Grimmer reported the smaller lines do not require trenching so repairs to the streets will be minimal. He commented it is a time-consuming project and even with the difficulties caused by weather, the project is going well and is near completion. Mr. Grimmer reported the bay crossing project will begin in late June or early July and receipt of gas service will depend on how Coos County does with their pipeline project. President McKeown inquired if the patching being done is temporary. Mr. Grimmer commented cold patch is used as a temporary fix because weather conditions prohibit laying asphalt and the city will have the final approval on the street repairs. There was further discussion regarding high traffic areas that have only gravel, coordinating the repairs with city staff, and the method used for patching the streets. Steve Doty commented returning the streets to their original condition is a requirement of the contract with Northwest Natural Gas, and they have been working well with city staff on the trenching and patching. The compaction tests and fill material have been provided as required by the contract, and there is a five-year warranty on the trench line.

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Discussion of City Council Goals

President McKeown reported Mayor Benetti and Councilors Larson and Stufflebean submitted their comments on the goals in writing as they were unable to attend the meeting. Consensus of the Council was to discuss the goals briefly at this time and have the whole Council discuss the goals before they are adopted. Councilor Gould recommended taking public input and shortening and prioritizing the goals. He also recommended the Council develop a plan for accomplishing the goals and focus on accomplishing three or four major goals. President McKeown commented the city is at a turning point and reviewing the goals is an opportunity to look forward. Consensus of the Council was to schedule a time for the Council as a whole to discuss the goals, receive public input, and prioritize the goals.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Nate McClintock reported he is working on an intergovernmental agreement with Charleston and Bunkerhill Sanitary Districts as required by DEQ in regards to the city's wastewater permit application.

City Manager's Report

Finance Director Janell Howard reported work has been going well at city hall.

Council Comments

Councilor Miller reported the Fun Festival Committee will be meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month and volunteers are welcome to participate. The theme this year is Come Play at the Shore in 2004. Councilor Eck commented it is good to see so many citizens apply for the openings on the Budget Committee and suggested Council schedule a date for conducting interviews. Consensus of the Council was to meet on Wednesday, February 11th.

Councilor Gould commented the goals tie in with the budget and encouraged citizens to be involved with the process. He commented he is looking forward to the budget process and suggested the meetings start earlier than in the past. Councilor Gould thanked Cal for his report on the natural gas project and commented it will benefit the area when the project is completed. President McKeown also thanked Cal for the update and report on the natural gas project and noted the report was both helpful and comforting. He expressed appreciation to the staff for their work on the project and their positive attitude.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President Jeff McKeown adjourned the meeting to February 17, 2004, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Jeff McKeown Council President

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder