

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

February 15, 2005

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 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon. Council interviews were held at 6 p.m. in the Manager's Conference Room at City Hall.

Those Attending

Those present were Mayor Joe Benetti and Councilors Jon Eck, Roger Gould, Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, John Muenchrath, and Kevin Stufflebean. City staff present were City Manager Scott McClure, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Finance Director Janell Howard, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Library Director Carol Ventgen, and Police Chief Eura Washburn.

Council Interviews

The City Council interviewed Sheila Banks, Steve Donovan, and Bob More for the two open positions on the Budget Committee. Ron Opitz was out of town on business and not able to attend the interview.

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 January 6, 11, and 18, 2005 minutes. Councilor Eck moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Report from Michael Kosmala of the Oregon Symphony

Michael Kosmala reported the Oregon Symphony gives 100 performances annually and promotes community music program through grants such as the grant recently awarded to North Bend Schools and the Oregon Coast Music Association. The musicians teach in the schools and at the college while in the area. A number of performances are also scheduled around the community in March and April. Councilor McKeown expressed appreciation to the Oregon Symphony for their work and for reaching out to the community and student with music.

Presentation of the Audit for Fiscal Year 2003/04 by Rob Wall, CPA

Rob Wall briefly reviewed the 2003/04 audits for the City and Urban Renewal Agency. He reported the Urban Renewal Agency is now in compliance with GASB34 and both the Agency and the City received a clean report. Mayor Benetti commended staff on receiving a good report.

Public Hearing - Proposed Garbage Service Rate Changes and Council Review and Consideration of Approval of the Rate Increase

City Manager Scott McClure reported the franchise for garbage service requires the City approve the rates and the local operators have approached the City for an adjustment in customer rates. Pete Smart, Les' Sanitary, reported the last increase was in 2000 and the proposal is to eliminate the rental fee for the carts. The current cart rate is \$17.75 which would go down to \$16.22 per month, and commercial rates would increase by 1.5 percent. Mr. Smart commented the companies are in the process of updating equipment for a streamlined and safer operation. There was further discussion on the size of the cans/carts, the method for picking up carts, the fees for extra services such as going through gates, stairs, and retrieving carts not set out to the curb, and mandatory garbage service. The new rates would be effective July 1, 2005. Mayor Benetti opened the public hearing. There were no comments given and the public hearing was closed. Councilor Stufflebean moved to adopt Resolution 05-02, which is attached hereto and made apart of thereby, approving the rate increase for the solid waste collection franchise holders. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Benetti and all Councilors present voting aye.

Public Hearing – Ocean Blvd Overlay Project and Council Consideration of Approval of the Project

Mayor Benetti commented the public hearing was continued from the February 1st Council meeting to allow the Council more time to review the area and to take additional public input. Mayor Benetti opened the public hearing. Gene Melton, Coos Bay, commented Ocean was a two-lane road years ago and there was gridlock then. A lot of businesses and development are going in on Ocean which require four-lanes for traffic. Mr. Melton recommended leaving the street with four-lanes. Cammy Collier, Coos Bay, commented she drives Ocean every day and feels very safe on the street. She expressed concern that two lanes would cause more accidents. Frosty West, Shorepines Vista, commented there is a lot of growth in the area and two lanes would not be a good idea. He has lived in Shorepines for several years and has not had a problem getting in and out. Mr. West suggested tighter enforcement of the speed limit would help. Mike Vaughan, Coos Bay, commented the report shows accidents to be less than the standard and perhaps safety is not the issue guiding our thinking. In the future, Ocean will have more traffic and he suggested accessing Shorepines off of Radar Road for safety. Mr. Vaughan commented on the importance of including pedestrians and cyclists when planning the street and suggested using one side of the roadway for this purpose. He recommended staying with the four-lane configuration.

Len Luttrell, Coos Bay, read from a letter representing residents of Shorepines which supported making Ocean two lanes from Newmark to LaClair. Mr. Luttrell asked the Council to visit Shorepines and to support their request. Dick Kalkofen, Coos Bay, commented he had studied the report and 60 percent of the accidents involved left turns. He supported making the street two lanes. Andrew Locati, Coos Bay, commented he had reviewed the study which showed Ocean has a low accident rate and with increased development occurring, he recommended staying with four lanes. Mr. Locati also commented on the need for educating drivers on safe driving practices. Bill Leslie, Gib's RV, suggested the Council give consideration to requiring the paving be done during night time hours to lesson traffic congestion during the project. He also

recommended establishing a fund to save money for an additional traffic light. Harold Gregory, Empire, supported paving at night, not changing the speed and leaving the street with four lanes. There being no further comments, Mayor Benetti closed the public hearing.

Mayor Benetti commented since the last meeting he has talked with citizens and traveled Ocean several times, and he now recommends staying with four lanes. He suggested the City consider additional traffic lights, purchasing property for turn lanes, and implementing a system development charge to help pay for improvements. Councilor Miller supported staying with four lanes and implementing a system development charge. Councilor Eck commented even though the study recommends three lanes, he supports staying with four lanes, and noted speed is a major problem. Councilor McKeown also agreed leaving Ocean with four lanes and recommended staff review problem intersections and report back to the Council. He also suggested looking for long-term solutions and seeking safety grants.

Councilor Muenchrath commented the conclusion in the study rates four lanes the best and he suggested developing an overall plan for Ocean and prioritizing segments of the plan. He also thanked citizens for their comments. Councilor Stufflebean also supported four lanes and recommended future developers help pay for improvements. Mayor Benetti commented the public comments were very important and appreciated. Councilor Gould moved stay with the four-lane configuration, and direct staff to prepare a request for proposal that would have the engineer prepare the necessary documents to bid the project and manage it through completion. Councilor Muenchrath seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Benetti and all Councilors present voting aye.

Consideration of Funding for the Collection System Master Plan and System Development Charges

Administrative Assistant Susanne Baker reported the bid came in higher than estimated and staff was instructed to look at the possibility of using urban renewal funds for the shortfall. The advise from bonding counsel was that a small portion of urban renewal funds could be applied to the master plan. Staff's recommendation is to use \$16,000 from urban renewal and \$26,000 from the Alder Street project. Councilor Eck moved to expend \$26,000 from the Alder Street project to fund the collection system master plan and system development charges. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Benetti and all Councilors present voting aye.

Appointments to the Fill Two Openings on the Budget Committee

The appointments were made by ballot and Steve Donovan and Ron Opitz were appointed to the Budget Committee.

Consideration of Enactment of an Ordinance Amending the Parks Commission Ordinance Increasing the Membership of the Commission

Councilor Miller moved to enact the proposed ordinance to increase the Parks Commission board from seven to eight members. Councilor Eck seconded the motion and Deputy Recorder

Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title only. Ordinance No. 364 was enacted with the following vote:

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

City Manager's Report

City Manager Scott McClure reported the hours of operation for the administrative offices will change beginning February 22nd to open at 9 a.m. instead of 10 a.m. Staff is also looking into making improvements to the lobby and police department reception area. Mr. McClure briefly reviewed the fire station plan and noted the schedule is for either an election in November 2005 or May 2006. Mayor Benetti commented the City needs to get the property before they can move forward. Mr. McClure reminded everyone of the goal setting session next Tuesday.

Public Comments

Joseph Shukoff, North Bend, requested the Council propose to the federal government that a military base be located on the Bay Area. He reported on the anticipated economic benefits the base would bring to the community and commented he would be making the same proposal to the City of North Bend. Peter Cooley, 652 14th Avenue, requested the Council consider speed humps on 14th Avenue. He commented the traffic travels too fast and endangers pedestrians. Mr. Cooley also commented he has spoken to neighbors and they support speed humps to slow the traffic. The Council requested staff look into the feasibility of constructing speed humps.

Gary Rifkin, Coos Bay, commented he had reported to the Council in October 2003 regarding rebuilding the bridge and the Council had set aside \$22,000. He has received some donations but would like to have assurance from the Council that they support replacing the bridge. Mr. Rifkin also reported on grant funding available from Oregon Parks and Recreation. There was a brief discussion on the history of the bridge, ADA requirements, and the need for an architect to design the bridge. Councilor Gould recommended the bridge be considered during the budget process. Councilor Stufflebean requested the item be on the next Council agenda for further discussion. Mike Vaughan, Coos Bay, reported Steve Clay had designed Choshi Bridge and he recommended the City seek out expertise for building this type of bridge. He noted that typically the bridge would need to be replaced every 50 years. Mr. Vaughan volunteered to help with the project.

Council Comments

Councilor Stufflebean requested the city manager give weekly reports to the Council on legislative bills affecting the city. Councilor Eck commented the League of Oregon Cities sends out a weekly report on this information. City Manager McClure reported Councilors can sign up with the League to receive the reports and the League does contact his office for input on the bills. Mayor Benetti encouraged Councilors to sign up with the League and also attend the bi-monthly Legislative telecom at the ESD office. Councilor Miller expressed condolences to the families of Charles Graham and Jack Goll. Both were longtime residents of North Bend and

served on the North Bend City Council. Councilor Muenchrath thanked the finance director and staff for a smooth audit.

Councilor Gould commented both Charles Graham and Jack Goll were leaders in the community and they will be missed. The waterfront meeting will be held on the 17th at The Mill and he encouraged the Council and citizens to attend. Councilor Gould reported the Library will hold a meeting to accept public input on library services on the 24th. He commented that Jack Lucero and Brooke Davison were selected to participate in Junior NBA program. Students are selected from around the nation and travel to Arizona to participate in the event.

Councilor McKeown commented the Waterfront Forum will be interesting for the community and encouraged everyone to attend. The goal setting session will be held next Tuesday and the Council would welcome public input. Mayor Benetti expressed condolences to the families of Charles Graham and Jack Goll for their loss. CEDCO grant awards will be held February 25th in the Salmon Room at The Mill. Mayor Benetti reported Senator Wyden's representative will be meeting with elected officials and community members once a month to develop area priorities.

Executive Session

Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (d) the City Council met in executive session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations.

The Council reconvened into regular session.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to February 22, 2005 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Joe Benetti, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder