

## MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

January 18, 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.

### **Those Attending**

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

### **Flag Salute**

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

### **Consideration of Donating the FLARE Car to the Randy Carpenter Foundation**

Chief Gibson reported the Randy Carpenter Foundation has requested the City donate the FLARE car to the Foundation to be used throughout the state in Randy's memory. The car was received from the State Police in 1996 and Randy Carpenter and Robert Lounsbury developed the FLARE car. Councilor Gould reported after Randy's death, his family created the Randy Carpenter Memorial Foundation with a mission to further the education and training of firefighters throughout the state. The FLARE car was created by Randy and Robert Lounsbury and it would be appropriate to use the car in Randy's memory. Councilor Gould introduced Randy's brothers Brad and Kerry. Kerry Carpenter commented the purpose of the foundation is to carry on Randy's passion for education and training, and the FLARE car would help with this goal. Mr. Carpenter commended Robert and Tammy Lounsbury for their work and support, and explained the car would be used to bring attention to the importance of training as well as memorialize the three firefighters.

Councilor Stufflebean moved to transfer the FLARE car to the Randy Carpenter Foundation. Councilor McKeown seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Benetti and all Councilors present voting aye. Councilor Gould expressed the Carpenter family's appreciation for the donation. Battalion Chief Mark Anderson reported he had been hired with Randy sixteen years ago and had known Randy very well, and presented the keys of the car to the Kerry and Brad Carpenter. Kirk Junk had also worked with Randy and expressed appreciation to the Council for the donation.

### **Presentation of the Ocean Boulevard Traffic Study by Lancaster Engineering**

Mayor Benetti reported Landcaster Engineering prepared an analysis of Ocean Blvd. which includes lane configuration options. Todd Mobley, representing Landcaster Engineering, reviewed the current configuration of four lanes and an example of the boulevard as three lanes

with a turn lane. Mr. Mobley commented the Transportation System Plan (TSP) recommends converting the street to three lanes with bike lanes due to safety concerns. The ability to safely make a left turn, the need for intersection sight distance improvements, pedestrian and bike safety issues, and the ability to vehicles to enter onto Ocean Blvd. were reviewed by Mr. Mobley. A five-lane alternative would require the street to be widened and it is not feasible to incorporate this into the overlay project. Mr. Mobley reviewed using a combination of three-lane and four-lane alternative. The three-lane configuration would be used in the lower travel speeds and would allow a left turn lane, and four-lanes would be used in areas of less development. In summary Mr. Mobley commented three-lanes would reduce accidents significantly, would add some delay in travel time, would decrease the speed, and would implement the TSP recommendation.

Councilor McKeown expressed concern about increased traffic due to future housing developments. Mr. Mobley referred to the long-term volume expectations included in the TSP report which supports the three-lane configuration. Mayor Benetti asked which alternative Mr. Mobley recommended. Mr. Mobley responded the alternatives are included in the report and their analysis found three lanes would operate within the standards. He also commented the City would want to weigh the options and projects of this nature can be controversial. Mayor Benetti commented the developments in the Radar Road area will significantly increase traffic and inquired if a traffic light should be considered. Mr. Mobley commented the traffic would likely warrant a signal. Mayor Benetti asked which alternative Mr. Mobley would recommend and Mr. Mobley stated he would reconfigure the entire section to three lanes for safety benefits.

Councilor Stufflebean suggested looking at the combination configuration with the focus on long-term benefits and recommended holding public hearings to take input from the community. Councilor McKeown asked about the stop sign at the top of Central and Mr. Mobley stated it was looked at but the study did not focus on improvements to that area; however, removal of the stop sign would incur some liability as something is needed to slow traffic down. There was further discussion on the cost of developing five lanes, the affect on traffic of future develop of areas along Ocean Blvd., concerns of reconfiguring the whole street to three lanes, and whether a combination alternative would be advantageous. The Council reviewed the plans for the combination alternative, discussed the problem of exiting and entering Shorepines area, and briefly reviewed available funding for the project.

Councilor Eck supported the combination alternative for safety purposes. Councilor McKeown asked that the stop sign at the top of Central be looked at. Councilor Gould commented there is a major transition in this area and the purpose of the stop sign is to slow people down. Mr. Mobley commented some leveling with asphalt could improve the situation, but may not be enough to control the traffic. Councilor Gould noted in 20 years the sign has prevented many accidents. Mayor Benetti commented a decision needs to be made in the near future so the project can be done during the construction season. City Manager Scott McClure reported a decision at another meeting would still allow the City to meet the schedule.

Mayor Benetit opened the public hearing. Seymour Glassman, 1006 Maryland, suggested instead of the stop sign at Central, a traffic light that would let two or three cars at a time to pass be installed. He would also suggested no left on 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Glassman commented the Council should keep in mind where the city will be in 20 years when making the decision for Ocean Blvd. Jerry Adams, Coos Bay, commented even though Newmark Avenue has been

improved, a lot of traffic for Charleston uses Ocean Blvd. and with increased housing development in that area, Council should take into consideration the increase in traffic the development will bring. Mike Vaughan, Coos Bay, commented the combination alternative would create diverse traffic speeds and safety issues. Mark Dailey, Coos Bay, reported the TSP recommends three lanes and he suggested going with the experts and reviewing the configuration in five years. He did not support the combination alternative.

Mr. Mobley reported it is estimated the three-lane configuration would prevent many accidents. Councilor Eck asked Sgt. Lounsbury to comment on the combination alternative. Sgt. Lounsbury commented he has investigated traffic accidents on Ocean and a combination seems to be a stop in the right direction. Seymour Glassman suggested the Council look into an assessment district for future streets and future developers should help pay for the improvements. There being no further comments, Mayor Benetti closed the public hearing. Consensus of the City Council to hold a public hearing at the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Councilor McKeown requested staff explore the cost of improving the stop area at the top of Central Avenue.

### **Consideration of Award of the FRP for the Collection System Master Plans and System Development Charges**

Administrative Assistant Susanne Baker reported in September the Council approved amending the facilities plans engineering contract to include development of system development charges for the wastewater treatment plants, and approved soliciting Request for Proposals for collection systems master plans and development of system development charges for both the sanitary and storm water infrastructure. Proposals were received on December 8, 2004 from HBH Consulting Engineers for \$168,500, SHN Consulting Engineers for \$185,600, West Yost and Associates for \$190,000, and HGE Inc. for \$237,345. Ms. Baker reported staff has reviewed the proposals and recommends awarding the project to HBH for \$168,500. She explained \$125,000 from FY 2003/04 wastewater carryover funds has been encumbered to fund the collection systems master plans and establishment of system development charges. The balance needed, \$43,000, is proposed to be funded from the construction phase of the Alder Street sewer line replacement. Councilor McKeown suggested reviewing the project to see if urban renewal funds could be used. Councilor Gould moved to award the contract for \$168,500 to HBH Consulting Engineers. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. Councilor Gould moved to have staff review the possible budget adjustments and inform the Council of the options. Councilor McKeown seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Department Reports**

Library Director Carol Ventgen reported members of the Police Department participated in story time at the library, the library has free wireless access through the building, a \$4,000 grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust has allowed the library to add to the audio book collection, and a goal setting session has been scheduled for the Library Board.

Fire Chief Stan Gibson thanked the Council for donating the FLARE car. He reported contact has been made with local realtors on the four possible sites for the fire station and the Department of Geology has been contacted for information regarding slide hazards and tsunami

zones. Chief Gibson introduced new Firefighter Justin Foss. Police Chief Eura Washburn introduced new officers Jeff Zavada and Mike Shaffer, and new dispatcher Ramona Pierson. Dispatcher Angela Weekly is on maternity leave and unable to attend the meeting. Chief Washburn introduced Officer Chris Chapanar and K9 Niels and Officer Sean Merritt and K9 Indy. The K9 officers joined the department January 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Scott McClure reported on a meeting with Laurel Ashman, Channel 14, regarding funding issues. He will be attending a bonds and ballots workshop and will provide more information on planning a successful bond measure to the City Council at the next meeting. Mr. McClure reported the clerical position has been filled in his office and the finance director will supervise the position. Mr. McClure requested a goal setting session be held in February.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **Council Comments**

Councilor Stufflebean reported he will be out of town for the next Council meeting and will submit a list of available dates to the deputy recorder. Councilor Gould extended condolences to Anna Marie Larson and sons David and Nick for Ralph's passing. Councilor Gould commented Ralph was a good City Councilor, frequently the only Councilor who voted no on some things, and he will be missed. Councilor Eck also expressed condolences to the Larson family. Mayor Benetti expressed condolences to the Larson family and noted the funeral was well attended. He had served on the Council with Ralph and appreciated Ralph's input. Mayor Benetti commented Ralph had also served on the Planning Commission and was involved extensively in the community.

Councilor McKeown commented Ralph was an asset to the community and did more than his share to make Coos Bay a better place. Councilor McKeown reported the award of an Oregon Symphony grant to the North Bend School District benefits the whole community and the Symphony will be performing in the Bay Area. Councilor McKeown commented the liquid natural gas public hearing will be held at city hall tomorrow evening and encouraged the public to attend. The Northwest Natural Gas celebration on the opening of the gas line will be held tomorrow.

### **Executive Session**

Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (d) an executive session was held 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 1, 2005 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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Joe Benetti, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder