

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

March 29, 2005

The minutes of the proceedings of a work session of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, held at 7 p.m. in the Sunset Middle School Commons, 245 South Cammann, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Attending

Those present were Mayor Joe Benetti and Councilors Jon Eck, Roger Gould, Jeff McKeown, John Muenchrath, and Kevin Stufflebean. Councilor Cindi Miller was absent. City staff present were City Manager Scott McClure, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen.

Joint Meeting with the Concerned Citizens of Empire

Hollering Place Project. Mr. John Pundt reviewed the plans for the Hollering Place project and reported their group has formed a non-profit entity to assist the City with developing and obtaining funding for the project. Mr. Steve Skinner explained they have researched funding for the project and have identified several sources; however, they need a liaison with the City to submit the grant applications. The most promising funding is through OECDD which the group would like to apply for a grant to develop the plan for the project. Mr. Skinner reviewed components of the project and the process that was used to develop the design. There was further discussion on how to proceed with the project, the need for developing the design, infrastructure and engineering requirements for the project, preservation of the history of the area, parking concerns, developing businesses opportunities, and a facility that would encourage people to stop.

The Council briefly discussed developing the design and it was suggested the city manager contact the University of Oregon Design School for students interested in working on the architectural design. Concensus of the Council was to approve the plans in concept and move forward with the project. The Council also agreed that public hearings would be held to take input on the project.

Ed Lund Park. Mr. Pundt reported a significant improvements have been made to the park by volunteers and donations of materials. A plan has been developed and submitted to the Parks Commission for future development of the park. June Est-Pundt reported on activities planned for the park including a Saturday Market. She commented on the need for access to water and electricity for the park. Mayor Benetti and the Council thanked the Empire Citizens for the report and for their work on the projects.

Joint Meeting with the Coos County Historical Society

Anne Donnelly briefly reviewed the plans for the museum facility which would be constructed on the four-acre site known as Central Dock property located on Front Street. The museum would be visible from Hwy 101 and would require vacation of a portion of Front Street. The facility is approximately 6,000 sq. ft., includes a conference room for public use, large display areas, offices, and future plans for a gift shop and café. The second floor would include a library and

archive area. Ms. Donnelly displayed architectural drawings of the facility. There was further discussion on placement of the facility on the property, parking availability, access to the museum and businesses in the Front Street area. Ms. Donnelly reported the design has not yet been completed and fund raising is in the works. A total of \$6.5 million is needed to build the facility and it is estimated the fundraising will take three years. She also explained most grants require 1/3 of the project cost be raised before the grants are applied for.

There was discussion of removal of the building and Mayor Benetti briefly explained the history of the purchase of the property and how the city ended up with the building. The city manager will follow up on removal of the building.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to April 5, 2005 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Joe Benetti, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder