

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

June 28, 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 6 p.m. in the Manager's Conference Room 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, John Muenchrath, and Kevin Stufflebean. City staff present were City Manager Scott McClure, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, and Administrative Assistant Susanne Baker. Representatives from Bunker Hill and Charleston Sanitary Districts were also present.

Wastewater Treatment Plant II Improvements

Mr. McClure introduced Walt Meyer of West Yost and Associates and commented Mr. Meyer had explained the regulatory framework and the mutual agreement and order (MAO) at the August 21, 2003 meeting. Mr. Meyer reviewed the requirements of the MAO for Plants I and II improvements. He reported Plant I MAO improvements have been completed and Plant II improvements and the facility plan have been submitted to DEQ. Mr. Meyer commented the clock on the MAO does not start until DEQ issues comments, but once DEQ issues comments, the City will have 90 days to submit a final plan and three years to implement the plan. Mr. Meyers noted if the City is moving in a diligent manner, DEQ will assist the City in working with other agencies and funding.

Mayor Benetti inquired if consideration had been given to an alternative plan such as a regional plant. Mr. Meyer reported they had looked at a regional plant or combining plants, but the bottom line is the City has some very valuable facilities. There was further discussion on financing plant improvements and on the placement of the discharge facility. Mr. Meyer continued review of the report, population areas, flow parameter, and I and I. He explained there is no room for expansion for Plant II and recommended reorganizing the facility. A blended flow process would save money, the current tanks are adequate for the aeration, and recommended building a new secondary clarifier and trucking the solids.

Mr. Meyer reviewed construction cost figures, user fees and revenues, and noted the financial report has an inflation factor built in. There was further discussion on user rates, comparison of Coos Bay's rates with other Oregon communities, and the increase needed to implement improvements next year. Councilor Stufflebean inquired about the use of system development charges and Mr. Meyer explained use of SDC funds are restricted. Councilor Muenchrath suggested increasing the rates now to begin saving for the improvements. Mr. Meyer stated he would rework the financial model and schedule another work session to review the plans in the fall.

Adjourn

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

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Joe Benetti, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder