

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

July 19, 2005

The minutes of the proceedings of the 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. Interviews with committee applicants was 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, and John Muenchrath. Councilors Cindi Miller and Kevin Stufflebean were absent. 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.

Interviews for Consideration of Appointment To the Planning Commission

The City Council interviewed Brian Davis, Bob More, Chris Christoffer, Jeff Marineau, Jim Berg, and Ainslie Krans for consideration of appointment to fill two openings on the Planning Commission.

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 minutes for the June 7 and June 13, 2005 meetings, adoption of Resolution 05-15 authorizing the City to become of a member of the City County Insurance Services Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Group, and adoption of Resolution 05-16 extending workers' compensation coverage to volunteers of the City of Coos Bay. Councilor Eck moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor McKeown seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Appointments to the Planning Commission

The City Council made appointments to fill two openings on the Planning Commission by ballot and Jim Berg and Jeff Marineau were reappointed.

Department Reports

Library Director Carol Ventgen reported the summer reading program is in full swing with 300 children participating in the program. She thanked merchants for contributing prizes for the program which included: Arby's, Benetti's, Burger King, Dairy Queen, Headlands Country Mercantile, Kum Yon's, Macy's, McDonald's, The Mill, Mingus Park Pool, North Bend Lanes, North Bend Swimming Pool, Off the Record, The Oregon Connection, Safeway, and Wal-Mart.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Scott McClure reviewed the status of the projects list. Mayor Benetti suggested adding review of the city charter to the list. Councilor McKeown asked about rumors of layoffs in public works and police. Mr. McClure reported the City is maintaining current staffing levels, and have added a new position of Codes/Planning Technician. Mr. McClure reported on the progress of removing the Central Dock building, interview process for the Building Official applicants, and progress on the development of the Street systems development charges.

Public Comments

Richard Kuznitsky, 455 South Marple, Coos Bay, read a statement to the assembly, which is attached and hereby made a part of the record. Mr. Kuznitsky expressed concern Home Depot would have on the local economy and he requested the Council consider having an economic impact study done. There was further discussion regarding the possible economic impact Home Depot would have on local businesses, funding for the development, and method of repayment of the loan.

Kristi Snow, Director of Sales and Catering for Red Lion, briefly reviewed the sections of the City's transient occupancy tax ordinance and requested the Council consider revising the ordinance to exempt transient tax from being imposed on any individual or company in actual occupation in a motel for more than 30 days. The City of North Bend does not charge the hotel/motel tax in these cases and the hotels in Coos Bay cannot get corporate business. Consensus of the City Council to place the item on the next Council agenda for discussion.

Council Comments

Councilor Eck commented the quality of the candidates for Planning Commission and other City boards was impressive and thanked everyone their desire to serve. Councilor Muenchrath also commented on the quality of candidates. Councilor McKeown commented it was difficult to choose from the candidates since there were only two open positions. He reported SCDC, the Port, and the State are very close to having a new industry locating to the North Spit.

Mayor Benetti thanked the candidates for applying. He reported four tall ships are coming in and it will be a very busy week for the community and commended Martin Callery at the Port for working to get the ships here. A reception for the crews will be held on July 21st at Madison School. A passenger train carrying 500 people will be coming from Eugene and will be stopping in downtown Coos Bay on Saturday. Mayor Benetti noted the Oregon Coast Music Festival and North Bend Jubilee will be held this week.

Executive Session

Councilor Gould moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (d) for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations and (h) for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel regarding potential litigation. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

The Council reconvened into regular session.

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Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to August 2, 2005 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Joe Benetti, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder