

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

January 3, 2006

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. The City Council held interviews with committee applicants 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, and John Muenchrath. Councilor Kevin Stufflebean was absent. City staff present were City Manager Scott McClure, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Community Services Director Jim Hossley, Finance Director Janell Howard, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Library Director Carol Ventgen, and Police Chief Eura Washburn.

Council Interviews for the Budget Committee and Tourism Promotions Committee

The Council interviewed Sheila Banks, Michele Burnette, and Bob More for consideration of appointment to the Budget Committee, and Kristi Snow, Debbie Wright, and Don Yost for consideration of appointment to the Tourism Promotions Committee.

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

Consideration of Approval of a Proclamation for National Mentoring Month – Presentation by LeeAnn MacDonald

LeeAnn MacDonald briefly explained the mentoring program and read the National Mentoring Month proclamation which is attached and hereby made a part of the record to the assembly. Councilor Gould moved to approve the proclamation. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Appointments to the Budget Committee and Coos Bay-North Bend Promotions Committee

Appointments to the Budget Committee and Coos Bay-North Bend Promotions Committee were made by Council ballot. Sheila Banks and Michele Burnette were appointed to the Budget Committee and Kristi Snow was appointment to the Tourism Promotion Committee.

Council Ratification of Declaration of Emergency

City Manager Scott McClure reported on the December 30th flooding in low-lying areas in the city. Areas affected included 6th Street, Bayshore Drive, the Englewood area, Hwy 101, Front Street, Lockhart Avenue, the city shop, Southwest Blvd, California Street, and Illinois Street. The Old Wireless Lane area received heavy damage when the dike was breached. Mr. McClure reported the city responded to the situation and mapped out a plan for dealing with the flooding. In accordance to the city's emergency plan, Mr. McClure had declared a state of emergency which requires ratification of the Council before submitting the declaration to Coos County. Mr. McClure noted the declaration could help in receiving funding for the area. Councilor Miller moved to ratify the declaration of emergency. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Request for Emergency Funding for Repairs to Barham Terrace and 10th Street

Community Services Director Jim Hossley reported a sink hole on Barham Terrace had developed during the evening of December 29th. A temporary fill was done, however the street is not open to vehicular traffic at this time. The city's contractor will complete the repairs as weather permits. Mr. Hossley reported a blockage in a drainage pipe has caused heavy flooding at 10th Street and Koosbay Blvd. Currently the city is pumping the water out of the area and has contacted an engineering firm for an evaluation of the situation. Mr. Hossley commented staff has received four options: a) do nothing, b) continue pumping by-pass operation, c) open cut 36" culvert replacement project, or d) pipe ram a 36" culvert. The City's consultant recommends option d. There was further discussion on funds for the project and Finance Director Janell Howard reported there is a carryover in the wastewater fund that could be used. Councilor Gould moved to authorize staff to proceed with option d. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Nate McClintock reported the city and the Firefighter Association will be exchanging last best offers tomorrow, and the arbitration hearing has been scheduled for January 18, 2006.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Scott McClure reviewed the project status report and reported the crossover sewer agreement, the bids for Central Dock, and initiation of the Street SDC will be on the next agenda; the Wastewater SDC will be coming to the Council for review in the near future; and the Empire Concept Plan Committee has one more meeting before their recommendation is submitted to the Council for review. Councilor McKeown inquired about the skateboard park and Mr. McClure reported project will be going to the Parks Commission for consideration.

Public Comments

David Engholm, Coos Bay, representing the Save the Egyptian Theater Committee, encouraged the Council to keep the theater and briefly explained the purpose of the committee. He reported the committee is in the process of obtaining non-profit status and developing a business plan for

the theater. Mayor Benetti commented there are a number of issues involved in the possible purchase of the theater. Councilor Gould recommended the Urban Renewal Agency discuss the theater in open session during their meeting.

Matt Christiansen, Coos Bay, thanked the city for their response to the water crisis at Koosbay Blvd and 10th Street and for adopting the repair plan. He commented city staff consulted with the property owners on the issue and repair options.

Council Comments

Councilor Miller commented Lawton Verger passed away last evening and the city has lost a great person in the community. She extended thoughts and prayers to the Verger family. Councilor Eck extended condolences to the Verger family and commented that Lawton would be missed. He reminded everyone the Fire Department will be picking up Christmas trees again this year. Councilor Gould also extended condolences to Joanne and family. He commented Joanne and Lawton are pillars of the community; and his passing is a loss to all of us. Councilor McKeown commented Lawton was a great gentleman and he was sorry to hearing of his passing. Mayor Benetti commented that Lawton always attended Council meetings and city events when Joanne served on the City Council, and he was a great asset to the community.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to January 17, 2006 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Joe Benetti, Mayor

Attest:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder