

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

April 4, 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.

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, Community Services Director Jim Hossley, Finance Director Janell Howard, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Library Director Carol Ventgen, Police Chief Eura Washburn, and Battalion Chief Howard Owens.

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 February 21, 2006 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.

Presentation of Proclamations for the Women's Safety and Resource Center by Liz Tarrant

Liz Tarrant read the proclamation for Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Month and Michelle Nicholas read the proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness month to the assembly. Councilor Miller moved to approve the proclamations which are attached and hereby made a part of the record. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Benetti and all Councilors present voting aye.

Report from OLCC Director Gary Francis on the Grant to Enforce Underage Drinking Laws

Gary Francis reported on the underage drinking task force and briefly explained the purpose of the grant. Mr. Francis commented on the problem in Coos County, and reviewed training and inspections programs offered by OLCC for businesses.

Consideration of Approval to Purchase a Vehicle for the Community Services Department Building Codes Division

Community Services Director Jim Hossley reported funds were budgeted to purchase a 2006 Hybrid vehicle. RFPs were sent to five local car dealers and two quotes along with the State quote were received. State contract was \$27,561, Tower Ford was \$28,957 and Coos Bay Toyota was \$35,234. Based on review of the bids, staff is recommending approval of the bid from Tower Ford. The vehicle is better equipped and is ready for immediate delivery. Councilor

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Miller moved to award the bid to Tower Ford. Councilor Gould seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Benetti and all Councilors present voting aye.

Consideration of Approval to Replace the Bay Doors on Fire Station No. 1

Fire Chief Stan Gibson reported the current bay doors are wood construction, are 30 years old, and have had significant problems. Quotes to replace the doors were solicited from local vendors and after reviewing the bids, staff is recommending awarding the bid to O'Neill Doors. Quotes were received from O'Neill's Overhead Doors for \$10,455, Bay Area Doors for \$11,490, and Larry Wilkins Gutters and Doors for \$9,795. Councilor McKeown moved to award the bid to O'Neill Doors. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which passed with Mayor Benetti and all Councilors present voting aye.

Review of 2005/06 City Goals and Consideration of Goals 2006/07

Mayor Benetti commented many of this year's goals have been accomplished, and although the Egyptian Theater was not listed as a goal, its purchase is one of the City's accomplishments. City Manager Scott McClure reviewed status of the goals:

- Replace Choshi Bridge in Mingus Park
- Develop Plan to Replace the Current Fire Station
- Identify and Implement Improvement Opportunities for the Empire Area, Downtown, the Boardwalk, Highway 101, and Front Street
- Maintain Adequate Employee Staffing Levels
- Institute System Development Charges for Wastewater, Streets and Parks
- Research Including the North Spit Area into the City's Urban Growth Boundary
- Develop Means to Improve the Condition and Safety of City Streets
- Improve City Code Enforcement Program
- Improve the City's Ability to Gain Grant Funding for Community Projects
- Create and Implement a Citizen Involvement and Communications Plan
- Update the Parks Master Plan

Mayor Benetti recommended moving forward on the new fire station, 101 project, and Empire plan. Councilor McKeown commented the City has accomplished a lot over the past year, citizen involvement with the Empire Plan was good, and there is a lot of opportunity for the downtown area. Mr. McClure commented some of the goals fall into the City's core values and others fall in the area of goals. Councilor McKeown suggested more consideration be given to staffing levels and suggested a work session to discuss this issue. Mayor Benetti asked that consideration to enlarging the downtown urban renewal district be given to include the Stalcup property and tank farms. After further discussion, the Council developed the following goals for fiscal year 2006/07:

- Identify and Implement Improvement Opportunities for the Empire Area
- Develop Plans for Proceeding with Downtown and Empire Projects
- Finalize Design and Funding Plans for the Replacement of the Downtown Fire Station
- Discuss Adding the North Spit Area into the City's Urban Growth Boundary

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- Implement Elements of the Parks Improvement Plan
- Develop a Plan for Construction of Additional Tennis Courts and Replacement of the Skateboard Park
- Implement System Development Charges for Streets, Parks, and Wastewater Treatment
- Improve the City's Code Enforcement Program
- Develop Means to Improve the Condition and Safety of City Streets
- Research Alternate Revenue Sources to Better Fund City Operations
- Transition the Egyptian Theater to a Non-Profit Community Group
- Emphasize Economic Development Efforts

Mayor Benetti asked for public comments, and no comments were offered. City Manager McClure reported that many comments have been received from the community that a lot is being done in the city.

City Manager's Report

City Manager McClure reviewed the status of the projects list and reported the vehicle replacement schedule has been developed, the street SDC will be at the next meeting, the Egyptian Theater agreement is being worked on, the AFSCME contract is ready to be signed, the wastewater SDCs will come to the Council in June, and the tech plan has made progress in the Fire Department. Mr. McClure reported the LNG meeting in Astoria was very informative and addressed safety and security issues, and the permitting and application process. Mr. McClure reported the security issues would involve the city. Chief Gibson reported he has been contacted by the consultant hired by the LNG facility about developing an emergency plan. The emergency plan is required to be in place prior to submitting the plan for the LNG facility. Chief Gibson commented the cost for public safety must be borne by the LNG facility. Mr. McClure noted cost sharing does not apply to the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard must absorb the costs.

Public Comments

Aron Boesl, Coos Bay, encouraged the Council to support the area's tennis program. He reported the program started out with 12 kids and now has 90, and the team won the State championship. Mr. Boesl commented the area's facilities are important for bringing people to the community and he offered to volunteer his time in developing a tennis center. Councilor McKeown commented funding is an issue and suggested developing a partnership with the hospital and school district. Councilor Muenchrath suggested forming a group similar to the skateboard park group. Councilor Gould commented the community needs to get behind the tennis court project, and explained the Boys and Girls tennis program is very successful but there is no room at the club for additional courts. Mayor Benetti recommended Mr. Boesl meet with the city manager about organizing a group and looking at potential locations for the courts.

Gene Melton, Coos Bay, asked if information about LNG facilities blowing up was given at the conference in Astoria and expressed concern about incorrect information being given in the community. Mr. McClure commented that an explosion is theoretically possible and will be assessed during the application process.

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Brent Smith, Coos Bay, asked for an explanation of urban renewal and asked if urban renewal funds were being used for the demolition of the Central Dock building. Mayor Benetti briefly explained urban renewal and the allowed uses of the funds. Mr. Brent reported he had contacted the city manager's office regarding salvaging the materials from the Central Dock building four months ago when the first bids were rejected. He did not receive a response and then the project went to bid again. Mr. Smith explained he was unable to get insurance as required by the city and his insurance agent told him the City's requirements were excessive. He expressed disappointment with the City's waste in paying to have the building demolished.

City Manager McClure reported he checked on the City's insurance requirements and found that the City's requirements are standard and in some instances, are low. There was further discussion on the City's bid process, Mr. Smith's interest in the project and contacts with staff, and the City's insurance requirements. Mr. McClure commented Mr. Smith did not receive a call back that his idea was not viable if he could not meet insurance requirements. Mayor Benetti noted the City has been public about the project for a long time and the Council made the best decision they could with the knowledge available.

Council Comments

Councilor Muenchrath commented it was good to see the Central Dock building coming down and showing a great view of the bay. Councilor McKeown commented on attending the retirement dinner for Bill Lansing, and he read a portion of an article in the Horizon Air magazine which mentioned the south coast and SCDC. Mayor Benetti noted Horizon will be adding another flight to Portland and Seattle. Councilor Gould commented its good to have SCDC getting good press from outside our area.

Executive Session

Councilor Miller moved to go into executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (e) for the purpose of discussing real property transactions. Councilor Muenchrath seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

The Council reconvened into regular session.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to April 18, 2006 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Joe Benetti, Mayor

Attest:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder