

## **MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**March 17, 2009**

A work session was held March 16, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon to review the March 17, 2009 City Council and Urban Renewal meeting agendas. No decisions were made.

A work session was held March 17, 2009 at 6 p.m. in the Manager's Conference Room followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

### **Those Attending**

Those present were Mayor Jeff McKeown and Councilors Mark Daily, Jon Eck, Joanie Johnson, Stephanie Kramer, Gene Melton, and John Pundt. City staff present were City Manager Chuck Freeman, Economic and Community Development Manager Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley, Finance Director Rae Lea Cousens, Deputy Finance Director Susanne Baker, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Library Director Carol Ventgen, City Engineer Carl Nolte, and Police Chief Rodger Craddock.

### **Capital Improvement Plan**

Discussion was held on the status, estimated project costs, and timeline of completion of the capital improvement projects.

### **Flag Salute**

Mayor McKeown opened the meeting and led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

### **Consent Calendar**

Mayor McKeown reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of approval of the minutes of February 26 and March 3, 2009 and award of contract for on-call surveying services. Councilor Eck moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown, Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye.

### **Presentation on Absolutely Incredible Kid Day**

Camp Fire Representative Maria Neill introduced Camp Fire Members Katelyn, Orlando and Ryan and encouraged participation in Camp Fire USA's Absolutely Incredible Kid Day, March 19th, a national letter-writing campaign to honor children.

### **Presentation of Appreciation of Service Award to Sheila Banks**

Mayor McKeown presented Sheila Banks a certificate of appreciation for her years of service on the Budget Committee from January 2006 through December 2008.

## **City Council Minutes – March 17, 2009**

### **Presentation of the North Bend – Coos Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau's Quarterly Report**

Coos Bay – North Bend Visitors and Convention Bureau Director Katherine Hoppe stated Senate Bill 440 provides increases in transient tax occurring after January 1, 2009 to be used for any purpose other than tourism. Ms. Hoppe explained a large increase in transient tax jeopardizes the State's tourism efforts and the Lodging Association is not supporting the bill. Ms. Hoppe stated the VCB's social media efforts have increased and they have experienced success through Flickr, Twitter, and Facebook. Recent positive comments, reviews, and articles have been received from travel writers and international blogs. Ms. Hoppe stated a coupon book, online packets, and flash drives including packets have been compiled to advertise and support the Bay Area.

### **Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding for Coos Waterfront Walkway Partnership Project**

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley stated the Coos Waterfront Walkway Partnership Project is a collaboration between the City of Coos Bay, City of North Bend, Oregon International Port of Coos Bay, Coos County, South Coast Development Council, the Coquille Indian Tribe, Coquille Economic Development Corporation, Coos Historical & Maritime Center, and other Coos Bay waterfront landowners. Ms. Groth, representing the partnership, drafted a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the stated parties accepting responsibility to increase the public's knowledge of the partnership to facilitate the walkway development and to help overcome barriers by providing information, evaluations, and technical assistance. The MOU will improve the chance of receiving grants. Councilor Kramer moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye.

### **Review Draft Preliminary Official Statement of General Obligation Bonds for Fire Station**

City Manager Chuck Freeman and Finance Director Rae Lea Cousen stated the Preliminary Official Statement (POS) for funding the new fire station is required documentation for the sale of the \$6.9 M long term general obligation bonds. This commences the sale process of bonds which is anticipated to conclude by mid-April 2009. Western Financial Group Kieu-Oanh Nguyen was called and stated the market has stabilized, though still volatile. The next step is to receive the City's bond rating to determine whether a competitive or negotiated sale is best. Ms. Nguyen explained the POS provides all of the necessary facts for an investor to make an informed decision whether to purchase the bonds. Mayor McKeown recused himself from the discussion.

### **Approval of the Sewer Rate Study – Approval Will Require Adoption of Resolution 09-10**

City Manager Chuck Freeman stated the City contracted with Donovan Enterprises to analyze the existing rate structure and charges to meet current and near term operating expenses and capital improvements in the wastewater Facilities Plans. On February 17, 2009, Mr. Donovan presented findings and recommendations proposing to increase sewer rates 6.5%, effective

## **City Council Minutes – March 17, 2009**

May 1, 2009, and to manage debt to stabilize future sewer rate increases. Councilor Daily moved to adopt Resolution 09-10. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Daily, Johnson, Kramer, and Melton voting aye. Councilors Eck and Pundt voting no.

### **Approval to Advertise a Request For Proposal for A New Tractor Truck**

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley stated the City's 1989 White Tractor Sludge Truck is critical to the operation of the treatment facilities and is used to haul semi-solid waste (sludge) from Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 to the sludge lagoon in Eastside. The vehicle is used heavily in the summer months to remove the solids from the sludge lagoon to increase the capacity of the lagoon for the winter months. Due to the age, environment, and use of the vehicle, it has increased down time for maintenance and needs to be replaced. Councilor Daily moved to approve advertising a Request For Proposal for a new tractor truck. Councilor Johnson seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye.

### **Discussion on the Issue of Elk in the City of Coos Bay**

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley stated a herd of approximately twenty elk are travelling from the watershed towards the Englewood area and more recently north into Mingus Park. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Stewart Love stated the animals pose a hazard to people when crossing Ocean Blvd and through neighborhoods to get to Mingus Park. Mr. Love stated options to reduce the risk include making the neighborhoods and Mingus Park less attractive to the elk (fencing, plastic netting to wrap shrubbery, big game repellants, motion detector sprinklers, and increase the walking trails in Mingus Park); make the Coos Bay – North Bend Water Board more attractive to the elk (plant vegetation for feeding); and controlling the elk population consistent with the use of the property at a level that minimizes the damage. Mr. Love stated limited hunting of the elk in the watershed may be a controlled option utilizing the existing hunting tag system; fencing along Ocean Blvd is an option though it would be cost prohibitive; and noise or hazing will only temporarily draw elk out of a specific area. A consensus of the Council was to form a committee to meet with ODFW and the Water Board to draft recommendations. Abel Insurance owner Harry Abel stated contacting ODFW for expert advice, public education, signage, and the formation of a committee are within CCIS legal counsel recommendations. Coos Bay – North Bend Water Board General Manager Rob Schab stated he is in support of working with the City and committee to resolve the elk situation.

### **Discussion on Standing Council Committee Meetings**

Mayor McKeown suggested discussion on the committee meeting times to allow as many Councilors as possible to attend the meetings. A consensus of the Council was to set the Finance meeting to the second Monday at 8:00 a.m.; Public Safety meeting to the fourth Monday at 1:30 p.m.; and Public Works meeting to the second Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

## City Council Minutes – March 17, 2009

### Public Comments

Steve Pickering, 2170 N 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Coos Bay: Stated the quality of the water may be affected by the elk population and suggested the Councilors consider carefully the times set for meetings. Katrina from Katrina Kathleen's asked if the status of the Fletcher building can be discussed and who is responsible for making the building owners accountable for the condition of their building.

### City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Nate McClintock stated a shared parking lot agreement has been drafted for the new fire station parking lot and Nelson's Mortuary. The agreement is a component of the purchase agreement for the parking lot and will provide 19 shared parking spaces; a long term lease; and for only the current mortuary business function, likely to be utilized a limited number of times per year. Nelson's Mortuary is not within the parking district and will be in violation of the Land Development Ordinance if a shared parking lot agreement is not formed. A consensus of the Council was to direct the City Attorney to limit the agreement to the current business and continue. Mr. McClintock reported ADA restroom upgrades to the Egyptian Theater would be allowed through the State, with approval, if the application for the theater as a historical site is approved.

### City Manager's Report

City Manager Chuck Freeman stated the Secretary of State met with the Mayor and City Manager to discuss the DSL submerged land issue and there will be a DSL meeting Thursday, 10:00 a.m., at City Hall.

### Council Comments

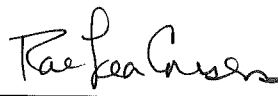
Councilor Daily stated Cal Ripken baseball applications will be available at the Outdoor In. Councilor Melton stated the Finance Committee discussed the sewer rate increase, fire station bonds, and business license fees. Councilor Pundt stated the 2009 Empire Clambria is looking for vendors. Mayor McKeown congratulated the Port of Coos Bay on the purchase of the railroad.

### Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor McKeown adjourned the meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff McKeown, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rae Lea Cousens, City Recorder