

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL

August 4, 2009

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 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, Acting City Attorney Karen Costello, City Clerk Amy Kinnaman, Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley, City Engineer Carl Nolte, Finance Director Rae Lea Cousens, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Fire Battalion Chief Dean Martin, Fire Battalion Chief Howard Owens, Economic and Community Development Manager Joyce Jansen, Library Director Carol Ventgen, and Police Chief Rodger Craddock.

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 July 21, 2009. Councilor Eck moved to approve the consent calendar. Councilor Melton seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye.

Presentation on Cal Ripken Baseball by Battalion Chief Dean Martin

Fire Battalion Chief Dean Martin stated he is working to organize a Board of Directors and bylaws to support a local Cal Ripken Baseball program. Mr. Martin stated he would like to see a coastal sports park in our community that can support baseball, soccer and other youth sporting events; gave an overview of various sporting fields located in Oregon to provide possible scenarios for a coastal sports park; and identified property located on the Eastside currently owned by the Port of Coos Bay ideal for a sports park. Mayor McKeown suggested Mr. Martin make his presentation to the Port of Coos Bay. Councilor Mark Daily suggested the Urban Renewal Agency may be able to assist further in the matter.

Presentation on the Fire Station Staffing Levels by Fire Chief Stan Gibson

Fire Battalion Chief Howard Owens provided an overview of the Fire Department's current fleet and maintenance plans; identified four engines including one engine scheduled for replacement in September 2009, one ladder truck, one medium rescue, two utility vehicles, one command vehicle and two hazardous materials units owned by the State of Oregon. Fleet maintenance levels include: in-house minor repairs which are made at the firefighter level; coordinated routine and emergency maintenance completed at the City Shops; and outsourced maintenance in the

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event the City Shops cannot perform service due to lack of equipment, resources or knowledge and also in consideration to the cost benefit to the City. Fire Chief Stan Gibson presented an overview of the Fire Department's staffing levels from 2002 to current. In 2002 the department had a staff of 22. Since that time the department has lost an office manager, deputy chief, lieutenant and two firefighter positions. Chief Gibson stated the department currently operates with 16 staffed positions allowing for two staff members per station on a day to day basis noting current staffing levels make managing illness and vacation difficult. On average the department answers 30 citizen phone calls per day. Chief Gibson identified positions and programs that the department would like to see expanded which include the addition of two deputy chiefs, one fire marshal, one training officer, two clerical positions, one volunteer coordinator, one CERT trainer and six additional firefighter positions; for a total FTE of 32. Mayor McKeown stated he would like all of the City's departments to provide an overview of their staffing levels.

Public Access Local Supporters (PALS) Notice of Intent to Dissolve Their Non-Profit Corporation

City Manager Chuck Freeman stated the City received a letter from Public Access Local Supporters (PALS) informing of their intent to dissolve their non-profit corporation and return the management and administration of the public access channel to the City; PALS recommended another non-profit corporation, Broadcast Services Inc. as an alternative to manage and administer public access to the cable television channel. Councilor Daily moved to accept the termination of contract with PALS and transfer management and administration of the public access channel to Broadcast Services, Inc. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye

Request for Solicitation of Construction Bids for Donnelly Avenue

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley presented a request for solicitation of bid for improvements to Donnelly Avenue from 4th Street to west of 5th Street. Mr. Hossley noted funding for the project will be provided by the Fire Station Improvement Fund and is the final step in the construction of the new Fire Station. Councilor Kramer moved to approve the request for the solicitation of construction bids for the improvements to Donnelly Avenue. Councilor Johnson seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown, Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye.

Issuance of Work Order for the Design of Pump Station No. 4

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley stated Pump Station No. 4 is the final remaining Priority 'A' project identified in the 2006 Wastewater Collection System Master Plan and Mutual Agreement Order (MAO) with DEQ; the City's Engineer of Record, Civil West provided a cost proposal of \$128,880 at time and materials, a contingency of \$15,000, and not to exceed \$143,880 for the design of the Pump Station No. 4. Issuance of the work order will allow the City to remain on schedule as established in the MAO. Councilor Kramer moved to approve the issuance of work order for the design of Pump Station No. 4 as presented to Civil West in the amount of \$128,880, a contingency of \$15,000, and not to exceed \$143,880. Councilor Eck seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Daily,

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Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye.

Public Hearing on a Street Vacation of Schetter Avenue

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley read the public hearing disclosure and stated on July 14, 2009 the Planning Commission, voted of 3-2 to recommend approval of the vacation of Schetter Avenue. Mr. Hossley stated the applicant, Mr. Robert Lehto, requested the vacation because he believes the topography prohibits the development of the right-of-way in the future and he would like to incorporate the proposed area into his yard. Councilor Johnson questioned if there was a future opportunity for a thoroughfare and stated the property proposed provides a great view of the bay; City Engineer Carl stated he believes the City owns a portion of property adjacent to the proposed vacation. Mr. Hossley stated if the City was to purchase other existing property, in the future, a thoroughfare would be possible. Mayor McKeown opened the public hearing; Geno Landrum 63281 Clover Drive: suggested the City should delay any decision and research the matter further. Councilor Daily moved to deny the street vacation of Schetter Avenue. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye.

Public Comments

Anne Marie Larson, Coos Bay: Concerned over loosing 14 downtown parking spaces with new Visitors Information Center (VIC) and enforcement of the 90 minute parking in the downtown area; questioned the research process for the rental of the temporary location for the Visitor's Information Center; asked why the City is paying for the South Coast Development Council (SCDC); Mayor McKeown suggested Ms. Larson meet with Sandra Geiser-Messerle, the Director of SCDC to share her thoughts and to gain a better understanding of the opportunities and purpose of SCDC. David Abernathy, 1505 Village Pines Avenue: Ticketed for parking over the yellow line, questioned tickets for vehicles parked in the middle of a space forcing other cars into the yellow line; questioned why sewer costs are higher than the cost for water. Geno Landrum 63281 Clover Drive: stated there are four parking spaces in downtown that are taken up by dumpsters and would like the City to look into a better use of the space.

City Attorney's Report

No report was given.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Chuck Freeman stated August 11, 2009, 7:00 p.m. a meeting between the Planning Commission, City Council and Historic Design Review Committee will be held at the Library; the Visitors Information Center move is complete; new fire station groundbreaking August 14, 2009, 4:00 PM on-site; waiting on the owner for the lease for the Boat Building School; waiting for SCDC to approve the contract; Eastside playground equipment ordered and a restroom grant is being pursued.

Council Comments

Councilor Daily stated the Lab Band will be hosting a funding raising concert on August 22nd at

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the Egyptian, 6:00 PM; Councilor Johnson attended the National Night Out is this evening and hoped the community had a chance to get out and enjoy the event; Councilor Melton stated the Library Foundation met to discuss the remodel and addition to the Coos Bay Library, encouraged everyone to attend the next meeting on August 20th, discouraged with certain ongoing activities at the Skate Park; Councilor Pundt was encouraged by the presentation on the sports complex; Councilor Kramer thought the sports complex was a great idea; Councilor Eck stated representatives of the Downtown Association should help educate their employees on the parking limitations in the downtown; Mayor McKeown spoke with Jenny Messner, League of Oregon Cities, and would like the Council to meet with the League on communication skills, attended a meeting this afternoon with community leaders on the continuation of Sky West and the importance of having available flights, National Night Out was a great success, met Buddy the new drug enforcement dog, and requested Mr. Freeman add a future agenda item to address sites for a dog park and dog shelter.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor McKeown adjourned the meeting. The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2009 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.


Jeff McKeown, Mayor

Attest: 

Rae Lea Cousins, City Recorder