

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

August 2, 2011

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 Crystal Shoji and Councilors Jennifer Groth, Joanie Johnson, Stephanie Kramer, Gene Melton, John Muenchrath, and Mike Vaughan. City staff present were City Manager Rodger Craddock, Acting City Attorney Karen Costello, Acting Finance Director Susanne Baker, Acting Deputy Finance Director Amy Kinnaman, Planning Administrator Laura Barron, Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley, Library Director Carol Ventgen, Fire Battalion Chief Mark Anderson, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Police Chief Gary McCullough.

Flag Salute

Mayor Crystal Shoji opened the meeting and asked Mark Anderson to lead the Council and assembly in the salute to the flag.

Public Comments

No comments were given.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Shoji reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of 3a: approval of the minutes of July 19, 2011; and 3b: adoption of Resolution 11-21 a supplemental budget for the Ford Family Foundation grant match. Councilor Kramer moved to approve the consent calendar approving the minutes of July 19, 2011, and adopting Resolution 11-21 a supplemental budget for the Ford Family Foundation grant match. Councilor Melton seconded the motion which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Groth, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, Muenchrath, and Vaughan voting aye.

Request to Purchase a Section of Mingus Park Property

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley stated Earl and Barbara Landon had approached city staff in early 2010 requesting to purchase a portion of Mingus Park land located just east of their property at 1510 Barham Terrace. The portion of land in question was approximately .43 acres located east of West Park Road stretching from Cedar Avenue, north to the tennis courts. Mr. Hossley noted the Parks Commission met on October 19, 2010 and again on February 10, 2011 to discuss the request. At the February 10, 2011 Parks Commission meeting they unanimously voted to recommend granting an easement of adequate size to the Landon's to repair their retaining wall. Mr. Hossley noted because the property in question was part of the entire Mingus Park parcel, and if a decision was made to sell the property, the property would need to be subdivided through the partitioning process to create a separate parcel. Once the partition was finalized, the Council could then surplus the property to the public through a sealed bid process, with the property going to the highest bidder above the City's minimum sale price. There would be no guarantee the Landon's would be the highest

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bidder. Mr. Hossley recommended if the City did decide to sell, the City retain an easement over the southeast corner of the property for maintenance purposes due to the property's history of road slumping and landslides. The estimated cost associated with the land partitioning, including the cost of a surveyor to prepare the partition plat document, and place corner pins, was between \$3,000 and \$10,000. Mayor Shoji inquired why the City would want to consider selling a portion of Mingus Park if it could be used for recreational purposes. Councilor Groth inquired about the City's ability to maintain the property in question. Mr. Hossley stated the property was maintained in its natural state and it was his opinion that maintenance was not necessary. Mayor Shoji stated she would consider a slight boundary adjustment if there was a problem with the retaining wall and it was located on City property. Councilor Vaughan suggested the property was unusable for recreational purposes due to its location and terrain. Councilor Muenchrath moved to offer a lease agreement and easement to the Landon's for a time period to be negotiated by staff. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion. Councilor Melton inquired as to the future use of the property. Mr. Hossley stated he was not aware of any future plans to develop the property. Councilor Muenchrath expressed concern about the impact to the Park if the property were to be developed. A call for the question was made which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Groth, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Muenchrath voting aye and Councilor Vaughan voting nay.

Public Hearing to Consider a Proposed Alley Vacation Off of Johnson Avenue – Approval Would Require Enactment of the Proposed Draft Ordinance

Planning Administrator Laura Barron read the public hearing disclosure and stated the City received an application from Barbara Maisch of 845 Johnson Avenue requesting a vacation of a portion of alley located adjacent to her property. On July 12, 2011 the Planning Commission voted unanimously, with conditions, to recommend approval of a vacation of the north 125 feet of the undeveloped 20-foot-wide alley located south of Johnson Avenue between S. 8th and S. 10th Streets; also described as the north 125 feet of the alley located in Block 56, Plat of Railroad Addition to Marshfield. Ms. Barron noted Pacific Power and Light Company (PPL) also wanted to retain their easement for primary power lines adjacent to the existing dwelling in the proposed vacated alley. Proposed conditions included requiring a recorded easement for PPL and a requirement that the landowner obtain written verification from PPL for compliance with regulations regarding power lines prior to development or obstructions to the vertical clearance over the vacated alleyway. Councilor Melton inquired why it was necessary to vacate the alleyway if it was unusable. Ms. Barron stated the property vacation was necessary because the applicant wanted to build a deck in the location. Mayor Shoji opened the public hearing. Barbara Maisch, 845 Johnson Avenue: Thanked the Council for their time and consideration of the proposed ordinance. No further comments were given and the hearing was closed. Councilor Kramer moved to enact the ordinance approving the proposed vacation for the north 125 feet of the alley lying south of the Johnson Avenue right of way between S. 8th and S. 10th Streets. Councilor Johnson seconded the motion. Acting Deputy Finance Director Amy Kinnaman read the ordinance by title only and Ordinance No. 443 was enacted by the following vote:

Aye:	Mayor Shoji and Councilors Groth, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, Muenchrath, and Vaughan
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

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Discussion on the Mingus Park CCTV Grant Project

Police Chief Gary McCullough stated in August 2009, the Police Department was awarded a grant to purchase and install a video surveillance system for Mingus Park with cameras being placed near the skateboard park and playground pavilion/restroom area at the south end of the pond. However, due to changes on the Council since the project began, staff was requested to provide information for further discussion. Mr. McCullough stated installation of the camera system originated in an effort to deter crime, provide electronic evidence of crimes when they occur, and allow the Police Department personnel the ability to monitor high crime areas from remote locations. The camera system would not be monitored 24/7, but if an incident were to occur the Police Department would be able to review video footage. Mr. McCullough reported The World Newspaper conducted an online poll inquiring if the Coos Bay Police Department should install surveillance cameras at Mingus Park; the overall results were 70% yes and 30% no. City Manager Rodger Craddock stated the policies of the Police Department prevented personnel from uploading the video to YouTube or other media locations, but would not prevent release of the video pursuant to a public records request. Councilor Vaughan inquired how long the video would be stored whereby Mr. McCullough stated if there were no cases associated with the video it would be stored for approximately six months and then deleted. Councilor Johnson suggested there were other crimes occurring in Mingus Park that were going unreported. Councilor Muenchrath moved to reject the Mingus Park CCTV Camera Grant. Councilor Johnson seconded the motion which failed with Councilors Muenchrath, and Vaughan voting aye and Mayor Shoji and Councilors Groth, Johnson, Kramer, and Melton voting nay.

Quarterly Report on the Visitor Information Center by Executive Director Timm Slater

Timm Slater, Visitor Information Center (VIC) Executive Director, provided information on activities of interest at the VIC such as tourist inquiries; quarterly visitor counts, activities, Visitor Center displays, and reader board activity. Mr. Slater encouraged the Council to volunteer for an afternoon at the VIC. Councilor Vaughn suggested incorporating more scaled displays at the VIC to draw in highway traffic. Mayor Shoji expressed concern regarding the decision making process as to the overall management of the VIC; and suggested since the Chamber of Commerce was managing the VIC they should be allowed to direct what was displayed.

Quarterly Report on the Coos Bay – North Bend Visitor Convention Bureau by Director Katherine Hoppe

Katherine Hoppe, Director of Promotions and Conventions of the Coos Bay-North Bend Visitor & Conventions Bureau (VCB), provided information on the VCB's 2011 - 2012 budget, 2011 - 2012 Adventure Coast Coupon Books; Oregon Tourism Commission matching grants, and recent media visits. Ms. Hoppe expressed her gratitude to the many different community members; reported the Bay Area Welcome sign located by Fred Meyer was in need of replacement and estimated the cost to replace the sign to be between \$5,000 and \$7,000.

Consideration of Approval on a Proposed Dedication of Right-of-Way for LaClair Street – Approval Would Require Adoption of Resolution 11-22

Planning Administrator Laura Barron stated LaClair Street was classified as a collector-type street by the Coos Bay Transportation System Plan. A typical collector street was 70 feet in

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width however the LaClair Street right-of-way was only 60 feet in width. Coos Bay Municipal Code Chapter 17.180.050 (2) required whenever existing rights of way adjacent to or within a parcel are less than the minimum width, additional right-of-way shall be provided as part of a land division or development permit. On May 11, 2010 the Planning Commission conditionally approved the Site Plan and Architectural Review for the development of three structures on the southeast corner of LaClair Street and Thompson Avenue. One of the conditions of approval required the dedication of a five-foot wide, 369 foot long strip of land lying east of the eastern right-of-way of LaClair Avenue and south of the southern right-of-way line of Thompson Avenue. Ms. Barron reported on July 12, 2011 the Planning Commission reviewed the proposal and recommended the dedication be approved. Councilor Melton inquired if the curb would be moved five feet into the property whereby Ms. Barron advised the dedication would widen the right-of-way, the curb would remain in place, and sidewalk would be installed. Mayor Shoji inquired if the sidewalk would be in the right-of-way and included as part of the dedication whereby Ms. Barron stated the sidewalk would be in the right-of-way but she was not sure if it would be included as part of the dedication. Ms. Barron noted there was an agreement in place that when it became time to widen the road, the property owner would be responsible for the costs associated with moving the sidewalk. Councilor Muenchrath moved to approved the dedication of right-of-way for LaClair Street and adopt Resolution 11-22. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Groth, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, Muenchrath, and Vaughan voting aye.

Request Approval of a Formal City Council Letter Accepting an Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development Land Grant

Planning Administrator Laura Barron stated the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) offered a Coastal Management Grant for \$16,000 to assist in the City's planning needs. The grant required the City to provide a letter of request and \$16,000 in project related matching costs from non-federal sources. Councilor Kramer moved to authorize the Mayor to sign letter requesting the grant. Councilor Muenchrath seconded the motion which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Groth, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, Muenchrath, and Vaughan voting aye.

Consideration of Approval to Refurbish the Coos Bay Welcome Signs

City Manager Rodger Craddock reported during the June 21, 2011 staff was asked to address the deteriorating condition of the City's Welcome to Coos Bay signs which were situated near the many entrances into the City. Mr. Craddock stated the current signs were approximately ten years old. The City's inventory consisted of five large signs and nine smaller signs. The cost to refurbish the nine smaller signs was estimated to be \$4,000 and the five larger signs at \$2,600. Mr. Craddock stated there was discussion about changing the City logo and staff did not want to proceed with repairs before a decision was made on the logo. Staff estimated the cost to change the logo on the welcome signs to be \$40,000. Mr. Craddock noted the estimate did not include the cost to design the new logo; purchase of new police uniform patches, vehicle decals, stationary, business cards, etc. Mayor Shoji; Councilors Kramer and Johnson expressed support of the existing logo and welcome signs. Mayor Shoji stated she was against spending a lot of money and time on new signage. Councilor Vaughan suggested keeping the City's existing logo but to create site specific welcome signs for different locations. Councilor Groth suggested seeking a grant for new signage, but was opposed using staff time to do so.

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Councilor Muenchrath inquired which signs were in most need of repair. Mr. Craddock advised the larger welcome signs had a greater need for repair. Councilor Melton was against changing the welcome signs. Mr. Craddock advised the City was within its right to refurbish the welcome signs and there would not be any legal issue regarding artistic license. Councilor Muenchrath moved to approve refurbishing the larger Coos Bay welcome signs. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Groth, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, Muenchrath, and Vaughan voting aye.

Public Works and Development Department's Semi – Annual Report by Director Jim Hossley

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley provided a summary from February through July 2011 of projects and ongoing activities which included staffing, building permit activity, OMI maintenance, planning and land use, engineering projects, the wastewater treatment plants influent flows, and streets and parks maintenance.

City Attorney's Report

No comments were given.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Rodger Craddock stated he met with Annie VonDomitz of Oregon Travel Information Council who would be assisting the City to place regional marker on the east side of the Visitors Center building; noted consideration for a regional marker for the Hollering Place Wayside was pending; reported the Oregon Department of Transportation was looking favorably in support of the proposal to place the Coos County Area Transit bus transfer at the Pedway; and advised the City would be contracting with a consultant to assist the City in coordinating a wind turbine ordinance.

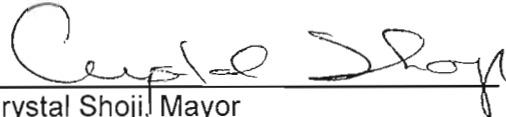
Council Comments

Councilor Melton recently attended the U. S. Coast Guard change of command and expressed his gratitude and thanks to Coast Guard personnel; and reported the Veterans Stand Down would be September 9th, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Empire Fire Station. Councilor Johnson stated she attended the National Night Out and reported it was a great event. Councilor Groth thanked City staff for their assistance with the first stage of construction of the Coos Historical and Maritime Museum and invited everyone to attend a celebration on August 13th, 10:00 a.m., on Front Street just south of Coos Bay Iron Works. Councilor Vaughan expressed concern over the appearance of a vacant lot located at Hall and Highway 101. Councilor Kramer reported attendance of the grand opening of the Beijing Restaurant. Mayor Shoji reported she attended the U.S. Coast Guard change of command and stated it was an impressive event; reported Councilor Melton gave Councilor Johnson and herself a tour of Eastside, which she highly recommended; and requested as a future agenda item a list of economic development and tourism partners which receive City funds and their roles.

Adjourn

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There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Shoji adjourned the meeting. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for August 16, 2011 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.


Crystal Shoji, Mayor

Attest: 
Susanne Baker, Acting City Recorder