

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

June 12, 2018

The minutes of the proceedings of a City Council and Urban Renewal work session of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, held at 5:30 pm in Fire Station No. 1 Conference Room - 450 Elrod Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Attending

Those present were Mayor Joe Benetti and Councilors Lucinda DiNovo, Jennifer Groth, Stephanie Kilmer, and Phil Marler. Councilors Drew Farmer and Stephanie Kramer were absent. City staff present were Finance Director Susanne Baker, Public Works and Community Development Director Jim Hossley, Library Director Sami Pierson, Operations Administrator Randy Dixon, and Police Captain Chris Chapanar.

Review of the Following Council/URA Agenda for June 19, 2018

Review of the 4th Street Road Improvement Options

Public Works and Community Development Director Jim Hossley stated at the May 22, 2018 Joint CC/URA Work Session, the City Council directed staff and the consultant Civil West Engineering to further develop three options for traffic safety issues related to the 4th Street corridor. The options were to include parallel parking only, pedestrian safety improvements, and three different lane configurations. An informational flyer of the topic was mailed to abutting neighbors along 4th Street with a request for public input regarding the three options. Of the ten that responded, eight selected Option C and two selected Option A. Option A (single travel lanes with a center turn lane) was the only option that addressed all three criteria, which was also the preferred option of staff. Eric Farmsworth of Civil West Engineering presented a 3-D model and summarized the three alternatives highlighting the differences of each option based upon the criteria set by the Council.

Discussion on Option A included comments on the Anderson and 4th Street intersection turn lane, turning radius for large trucks, replacement of the traffic signal, sidewalk width at Old City Hall; travel lane between Commercial and Donnelly, turning radius at the corner of 4th and Donnelly for the fire truck route back to the station; extension of the center turn lane for the entrance into Bi-Mart off of 4th Street; and the possible addition to the bump out on the east side of 4th Street at Golden.

Option B included two travel lanes in both direction between Commercial and Bennett and was eliminated from consideration by Council consensus. Option C included a right hand turn only, two travel lanes south, and a shared center lane.

Councilor Kilmer stated all but one comment she received was in favor of Option C. Councilor Groth stated Option A was more pedestrian friendly whereas Option C was more motorist inclined. Mayor Benetti stated the road diet was the safest for traffic and pedestrians. Discussion included the merits of improving safety and the acceptance of change by the community. Consensus was to include Councilors Farmer and Kramer in the

discussion for Option A or C at the June 19th Council meeting.

Approval of Increasing Contingency Fund Amount for the Golden Avenue Construction Project

Operations Administrator Randy Dixon stated the City Council approved the budget for Golden Avenue street rehabilitation project for \$841,348.75 plus a 5% contingency of \$42,070 for a total not to exceed \$883,418.75. The unforeseen need to remove concrete encasement around the existing 32" storm line and work related to a waterline replacement resulted in the project exceeding the approved contingency. The actual cost for construction of the project was \$13,498.88 greater than the not to exceed amount. Staff recommended approval to increase the contingency to \$60,000. Mr. Dixon noted future projects would include a higher contingency and the waterline project cost was shared with the Coos Bay North Bend Water Board (Water Board). Discussion ensued on the why the Water Board did not fully pay their share of the water line replacement; concern of contracts bidding with many change orders whereby increasing the cost; reflection on staff when projects continually exceed bid award; questions on whether contractors under bid jobs to get the bid awarded; contractors knowing the contingency amount and viewing that as additional funding; and questioned if there were more expenses for this project yet unknown whereby Mr. Dixon stated all expenses were submitted.

Adoption of Resolution 18-19 Correcting Resolution 18-16 Adjusting Sewer User Fees

Finance Director Susanne Baker stated Resolution 18-16 Adjusting Sewer User Fees was adopted at the May 15, 2018 Council meeting to adjust sewer user fees. The City of Coos Bay contracts with the Coos Bay North Bend Water Board to bill for sewer fees; to aid in the programming of the sewer user rates, it would be beneficial to state the cubic feet consumption figure rather than a dollar amount in Section 1 and Section 2 paragraph three. The change could result in an additional .06 cents charge to new customers (estimated to be 50 new customers) who do not have a history and who use more than the average water consumption of an average household.

Discussion of a Transportation User Fee

Public Works and Community Development Director Jim Hossley stated the City Council was committed to improved street maintenance throughout the community. Traditional funding resources for street maintenance, state gas tax, has not kept pace with the increased cost to perform maintenance. A Transportation Utility Fee (TUF) was one possible new resource for street maintenance.

One of the 2013 City Council Goals was "...to maintain and improve the City's physical infrastructure and provide quality services for current and future citizens", and one of the top priorities for this goal was to "ensure that the City can protect and enhance the useful life of streets..." As part of the Budget Committee's deliberations during 2013, the group recommended to City Council that street maintenance expenses and revenues should be evaluated. Specifically, the committee was concerned about the lack of stable funding for streets and streetlights. In response, the City Council formed a Streets Task Force in July

2013 to make recommendations to the City Council on financing street maintenance.

The Streets Task Force met four times and discussed the scope of maintenance needs, the sources and amount of current funding, and where funding was expended. The Task Force also explored several options to generate additional funding as well as ideas for construction and maintenance best practices as ways to maximize available funding. After considering various options and ideas, the Streets Task Force recommended several options which included a TUF.

If the City were to implement a TUF and collect it through the sewer bill, it was possible to come up with a fairly accurate estimate of revenue generated by a flat rate. The City had approximately 6,025 sewer connections. A flat monthly fee of \$1 would raise \$72,300, \$2 would raise \$144,600, \$3 would raise \$216,900, \$4 would raise \$289,200, \$5 would raise \$361,500, and \$10 would raise \$723,000.

Mr. Hossley presented pavement maintenance projects for the 2018-2019 fiscal year which included blade patching, cold patching, hot patching, grind inlay, and road rebuilds totaling \$586,000. The work would be performed on various streets throughout the City and focused grind inlay and road rebuilds on I Street, Front Street, Fulton, Michigan, and Cammann Street.

Discussion ensued on the importance of marketing to the community the past successes of Golden Avenue and the many pot hole repairs yet to be accomplished this summer; timing of implementation with the recent sewer rate increase; and to plan/schedule another "Golden Avenue" success so the community sees continuity and improvement. Consensus was to wait until the first of the year to discuss the TUF, after the summer pot hole work was completed.

Considering Requests for Council Agenda Presentations for Non-City Business

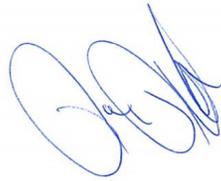
Mayor Benetti stated local representatives of the Coos Bay Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation asked to present their concerns to the Council on President Trump's plan to allow offshore oil and gas drilling in the country's outer continental shelf.

Past Councils did not take action on matters not related to the management or under the control of the City; there were enough matters that kept the Council engaged, and the staff time to prepare information would take from other projects. Since the full Council was not in attendance at the May 22nd work session, the decision of whether to entertain the topic was continued to the current work session.

The staff memo suggested the Council could codify the Council's direction by adding a Council Rule. Mayor Benetti stated if the Council choose to address national issues both sides of an issue would need to be prepared by staff for presentation. Consensus was to focus on local issues in which the Council had legislative control and to draft Council rule to that effect.

Adjourn

There being no further items for discussion, Mayor Benetti adjourned the work session. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for June 19, 2018 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.



Joe Benetti, Mayor

Attest: 

Susanne Baker, City Recorder