

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

June 13, 2000

Proceedings of the City Council Work Session held on June 13, 2000 at 7 p.m. in the Manager's Conference Room at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon.

Those Attending

Those attending were Mayor Joanne Verger and City Councilors Joe Benetti, Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, Kevin Stufflebean, Don Spangler, and Judy Weeks. City Manager Bill Grile, Finance Director Janell Howard, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, Police Chief Chuck Knight, Administrative Assistant Linda Spence, Acting Community Services Director Karen Turner, and Library Director Carol Ventgen.

Interviews of Applicants for the Library Board and Planning Commission

The City Council interviewed Seymour Glassman and Mark Daily for consideration of appointment to the Planning Commission and Chong DeFresne for consideration of appointment to the Library Board. The Council will make appointments to the Tree Board, Library Board and Planning Commission at their regular meeting on June 20, 2000.

Update on the 911 Center by Chief Chuck Knight and Administrative Assistant Linda Spence

Administrative Assistant Linda Spence briefly reviewed the history of the implementation of the 911 agreement and reported GTE will install a call router in September which will route a good number of the call to the County. Councilor Benetti inquired who determined the routing and Ms. Spence reported the system is based on a plan filed by the North County and South County 911 districts. Chief Knight commented state law mandates the calls will be routed to whoever is the primary server. City Manager Bill Grile commented deadlines were missed and efforts to get a dialog started with the County did not materialize. Ms. Spence reported a letter had been sent to Oregon Emergency Management to mediate the agreement between North County and South County, but the request was put on hold at the Intergovernmental meeting. She noted a concern is that one of the board members serves on both the North County and South County Boards and is a county employee. Oregon Emergency Management supports having one center. Mr. Grile commended Chief Knight and Ms. Spence for the amount of work they have done on this matter and asked if Council would like this on the next Council agenda.

Option 1 would have the City of North Bend providing the 911 service and running the program. Ms. Spence noted when contacted, the City of North Bend indicated they are not interested in an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Coos Bay because they do not want to lose their dispatch center. Councilor Benetti inquired if Coos Bay is mandated to have a 911 Center and Mr. Grile reported it is not a requirement, but is a public safety issue.

Option 2 would be a contract with the Sheriff's Department for the service. Ms. Spence explained 911 is one part of the communications center, the functional part is the dispatcher who responds to your call. She reported the City receives \$65,000 annually from the State and the City maintains their own 911 Center.

Option 3 would be to form a countywide intergovernmental agency; however both North Bend and

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the County want to maintain their own centers and this option has not materialized. Mr. Grile commented Option 3 would also save taxpayers several thousand dollars a year.

Option 4 would maintain the structure and revenue of the North County 911 intergovernmental agencies as it now exists.

Option 5 would require reducing the staff in the Coos Bay 911 Center and use 911 funds to supplement the general fund. Mr. Grile commented that for North Bend to withdraw from North County Agency, they would need to give a six month notice prior to the end of the fiscal year and it would be a year from now before it could be implemented. Ms. Spence noted North Bend's 911 calls have been coming through Coos Bay's center for 15 years. Mayor Verger commented North Bend is adamant about keeping their dispatch center. Mr. Grile noted that if North Bend pulled out of North County Agency, Coos Bay could be all by themselves; this is a serious public safety issue of the citizens of Coos Bay. Councilor Spangler asked what the difference is if the calls are answered in Coquille. Mayor Verger commented the Sheriff's Department answers to no one and during an emergency situation, the center would not have to dispatch the way the Council desired. Councilor Spangler suggested looking at the most efficient way to provide emergency services.

Mr. Grile commented the best service would be provided by having one emergency center located at Bay Area Hospital; however, North Bend and the County do not agree. Chief Knight commented if there is an emergency in the Bay Area, he preferred having local control over the situation. Coos Bay provides excellent service and does so efficiently; the Police Department does not want to take a step backwards. Councilor Spangler commented with today's electronic world the 911 center could be located anywhere and noted it is a serious problem with lack of confidence in the County. Ms. Spence reported the rural districts have been told their calls would come to the County.

Mr. Grile reported staff would like to recommend Option 5 to the Council at their next meeting and expressed concern that Coos Bay is being held hostage by North Bend's indecision. Mayor Verger commented it would best serve the citizens if Coos Bay and North Bend combined their emergency centers, and she encouraged staff to negotiate with North Bend. Councilor McKeown suggested a joint meeting with North Bend to discuss combining centers. Councilor Benetti inquired if Chief Knight has talked with Chief Zaccaro and opined that a meeting with North Bend would not accomplish much as they have already made up their minds. Chief Knight reported Chief Zaccaro is not interested in an agreement with Coos Bay. Ms. Spence reported meeting with Chief Zaccaro earlier today and he requested tonight's meeting be kept confidential. Consensus of the Council to ask the North Bend City Council to meet in a joint meeting to discuss combining the two 911 centers.

Review of the Budget Committee's Changes to the Proposed Fiscal Year 2000/2001 Budget

City Manager Bill Grile reported staff is content with the Budget Committee's recommended FY 2000/2001 budget and the Finance Director will have the resolutions prepared for adoption at next week's Council meeting. Mr. Grile reminded the Council that they are on a timeline to adopt the budget and file with the County. The purpose of the work session is to give the Council an opportunity to review the proposed budget before the resolutions are prepared.

Councilor Spangler requested funding the paver be reconsidered as he believes purchasing the paver would be a good investment for the City and would not be in competition with local businesses. Councilor Spangler explained the Street crew does the same work with a grader and would continue to do so, but the paver would allow them to do a better job. Councilor Benetti suggested the patching jobs be contracted out because local companies already own paving equipment of this size. Councilor Spangler commented the Street crew should be reduced if they will no longer be doing the patching. City Manager Bill Grile

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commented the Street crew is small for a city of our size and the City has taken on additional streets with the ODOT exchange. Councilor Weeks reported her husband said the City has no business being in the paving business. Councilor McKeown agreed with both Councilors Spangler and Benetti, however, much of the work the City crew does is triage work, not planned, but situations that come up that need immediate attention and are not things that can be bid out. Councilor McKeown recommended funding a smaller paver which definitely would not be competing with local businesses. Councilor Spangler agreed and noted the Council would still have the final approval before a purchase was made. Councilor Benetti suggested the matter be researched but funding not put in the budget. Finance Director Janell Howard reported if the Council later decided to purchase the paver, a supplemental budget could be done. Mayor Verger commented she looked at the paver as a savings for the taxpayer. Councilors Benetti, Stufflebean, Miller and Weeks did not support funding the paver. Councilor McKeown commented the City should do what is best for the citizens. Mr. Grile reported he would not be putting the paver in next year's budget.

Mayor Verger inquired about line item 2400 for tourism support and Ms. Howard explained during the budget process Councilor Benetti recommended increasing the estimated hotel/motel tax receipts. Mr. Grile reported the grant agreements to non-profits will be set up on time payments. Councilor Spangler recommended the grant allocations be made across the board; if the money does not come in, an equal percentage will be given to all. It was the consensus of the Council to make payments of grant allocations on an equal percentage basis. Finance Director Janell Howard reported the salaries allocated to the Wastewater Fund were reallocated as discussed at the budget meetings.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to June 20, 2000 at 7 p.m.

Joanne Verger, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder