

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

April 2, 2002

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 Joe Benetti and Councilors Anna Marie Larson, Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler, Kevin Stufflebean, and Judy Weeks. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Finance Director Janell Howard, Planning Administrator Laura Barron, Police Captain Eura Washburn, and Police Chief Chuck Knight.

Flag Salute

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

Consent Calendar

Mayor Benetti reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of approval of a proclamation for Child Abuse Awareness Month, authorization to surplus and dispose of a 1994 KZ1000 Kawasaki motor cycle, adoption of Resolution 02-09 re-appointing a pro-tem judge for municipal court, and approval of the minutes of the February 19, 2002 council meeting. Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Bob Moore reported April is National Month of Child Abuse Awareness and that Coos County has the highest child abuse rate in the state. Mr. Moore invited everyone to attend the Light of Hope event on the boardwalk April 13th and read the proclamation to the assembly.

Councilor Spangler requested funding for South Coast Development Council be added to the agenda.

Presentation of the Tree City USA Award by Gary Schulz and Report on Arbor Day Events by Tricia Neal

Gary Schulz, Oregon State Forestry Department, congratulated the city on being recognized as a Tree City and presented Mayor Benetti with a Tree City flag. Tricia Neal gave a report on the various Arbor Day Celebration events to be held throughout the month of April.

Presentation by Coast Curve and Rail Association President Fred Capps – Skateboard Park

Fred Capps reported the Skate Board Association has been meeting twice a month and with the volunteer help of Randall Tosh, the association has applied for non-profit status. The group continues to work on identifying the type of structure to be built and where it should be located.

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Report from Marshfield High School Council Representative Jon Hanson

Jon Hanson reported Mayor Benetti threw the first pitch last evening to begin the Spring softball season, seniors are focusing on graduation day, the recent Red Cross blood drive was successful, and a 90% attendance policy for seniors is required in order to graduate. The dance team placed 4th at state, the cheer team placed first at state, the junior prom will be held April 27th, and the Party Sober event will be held at the Boys and Girls Club.

Department Head Report by Police Chief Chuck Knight

Chief Knight reported the officers hired at the first of the year will be in field training for the next 20 weeks, Officer Wolgamott will graduate from the Eugene Police Academy June 5th, and Sgt. Darrell King will be taking a medical retirement in June. Officers have participated in CPR instructor training, emergency vehicle operations course, drug recognition training, and critical skills training. Chief Knight reviewed the changes in the department due to cuts in staff. Council discussed location of the 911 Emergency Center, a possible partnership with the City of North Bend for dispatch services, and concerns regarding the handling of emergency calls by South County 911.

Adoption of City Council Goals for Fiscal Year 2002/2003

Councilor Stufflebean moved to adopt the City Council Goals as presented. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Update on the Empire Waterfront Conceptual Plan Process

City Manager Bill Grile reported a summary had been distributed to the Council explaining the process that would be used in developing the waterfront conceptual plan. Mayor Benetti commented the process will look at what is the best use of the property and take input from the public.

South Coast Development Council Funding Discussion

Councilor Spangler recommended the City budget \$10,000 for membership in SCDC and carry the other \$40,000 in the budget to keep one position. Councilor McKeown explained SCDC's funding and goals to improve the area's economy. He commented the City made a three-year commitment to SCDC and now is not the time withdraw support from the organization that can help our economy. The Council discussed SCDC's funding sources, salary and benefits of the executive director, and scheduling a meeting with Melinda Anderson. Councilor Spangler moved to postpone the \$50,000 payment until the Council has an opportunity to hear a presentation from SCDC. The motion died for lack of a second. The Council discussed the time and funding necessary to market the south coast area, and the need for a presentation to the whole budget committee by Melinda Anderson.

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John Briggs, SCDC treasurer, explained the various levels of funding that have been committed to SCDC, the number of jobs SCDC anticipates generating in the coming years, and the amount of funding and time required to market the area. Councilor McKeown commented SCDC was instrumental in getting American Bridge to locate in Reedsport and noted one new job generates three times that in revenue. Councilor Miller stated it takes time to let the world know we are here and ready for business, and the design SCDC is patterned after has been successful nationwide and we need to give it time to work.

Public Hearing to Hear Objections to the Proposed Reassessment of Properties on 20th Street and California Avenue LID and Adoption of Resolutions 02-10 and 02-11

Mayor Benetti opened the public hearing on the 20th Street and California Avenue local improvement districts' re-assessments. City Attorney Randall Tosh explained the re-assessments were necessary to correct a legal description. There were no comments and the mayor closed the public hearing. Councilor Stufflebean moved adopt Resolutions 02-10 and 02-11 re-assessing the 20th Street and California Avenue LIDs. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Public Hearing on Proposed Amendments to the Land Development Ordinance and Volumes I and III of the Comprehensive Plan, and Enactment of Ordinances Making the Amendments

Planning Administrator Laura Barron explained the proposed amendments are to clarify language and procedures in the Land Development Ordinance. The biggest change is in rezones and the Council will now make the final decision in rezone matters, with a recommendation from the Planning Commission. Mayor Benetti opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the mayor closed the hearing.

Councilor Stufflebean moved to enact Ordinance No. 319 amending the Land Development Ordinance and Councilor Weeks seconded the motion. Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title and polled the council. The ordinance was enacted with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Benetti and Councilors Larson, McKeown, Miller, Spangler, Stufflebean, and Weeks
No: None
Absent: None

Councilor Stufflebean moved to enact Ordinance No. 320 amending the Comprehensive Plan and Councilor Weeks seconded the motion. Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title and polled the council. The ordinance was enacted with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Benetti and Councilors Larson, McKeown, Miller, Spangler, Stufflebean, and Weeks
No: None
Absent: None

Mr. Tosh stated Exhibit I must be adopted as well. Councilor Miller moved to adopt Exhibit I and Councilor

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Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Public Comments

Julia Spangler, Coos Bay, inquired if a presentation on the Newmark widening project would be held at the April 16th meeting and Mr. Grile stated yes. Annette Miles, Coos Bay, stated she had asked a question at a council meeting and had not yet received an answer. Finance Director Howard reported she had completed the analysis and had tried to call Annette this afternoon to report the implementation of the battalion chief positions and 2001 overtime issue, and both items are a wash.

Mike Seldon, North Bend, representing the Firefighters Association, commented during negotiations the association had proposed a 6% COLA for contract years one and two, and a salary freeze in exchange for leaving the captain positions. Mayor Benetti reported the proposal had been brought to the Council. Mr. Seldon commented the firefighters would like to table the battalion chief positions by reopening Article 4 - Salaries of their contract. City Attorney Randall Tosh asked Mr. Seldon, for clarification, if his appearance at the council meeting was exclusive representation of the union, and Mr. Sheldon said yes. Mr. Tosh then inquired if the union's legal counsel was aware of the presentation this evening and Mr. Sheldon stated no. Mr. Tosh recommended the Council not continue with the discussion and require a letter from the Association's attorney stating the Firefighter Association may conduct direct negotiations with the City Council. Presentation from the union regarding the battalion chief positions will be on the April 16, 2002 Council agenda.

City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Randall Tosh reported he has been working with Northwest Natural gas on a franchise and expects to reach agreement within the month. A counter-proposal on a proposed franchise has been made to Tribal One and ORCA Communications and he is awaiting response from their attorney.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Grile reported the proposed 02/03 budget will be available April 11th, and meetings have been held with department heads and employees regarding the proposed cuts. He noted there has been concern expressed that no management positions have been cut, and based on this, he will not proceed with the re-organization in the library. The city attorney has prepared the agreements to transfer 911 dispatchers to the County, and a memo has been sent to each union president expressing the opinion of department heads to accept a salary freeze if all employees agreed to a freeze. Mr. Grile reviewed changes in operations due to fewer employees, and the issue of purchasing vehicles locally. There was further discussion with the Council on the library position and library funding, the perception of the number of management positions, and giving consideration to employees being cut.

Council Comments

Councilor Larson commented she would like to see the Sportsman Plaza project completed before tourist season and asked who was responsible for the potholes on Lakeshore Drive. Ms. Shribbs reported staff is monitoring the street conditions during the removal of sand from the Wal-Mart site. Councilor Stufflebean reported the Library Board has been presented with information on the proposed cost accounting for the library fund, and he does not support a employee pay freeze because it is a short term fix with long term

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problems. Councilor McKeown commented even though the city has serious budget problems, it is important to focus on the positive things happening in the community. Councilor Weeks commented the budget situation will be difficult for the Budget Committee and for staff and she hopes everyone can get through the process in a friendly way. Councilor Spangler reported a Fiber Optics meeting will be held on the 4th and he will report back to the Council, and the Newmark improvement project will be on the council agenda on the 16th. There was discussion between Councilors McKeown and Spangler regarding the economic benefits of the project and the possibility of using Urban Renewal Agency funds for a portion of the improvements. Councilor Miller expressed pride in the city's employees and the community, and suggested everyone keep an open mind to solutions as they go through the budget process.

Mayor Benetti commended Tom Rumreich for his work on the STEP conference, development of the Empire waterfront plan will begin April 13th, and a ribbon cutting for KCBY's new office will be held tomorrow. Mayor Benetti expressed the concern of the Council regarding the city's budget, and commented the Council wants what is best for the city and for the employees.

Executive Session

Councilor Miller moved to go into an Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (f) for the purpose of considering records that are exempt by law from public inspection. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye. Mr. Tosh reviewed the Indian burial ground issue with the Council.

The City Council reconvened into regular session.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting to April 16, 2002 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Joe Benetti, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen, Deputy Recorder