

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY OF THE CITY OF COOS BAY

March 21, 2000

The minutes of the proceedings of a regular meeting of the Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay immediately following the City Council meeting.

Those Present

Those present were Board Chair Joe Benetti, and Board Members Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler, Kevin Stufflebean, and Joanne Verger. Judy Weeks was absent. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Community Services Director Bill Finney, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Police Chief Chuck Knight.

Approval of Cost Estimate for the Empire Street Scape

City Manager Bill Grile reported \$200,000 was earmarked by the Agency to fund the Empire Street Scape Phase II project. The Agency approved the preliminary plans at their March 7, 2000 meeting and directed brick sidewalk paver be included as an alternate in the bid request. Architect Rob Porter has estimated the base project at \$285,742 and the brick paver alternate at \$28,400 resulting in the total project cost to be \$314,142. Mr. Grile commented even though this is significantly more than originally earmarked for the project, staff is recommending the Agency move ahead with the project. There was further discussion regarding the brick pavers and the cost of inclusion in the project. Board Member McKeown commented the project is over by \$84,000 and the Agency has a responsibility to reduce the cost. Vice-Chair Miller noted for continuity of the project, it is important to have the pavers in Phase II. Mr. Grile noted the \$200,000 was a rough estimate. Vice-Chair Miller moved to authorize additional funding for the project. Board Member Spangler seconded the motion which passed with Board Member McKeown voting no and all other Board Members voting aye.

Authorization to Proceed with TEA-21 Enhancement Grant

City Manager Bill Grile reported the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century or TEA-21 provides federal funding for projects that strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, or environmental value of our transportation system. The Oregon Department of Transportation is now soliciting enhancement projects for fiscal years 2000 and 2001. Projects will be selected through a statewide competitive process and must be estimated at more than \$200,000. The City Council at their March 7, 2000 meeting authorized the re-submission of the application for funding of the restroom/rest stop facility. The downtown restroom/rest stop project is estimated at \$265,000 and the City's required 20% match would be \$53,000. Vice-Chair Miller moved to authorize \$53,000 be earmarked from the Downtown Urban Renewal District to provide for the match. Board Member Kevin Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with all Agency members present voting aye.

Discussion of Store Fronts Program

Julia Spangler, President of the Empire Community Association, reported they have done some research on the use of storefronts and as the theme for the Empire District is historical waterfront, the Association is requesting the Agency to consider a storefront project. The Association's recommendation is to have professional people on the committee to work out the designs and offer the service to the property

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owners. It is important that all the storefronts meet the design standards. Board Member Verger commended the Empire Association on the plan and the timing for beginning the project. Mr. Grile reported staff has discussed design standards and the city attorney has suggested looking into using an easement for the facades of certain buildings which would give the City the ability to invest funding for the facades. The Agency could look at grants or possibly loans to fund the facades. Board Member McKeown agreed with the concept and noted people would be more likely to stop if the buildings look nice. Mr. Grile commented a concept for the program would be brought to the Agency for final approval. Board Member Spangler commented the Agency is fortunate to have a model to draw from; the downtown awning program was a huge success. Mr. Grile briefly reviewed the idea of razing the Ed Lund building and constructing a building to be leased out which would be a proto-type of the design standard for the area. Ms. Spangler reported the property owners would like to help to get the program moving.

Executive Session

Cindi Miller moved to go into executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (e) for the purpose of discussing real property negotiations. Kevin Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with all members present voting aye.

The Agency Board reconvened into regular session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Benetti adjourned the Urban Renewal Agency meeting.

Joe Benetti, Chair
Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Coos Bay
Coos County, Oregon

ATTEST:

Don Spangler, Secretary
Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Coos Bay
Coos County, Oregon