

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

May 5, 2015

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 Fred Brick, Mark Daily, Jennifer Groth, Stephanie Kramer, and Mike Vaughan. Councilor Thomas Leahy was absent. City staff present were City Manager Rodger Craddock, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Deputy Finance Director Amy Kinnaman, Library Director Sami Pierson, Public Works Director Jim Hossley, Community Development Director Eric Day, Fire Battalion Chief Dan Crutchfield, and Police Chief Gary McCullough.

Flag Salute

Mayor Shoji opened the meeting and asked Community Development Director Eric Day to lead the Council and assembly in the salute to the flag.

Public Comments

Mandy Arons, Coos Bay: stated she recently moved to Coos Bay area; noted she was a medical marijuana advocate. Denny Powell, Coos Bay: suggested the Council consider holding only one meeting a month wherein a 30 day "wait period" would be implemented to vote on decisions; expressed confusion as to the time allowed for public comments; recommended closing both urban renewal districts. Anna Marie Larson, Coos Bay: provided City Manager Rodger Craddock an old picture of Coos Bay; expressed concern about a blighted building located in the 200 block of Highway 101 and within the downtown urban renewal (UR) district. Sandra Jones, Coos Bay: stated she was the owner of Coney Station; expressed interest in an UR façade grant and asked the council to consider the Coney Station building for an UR project.

Councilor Vaughan entered the meeting at approximately 7:03 p.m.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Shoji reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of 3a: approval of the minutes of April 21, 2015 and requested consideration of the minutes be moved down to the agenda for further discussion.

New Council Business

Councilor Daily inquired as to the status of the trees in downtown whereby City Manager Rodger Craddock stated trees were a council goal for 2015; matter was delegated to the Tree Board.

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Presentation of a Proclamation of 150 Years of Salvation Army Service

City Manager Rodger Craddock introduced Kevin and Heather Pope from the Salvation Army and provided a brief history on the Salvation Army. Mr. Pope stated the National Salvation Army proclamation would identify the City of Coos Bay as a community that recognized the important contributions of the Salvation Army. Mr. and Mrs. Pope and Mayor Shoji read the proclamation aloud, declaring the week of May 11 – 17, 2015 as National Salvation Army Week. Councilor Groth moved to approve the National Salvation Army Week proclamation. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion. Councilor Daily stated he did not want to endorse any specific religion and inquired how the Salvation Army was affiliated. Mr. Pope explained the Salvation Army itself was a denomination; was originally founded as a church but first and foremost was a social service organization for the purpose helping to meet human needs. A call for the questions was made which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Brick, Daily, Groth, Kramer, and Vaughan voting aye. Councilor Leahy was absent.

Review of the Minutes

Mayor Shoji requested the acceptance of a transfer station grant section of the minutes of April 21, 2015 be amended to correct council consensus to state: Consensus was to postpone the decision on acceptance of the grant and for staff to look at other options for parking. Councilor Kramer moved to approve the minutes of April 21, 2015 as amended. Mayor Shoji seconded the motion which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Brick, Daily, Groth, Kramer, and Vaughan voting aye. Councilor Leahy was absent.

Presentation of a Proclamation on Emergency Medical Services Week

Fire Battalion Chief Dan Crutchfield provided a brief overview on emergency medical services week and introduced Peggy Robison from Bay Cities Ambulance. Ms. Robison stated the Emergency Medical Services proclamation would identify the City of Coos Bay as a community that recognized the important contributions the Emergency Medical Services provide to our citizens. Ms. Robison and Mayor Shoji read the proclamation aloud, declaring the week of May 17 – 23, 2015 as Emergency Medical Services Week. Councilor Groth moved to approve the Emergency Medical Services Week proclamation. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Brick, Daily, Groth, Kramer, and Vaughan voting aye. Councilor Leahy was absent. Ms. Robison provided Mayor Shoji with a plaque in appreciation for the City's continued support of EMS personnel and in celebration of Bay Cities Ambulance 40th anniversary; invited the Council to attend the Bay Cities Ambulance annual barbeque on May 20th in Coos Bay.

Presentation of a Proclamation on National Public Works Week

Public Works Director Jim Hossley stated the National Public Works proclamation would raise the public's awareness of public work issues and increase confidence in public works employees who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for present and future generations. Mr. Hossley and Mayor Shoji read the proclamation aloud, declaring the week of May 17 – 23, 2015 as National Public Works Week in the City of Coos Bay. Councilor Kramer moved to approve the National Public Works Week proclamation. Councilor Groth seconded the motion

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which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Brick, Daily, Groth, Kramer, and Vaughan voting aye. Councilor Leahy was absent.

New Council Business

Mayor Shoji provided a brief overview of the Council's policy for proclamations; all proclamations were required to have a local representative present at the council meeting; should be meaningful and relevant to local area. Councilor Daily recommended a one-time approval for annual reoccurring proclamations. City Manager Rodger Craddock recommended moving proclamations to the consent calendar; suggested staff to put together proposed language to amend the Council rules regarding proclamations and for the Council Committee to review.

Presentation of CH2M Hill/OMI Wastewater Maintenance Services

CH2M Hill/OMI Project Manager II John Waynetska presented the Council with an annual report on activities related to the operations and maintenance of the city's wastewater treatment and collections systems. No violations were reported; both plants were maintained under permitted limits. OMI community service efforts included an annual salmon release at Blossom Gulch, a backpack program to help area school children with supplies, and donating trees to the City. Councilor Vaughan requested more information on the salmon release at Blossom Gulch. Councilor Daily inquired if at any point in the past 19 years if the City had gone out to bid for wastewater maintenance services wherein Mr. Hossley stated no, the current contract would expire June 30, 2016. Councilor Daily stated he resented the fact contracts were extended for longer periods without going out to bid. Mayor Shoji suggested completing a financial analysis to compare costs for city ran versus contracted wastewater operations and maintenance services.

Approval of a Proposed Sewer Rate Fee Increase – Approval Would Require Adoption of Resolution 15-06

Public Works Director Jim Hossley stated the City of Coos Bay Budget Committee concluded the FY 2015-2016 budget hearings in April which included a 6.5% increase in sewer user rates. The sewer fee portion on the Coos Bay – North Bend Water Board billing would increase, based upon the rate study average use of 560 cubic feet per household, approximately \$3.63 per month. The revenue would provide funding for sewer line replacements, pump station rehabilitations, storm drain repairs, and the capital improvements at both wastewater treatment plants pursuant to the Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Mutual Agreement and Orders (MAO). Mr. Hossley provided the Council with a brief overview of the rate study and wastewater needs. Councilor Daily asked to review the difference in how rates were charged for residential and commercial users. Mr. Hossley stated the current rate study charged users based on the users impact to system.

Mayor Shoji inquired if medical and long term care facilities were considered high strength users. Councilor Vaughan suggested implementing a community composting program to reduce the amount of oil and grease entering the system. Denny Powell, Coos Bay: stated he watched the recent budget committee meetings and noted there was not discussion regarding a sewer rate increase; stated he was paying more money than being charged because cubic feet

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use was rounded up; recommended the council not pass the resolution until they could explain why the bill was rounded up. Mr. Hossley reviewed the proposed resolution and noted the fees were charged based on 100 cubic feet or fraction thereof. David Petrie, Coos Bay; stated rounding up cubic fee charges was not equitable to citizens. Councilor Vaughan inquired as to how the rate increase would be used. City Manager Rodger Craddock explained wastewater was a user paid system, charges paid for ongoing maintenance and repair of the systems; noted the City had obligations that needed to be met and suggested Council review alternative options for charges and fee collection at a future meeting or work session.

Mayor Shoji moved to adopt Resolution 15-06. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion. Councilor Vaughan requested staff look into implementing a community composting program. A call for the question was made which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Brick, Groth, Kramer, and Vaughan voting aye and Councilor Daily voting nay. Councilor Leahy was absent.

Presentation on an Appeal of Tree Board Decision for 1562 Lakeshore Drive

Public Works Director Jim Hossley stated Charles Henson, property owner located at 1562 Lakeshore Drive, submitted a tree removal request to remove an evergreen tree along his western property line along the Fenwick right-of-way. Council was provided a copy of Mr. Henson's request which stated he wanted to remove one of the trees from under a power line and several others in effort to clean up the lot for future use. Staff and the Tree Board followed Coos Bay Municipal Code (CBMC), Chapter 8.30 on Trees and Tree Board to review Mr. Henson's request. Staff discussed the tree removal with the power company's tree trimmers; they saw no need for the trees to be removed and further clarified the power lines noted in Mr. Henson's request were not power lines but guide lines that supported service drops and were non-conducting. At their April 23, 2015 meeting the Tree Board decided against removal of the trees. Mr. Hossley stated per CBMC 8.30, the Tree Board's decision could be appealed to the City Council and noted Mr. Henson requested an appeal of the Tree Board's decision.

Councilor Daily inquired if property owners were responsible for trees located in the right-of-way on their residential properties. Mr. Hossley affirmed property owners were responsible for maintaining trees in the right-of-way on their property. Mr. Henson explained he was looking to building a new home on the adjacent lot which was also part of the reason he wanted to remove the trees; provided the Council with pictures of the trees he proposed for removal. Mr. Henson stated he spoke with surrounding neighbors who were all in favor of removing the trees. Councilor Vaughan stated it was important to recognize the Tree Boards decision; suggested criteria for Tree Board did not address the scale for feral and invasive species in the right-of-way. Councilor Daily stated if maintenance was the responsibility of property owner, the property owner should be allowed to remove or maintain as they see fit.

Councilor Kramer exited the meeting at 8:31 p.m. and returned at 8:34 p.m.

Councilor Groth moved to allow Mr. Henson's to remove the trees in the Fenwick right-of-way adjacent to 1562 Lakeshore Drive. Councilor Brick seconded the motion. Councilor Daily requested staff bring back to Council an amendment to the ordinance which required the Tree Board to deal with trees located in the right-of-way. A call for the question was made which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Brick, Daily, Groth, Kramer, and Vaughan voting aye. Councilor Leahy was absent.

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City Attorney's Report

No comments were given.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Rodger Craddock provided an update on the Highway 101 fencing project; development code delayed to allow time for staff to notify all citizens of the proposed code changes and to arrange a town hall meeting scheduled for May 27, 2015. Reviewed board positions due to expire on June 30, 2015: two positions on the Library Board and three on Tree Board along with a Council representative.

Council Comments

Councilor Daily expressed support for the Tall Ships. Councilor Vaughan congratulated all those involved in the restoration of the Egyptian Theatre; noted Kara Long celebrated her first year as Executive Director for the Egyptian Theatre. Mayor Shoji highlighted the Dolphin Player's presentation at the Heritage Conference; and expressed support for the Little Theatre on the Bay.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Shoji adjourned the meeting. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for May 19, 2015 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Crystal Shoji, Mayor

Attest: _____
Susanne Baker, City Recorder