

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

August 21, 2007

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 Jeff McKeown and Councilors Michele Burnette, Mark Daily, Jon Eck, Roger Gould, Stephanie Kramer, and John Muenchrath. City staff present were City Manager Chuck Freeman, Clerk to the Council Jackie Mickelson, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Assistant City Manager Joyce Jansen, Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley, Finance Director Janell Howard, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Library Director Carol Ventgen, and Police Captain Gary McCullough.

Flag Salute

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

Consent Calendar

Mayor McKeown reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of the approval of the minutes of August 7, 2007, approval of the check register summary report for July 2007, approval of the check register report for July 2007, and approval of the fund summary report for July 2007. Councilor Muenchrath requested agenda items b, c, and d to be moved down for discussion. Mayor McKeown moved agenda items b, c and d to represent agenda item 3a. Councilor Eck moved to approve the consent calendar as amended. Councilor Burnette seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Burnette, Daily, Eck, Gould, Kramer, and Muenchrath voting aye.

Councilor Muenchrath expressed his concern of approving expenditures he was not familiar with. Mayor McKeown commented he would like to have a quarterly report on the budget. It was a consensus of the Council not to review the checks each month.

Presentation on the Port of Coos Bay's Container Ship Project by Executive Director Jeff Bishop

Director Jeff Bishop reported the Port of Coos Bay underwent changes at the direction of the Governor. The major goal was to develop a long term business plan, and one of the short term goals was to purchase land from the Bureau of Land Management. Mr. Bishop commented they had completed an industrial rail spur and was currently working towards funding for the north jetty rehabilitation. He further commented they had received funding for the rehabilitation of the rail bridge for phase one and two. The Port of Coos Bay invested in marine industrial property on the North Spit and developed a concept for terminal facilities in 2006. Mr. Bishop briefly reviewed the project area, reported feasibility studies were completed, and the current phase was the business plan. Mr. Bishop briefly reviewed the standards for the deepening and widening of the channel, channel modifications, the State of Oregon and public involvement, and anticipated timeline.

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Presentation by Battalion Commander Lieutenant Colonel Keith Ensley on Utilizing the National Guard for Emergency Management

Lieutenant Colonel Keith Ensley briefly reviewed the history of the National Guard, and reported it was made up of five armories in Southern Oregon – Ashland, Medford, Grants Pass, Roseburg, and Coos Bay. The Oregon Military Department was recently put in charge of the Office of Emergency Management and they were currently being trained. Lieutenant Colonel Ensley briefly reviewed the Stafford Act, the Department of Defense Support, and the tiered responses of the federal, state, and local emergency management. Lieutenant Colonel Ensley briefly reviewed the key elements to an immediate response for emergencies, and expressed the importance of appointing a local incident commander.

Presentation on Coos County Preparedness by Connie Bunnell Chair of the Coos County Citizen Corps Council

Connie Bunnell reported September was National Preparedness month, and the primary objective of the Coos County Citizen Corps Council was to make the community safer, to educate the public on safety, and to spearhead a volunteer educational effort. Ms. Bunnell reported the Coos County Citizen Corps Council was organized in 2002 by a grant from the Home Town Security, and they have focused mainly on a program called CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). They have successfully trained people for this program, and have participated in emergency drills and training. Ms. Bunnell invited everyone to a meeting on emergency preparedness at the Coos Bay Public Library at 6:00 p.m. on August 30th. Mayor McKeown suggested the Council form a committee to review emergency management and preparedness. Mayor McKeown and Councilors Burnette and Muenchrath volunteered to be in the committee.

Consideration of the Dedication of Property in the Vicinity of H Street for Public Purposes to Provide Access to Coastal Water

Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley reported in May 2006 the City Council enacted Ordinance No. 383 for the vacation of a portion of H Street. The piece of property is within the jurisdiction of the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan and per that plan and the Statewide Planning Goal 17, if the City gave up access to the bay it would need to be replaced. As a condition of the vacation, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Angell were required to provide additional property in kind for public access to the bay. Council Muenchrath moved to approve Resolution 07-23 for the dedication of property for public purpose. Councilor Daily seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Burnette, Daily, Eck, Gould, Kramer, and Muenchrath voting aye.

Report by Public Works and Development Department Director Jim Hossley on Proposed Staffing Changes for the Department and Request to Transfer Funds for Planning and Codes Enforcement

City Manager Chuck Freeman reported in June he met Jim Hossley regarding needs in his department that were not being met and to plan a way to meet those needs. Mr. Freeman reported the work load for the Planning Division had been excessive for the past several years, so he was proposing to reinstate the Planning I position to full time and the Codes Enforcement

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Officer to fulltime. He briefly reviewed the benefits of the added hours, the funds affected by the change, and ways the City would pay for the added positions. Mayor McKeown commended Mr. Hossley, Mr. Freeman, and Ms. Jansen for their creative planning. Councilor Burnette moved to adopt Resolution 07-22 transferring funds from the General Fund Contingency to Public Works and Development, Planning Division. Councilor Gould seconded the motion which carried with Mayor McKeown and Councilors Burnette, Daily, Eck, Gould, Kramer, and Muenchrath voting aye.

Public Comments

Steve Schniederma, Coos Bay, reported the Bay Area Sunrise Rotary Club received a grant for approximately \$34,000 from the Department of Homeland Security for a community wide fire prevention public education program. Mr. Schniederma reported this program was for home fire extinguishers, and the Rotary Club was able to purchase a high tech live fire computer operated fire extinguisher training prop. Sunrise Rotary Club would be offering quarterly home fire extinguisher training for the public and the first training class would be this Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Marshfield Bargain House.

City Attorney's Report

No report was given.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Chuck Freeman reported there would be a joint meeting with the City of Coos Bay and the Coos County Commissioners on September 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

Council Comments

Councilor Burnette reported the meeting with the Concerned Citizens of Empire was well attended, and commented the first draft for the Hollering Place brochure was reviewed and some suggested changes were being made. Councilor Muenchrath commented he liked Mr. Freeman's idea of free standing committees and commented it would increase Council's productivity. He suggested trying the committee for six months. Mayor McKeown requested this item be included on the next agenda to discuss. Councilor Kramer commended Mr. Freeman for a great job as city manager. Councilor Daily thanked everyone for their support for his sister-in-law who had a diving accident recently. Councilor Eck commented he agreed with Councilor Kramer that Mr. Freeman was a very valuable asset to the City of Coos Bay. Councilor Gould commented Jeff Bishop's presentation was very important for everyone to consider because of the impact it would mean to the roads, housing, infrastructures, and expressed the importance to plan ahead. Mayor McKeown commented he agreed with Councilor Gould the has opportunities ahead and we need to be prepared.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor McKeown adjourned the meeting to September 4, 2007 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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Jeff McKeown, Mayor

Attest:

Jackie Mickelson, Clerk to the Council