

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL**

December 1, 2009

A regular meeting was held by the City Council of the City of Coos Bay immediately following the City of Coos Bay Urban Renewal Agency meeting held at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Attending the City Council Meeting

Those present were Councilors Mark Daily, Jon Eck, Joanie Johnson, Stephanie Kramer, Gene Melton, and John Pundt. Mayor Jeff McKeown was absent. City staff present were Interim City Manager Rodger Craddock, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Finance Director Rae Lea Cousens, Deputy Finance Director Susanne Baker, Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley, City Engineer Carl Nolte, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, Library Director Carol Ventgen, Economic and Community Development Manager Joyce Jansen, Acting Police Chief Gary McCullough, and Captain Cal Mitts.

Consent Calendar

Council President Eck reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of 2a: approval of the minutes of November 10 and 17, 2009; 2b: approval of Fire Station Change Order Nos. 5, 6, and 7; and 2c: approval of Fire Station Contract Amendments. Councilor Melton moved to approve the consent calendar for the approval of the minutes of November 10 and 17, 2009; approval of Fire Station Change Order Nos. 5, 6, and 7; and approval of Fire Station Contract Amendments. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye. Mayor McKeown was absent.

**Public Hearing to Consider Approval of the Proposed
Amendment to the Empire Urban Renewal Plan – Approval
Would Require Enactment of the Proposed Ordinance**

Economic and Community Development Manager Joyce Jansen stated current urban renewal law required the Empire Plan (Plan) to have a maximum indebtedness. The Plan had a provision with a deadline for issuance of bonded indebtedness of December 31, 2011. The proposed amendment would require a substantial amendment to remove the "last date" provision and change the definition of substantial amendment to align with Oregon Revised Statutes. Elaine Howard of Tashman Johnson, explained the purpose of urban renewal; the current status of the Downtown and Empire Urban Renewal Plans; the basis for changing the deadline for issuance of indebtedness; and the impact to the overlapping taxing districts. Councilor Melton asked Ms. Howard the purpose of notification of the overlapping taxing districts to change the date provision wherein she advised it was a state statute requirement. Councilor Eck asked Ms. Howard why urban renewal taxes were listed on all tax statements wherein Ms. Howard explained the tax rate system and the result of the Shilo Inn court case. Interim City Manager Craddock stated if the urban renewal districts were eliminated, 45% of the tax would be returned to the City's General Fund with the balance reallocated to the overlapping taxing districts. Council President Eck opened the public hearing. Anna Marie Larson, Coos Bay: Stated she was not in favor of urban renewal, questioned the sewer rates, and suggested urban renewal fund wastewater improvements. Tom Greaves, 125 Mill, Coos Bay: Asked the Council to approve the Plan amendments. Linda Clem, Coos Bay: Asked what projects

comprise the urban renewal plans wherein Council President Eck, Councilor Kramer, and Interim City Manager Craddock listed many of the current and past projects. Steve Pickering, 2170 N 28th Street, Coos Bay: Stated he was unaware all taxpayers paid urban renewal taxes; suggested graffiti be removed promptly, suggested attention be given to the downtown planters and sidewalks, and suggested blighted buildings downtown be removed. Wim deVriend, Coos Bay: Stated urban renewal was a tax diversion scheme, referenced the downtown City Center of Tomorrow project of the 1970's as a failure, and advocated private sector and public collaboration for urban renewal projects. Sandy Messerle, Coos Bay: Stated public/private partnership and a strong downtown business core were essential for community growth and development. Council President Eck closed the public hearing. Councilor Kramer moved to enact the Ordinance making certain determinations and findings relating to and approving the ninth amendment to the City of Coos Bay Empire Urban Renewal Plan. Councilor Johnson seconded the motion. Council President Eck read the ordinance by title and Deputy Finance Director Susanne Baker polled the Council wherein Ordinance 419 was enacted by the following vote:

Aye: Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt
No: None
Absent: Mayor McKeown

**Consideration of Approval of the Proposed
Amendment to the Downtown Urban Renewal Plan –
Approval Would Require Adoption of Resolution 09-29**

Economic and Community Development Manager Joyce Jansen stated the amendment would not increase taxes paid by property owners, would not change the amount of maximum indebtedness, and would remove the "last date" provision. Councilor Melton moved to adopt Resolution 09-29. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye. Mayor McKeown was absent.

**Update on Fire Station #1 Construction Project
By Architect Joe Slack**

Joe Slack, HGE Architect for the Fire Station #1 project, stated progress on the fire station was moving quickly, the floor slabs were poured, pillars and columns were yet to be poured, framing was 95% complete, roof sheeting was yet to occur, the west end of the structure was progressing at an accelerated rate, most underground utilities were complete, change order processed for a storm line drain, construction progress meetings occurring every two weeks, LEED process progressing, and Donnelly Street progressing with underground utilities nearing completion. Mr. Slack presented pictures via Power Point of the construction progress and provided a summarized budget listing the contingency at \$285,346.

Fire Department Quarterly Report by Fire Chief Stan Gibson

Fire Chief Stan Gibson provided a quarterly report from July through September 2009 listing quarterly calls by month and by day of the week, inspections, hose testing, training, fire hydrants serviced, special projects, applied for and grants awarded, and a summary of budget expenditures.

Police Department Quarterly Report by Acting Police Chief Gary McCullough

Acting Police Chief Gary McCullough and Captain Cal Mitts provided department statistics reflecting an increase in activity; percentage of total calls for service by the hour; parking enforcement; code enforcement; defined Part 1 and Part 2 with regard to State and Federal Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) guidelines; and provided statistics on UCR Part 1 crimes, UCR Part 2 crimes, and Part 2 Other crimes.

Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Management Plan

Cheryl Westgaard, Coos County Solid Waste, read a hazardous waste press release outlining the proposal for a household hazardous waste management plan, initiated by the Rotarians, in partnership with Coos County, Curry County, and all municipalities within Coos and Curry counties. The proposed Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) would create a steering committee, address long-term funding, designate Coos County as the lead agency, and would include representatives from all entities. The plan would provide free satellite collection events annually in Coos and Curry counties, funded through tipping fees averaging \$3.40 per household per year with commercial customers at \$0.39 per container yard per month. Councilor Daily asked if the fees would be imposed upon Coos Bay citizens if the IGA was not signed. Ms. Westgaard stated without Coos Bay's participation Coos Bay citizens could not participate and the program would need to be reevaluated. Councilor Daily stated he is not convinced this was an efficient way of handling disposal costs for hazardous household waste. Councilor Daily moved to reject the proposal for the HHW management plan which failed for lack of a second. Councilor Pundt moved to direct the Interim City Manager to enter into the IGA to implement the HHW management plan. Councilor Melton seconded the motion and stated he is not in full agreement with the plan, it appeared there was substantial DEQ oversight, and believes some items are already taken care of by the garbage providers. The motion failed with Councilors Eck, Johnson, and Pundt voting aye. Councilors Daily, Kramer, and Melton voting nay. Mayor McKeown was absent. Councilor Eck suggested staff develop a resolution to send to the State to address hazardous household waste disposal at the State level.

Consideration of Approval of America's Homecoming 2010 – Approval will Require Adoption of Resolution 09-30

Interim City Manager Rodger Craddock introduced Connie Lewis who read a resolution regarding America's Homecoming, a national grassroots effort to encourage citizen involvement in their neighborhoods, strengthening of relationships with friends and family, and setting aside Labor Day weekend for this effort. Ms. Lewis would be represent Coos Bay for in the prelaunch of the campaign on December 5th in North Carolina. Councilor Pundt moved to adopt Resolution 09-30. Councilor Johnson seconded the motion which carried with Councilors Daily, Eck, Johnson, Kramer, Melton, and Pundt voting aye. Mayor McKeown was absent.

Public Comments

Steve Pickering, 2170 N 28th Street, Coos Bay: Apologized for the angry words he spoke at the

last meeting and stated he expected an apology from the Urban Renewal Agency Chair. Stephanie Kilmer, 757 S Wasson Street, Coos Bay: Encouraged the Council and community to participate in the Bus Jam program for Christmas toys and food for the South Coast Food Share. Carl Siminow, 1005 Augustine, Coos Bay: Commended Ms. Lewis' idea and the importance of downtown development. Nate Lewis, Coos Bay: Stated 2009 Federal regulations required reduced VOC contaminates in products and some businesses were accepting products for disposal.

City Attorney's Report

No report was given.

City Manager's Report

Acting City Manager Rodger Craddock stated the annual employee recognition event was December 4th and stated various committee openings would close December 4th and be brought to Council December 15th.

Council Comments


Councilor Daily asked the status on the work by the outside engineer for the Egyptian and was pleased with the various Tree Lighting events. Councilor Melton apologized to the Council and Agency for any embarrassment that may have been caused by his discourse at the last meeting. Councilor Eck stated the Coos Bay Fire Department would be hosting at Shore Acres on December 26th, suggested shopping local to help out your neighbors, and encouraged everyone not to drink and drive. Councilor Johnson was pleased with the participation in the Tree Lighting events.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President Eck adjourned the meeting. The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2009 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.



Jon Eck, Council President

Attest: 

Rae Lea Cousens, City Recorder