

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

January 15, 2019

The minutes of the proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, held at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Attending

Those present were Mayor Joe Benetti and Councilors Lucinda DiNovo, Drew Farmer, Stephanie Kilmer, Phil Marler, and Rob Miles. Councilor Carmen Matthews was absent. City staff present were City Manager Rodger Craddock, Finance Director Nichole Rutherford, Deputy Finance Director Melissa Olson, Public Works and Community Development Director Jim Hossley, Fire Chief Mark Anderson, and Police Captain Chris Chapana.

Flag Salute

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

Public Comments

Ken Folker, Coos Bay thanked the Veterans, Councilor's community service, Police Department, area hospitals for their service, and South Coast Orthopedics for his surgery. Carol & Darrell Sanders, Coos Bay stated they lived across from the old Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and requested information on the plan for the property after WWTP was torn down and stated concern for people being there at night. Public Works and Community development Director Jim Hossley stated the property would be cleaned and left as an open space with fencing. City Council stated they had no direction at this time, but the space would not be built up. It may become a park with restricted use. Mr. Sanders also stated concern regarding the exhaust fan noise from the new WWTP. City Manager Rodger Craddock stated it was an operations issue being looked into and hoped to be resolved soon. Traci Olson, North Bend discussed the 2018 Tsunami Preparedness Conference held in Newport, Oregon in December 2018 and encourage the community to go to Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. Rick Shearer, Coos Bay stated he was hearing confusion in the community regarding what the transportation utility fee was for, wanted to know how multi-dwelling units would be charged, and if the revenue would be enough to fix the streets. Mayor Benetti stated multi-dwelling units would be charged an equivalent fee and the city contracted out for street maintenance.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Benetti reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of:

- 3a: Approval of the City Council Minutes of December 4, 2018
- 3b: Approval of the Council and Agency Work Session Minutes of December 11, 2018
- 3c: Approval of the City Council Minutes of December 18, 2018

3d: Acceptance of the December Payroll and Accounts Payable Check Registers

3e: Adoption of Resolution 19-02 Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement for the URA Du Jour Financing 2019

Councilor DiNovo moved to approve consent calendar as presented. Councilor Kilmer seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Kilmer, Miles. Absent: Marler, Matthews.

Report by Marshfield High School Key Club Members

Marshfield High School (MHS) Key Club representatives Emerald Russell and Zach Sahli summarized upcoming Key Club activities, shared various ongoing fundraising activities and achievements by various MHS clubs, committees, and athletic teams. Ms. Russell stated on December 18, 2018, the Key Club toured the Operation Rebuild Hope Bryan's House project; Key Club planned to help design and install a backyard entertainment area.

Councilor Phil Marler entered the Council Chambers at 7:27 pm.

Presentation on the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board

City Manager Rodger Craddock stated Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board General Manager Ivan Thomas could not attend the Council meeting and would be providing an update to the Council regarding the status of the Water Board as well as past, current, and future projects at the February 5, 2019 Council meeting.

Approval of the Proposed Ordinance Amending Membership Requirements for the Planning Commission – Approval Would Require Enactment of the Ordinance

On December 18, 2018, Council asked staff to review the ordinance for outside city limits residency of those appointed to committee positions for the Planning Commission and the Parks Commission. City Manager Rodger Craddock stated the membership requirements for the Parks Commission were updated in 2002, but suggested Council consider amending the membership requirements for the Planning Commission. No public comments were made.

Councilor Kilmer moved to enact the proposed ordinance amending a portion of Ordinance 3, codified as Coos Bay Municipal Code, Chapter 2.35, "Planning Commission." Councilor Miles seconded the motion. Deputy Finance Director Melissa Olson read the ordinance by title only and Ordinance 507 was enacted by the following vote:

Aye: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Kilmer, Marler, Miles.

Nay: None.

Absent: Matthews.

Approval of Proposed Ordinance to Increase Lodging Tax - Approval Would Require Enactment of Ordinance

On November 27, 2018, the Coos Bay-North Bend Visitor Convention Bureau (VCB) Executive Director Janice Langlinais made a presentation requesting consideration to increase the transient room lodging tax from 7% to 9.5%, anticipating \$206,250 in increased revenue, to attract more tourism and increase visitor spending in the Coos Bay, North Bend, and Charleston areas. Ms. Langlinais stated the VCB budget was half of other coastal communities and the 2.5% increase would match the tax of neighboring cities. No public comments were made.

Councilor DiNovo moved to enact the proposed ordinance amending Coos Bay Municipal Code 3.55 (Ordinance 2663 as amended) and increasing the transit room lodging tax. Councilor Kilmer seconded the motion. Deputy Finance Director Melissa Olson read the ordinance by title only and Ordinance 508 was enacted by the following vote:

Aye: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Kilmer, Marler, Miles.

Nay: None.

Absent: Mathews.

Approval of Proposed Resolution in Support of Pursuing the Formation of a Non-Taxing, County-Wide Transportation District - Approval Would Require Adoption of Resolution 19-01

City Manager Rodger Craddock stated the Coos County Commissioners began the process to pursue the formation of a non-taxing, county-wide transportation district for Bandon, Coos Bay, Coquille, Lakeside, Myrtle Point, North Bend, and Powers. The proposed transportation district would replace the current Coos County Area Transit Service District (CCAT) and governing body to a Board of Directors. Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 198.835 required the Council to adopt a resolution in support of pursuing the formation of the non-taxing, county-wide transportation district to ensure services would be provided within the city limits.

Councilor Kilmer moved to adopt Resolution 19-01 in support of pursuing the formation of the non-taxing, county-wide transportation district. Councilor Miles seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Kilmer, Marler, Miles. Absent: Mathews.

Appointments to the Parks Commission and Planning Commission

On December 18, 2018, the City Council interviewed applicants who wished to be considered for appointment or re-appointment on the Planning Commission and Parks Commission. It was decided during the meeting to review and possibly make changes to the membership requirements of the commissions before appointing members.

City Manager Rodger Craddock stated the City received five applications for appointments to the Parks Commission to fulfill three openings on the commission; one citizen-at-large, one service organization, and one design professional position. Applications were received from Ariann Lyons (design professional), Bill Otton (service organization), Amy Aguirre (out of city limits), and Victoria Benedict and Sam Crowley (citizens-at-large). By action of Council ballot the Council appointed Ariann Lyons to the design professional position, Bill Otton to the service organization position, and Sam Crowley to the citizen-at-large position; all

to four-year terms ending December 31, 2022.

Three applications were received for appointment to the Planning Commission to fulfill two openings on the commission. Applications were received from Bill Davis, Victoria Benedict, and Amy Aguirre (out of city limits). By action of Council ballot the Council appointed Bill Davis and Amy Aguirre to the Planning Commission to four-year terms ending December 31, 2022.

Discussion of a Transportation User Fee

The City Council demonstrated a commitment to improving street maintenance throughout the community. Traditional funding resources for city street maintenance, state gas tax, had not kept pace with the increased cost to perform maintenance. A transportation utility fee (TUF) was one possible new resource for street maintenance. On October 23, 2018, Council requested staff to provide additional information on various TUF amounts and the number of years it would take to fix roads based on TUF amounts for consideration. It would take 75 years to complete repairs to all city streets, 50 years with a five dollar TUF, and 35 years with a ten dollar TUF. The city could maintain and repair approximately 1.7 more miles of street over the next five years with a ten dollar TUF. November 27, 2018, Mayor Joe Benetti requested Council to defer any decision until the January 15, 2019 Council meeting to allow for additional discussion and public input. On January 8, 2019 Council requested staff to provide additional information on a fifteen dollar TUF and twenty dollar TUF on commercial property and deferred any decision to a future Council meeting. Public Works and Community Development Director Jim Hossley stated a fifteen dollar commercial TUF would generate \$40,200 per year over a flat ten dollar TUF and a twenty dollar commercial TUF would generate \$80,400 per year over a flat ten dollar TUF.

Mayor Benetti opened to public comments. Cliff Bettin, Coos Bay stated he could not afford an additional ten dollars on his water bill and was concerned street maintenance was not done until the roads were too bad. Mr. Bettin asked why additional fees were not passed onto taxi and trucking companies who drove far more. Mayor Benetti stated those companies were paying other fees and there had not been another viable revenue options. Victoria Benedict, Coos Bay asked why a portion of the tourism revenue was not used to maintain roads. Mayor Benetti stated tourists were paying state gas tax and voters did not pass any other state tax for street maintenance. Rick Shearer, Coos Bay stated there were four potholes on his street, his neighbors fixed two and the City of Coos Bay fixed two, the potholes repaired by City did not last and needed fixed again. Mayor Benetti stated the city switched to hot patching which lasted longer than previous process (cold patching) used. Mayor Benetti closed public comments.

City Manager Rodger Craddock stated the main reason the TUF would go on the water bill was the city already had a contractual relationship with the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board to perform billing and collections for the city. The collection could be done at a cheaper rate so more of the funds would go to street maintenance as intended. Councilor DiNovo asked the number of years it would take to fix roads based on a \$10 residential and \$15 commercial TUF; Mr. Hossley stated it would take five less years to repair all city streets. Councilor Miles stated the revenue generated from increased TUF on business did not seem worth the increase. Councilor DiNovo and Councilor Farmer stated a \$10 residential and \$20 commercial TUF was worth getting the streets fixed sooner. Mayor Benetti stated he would prefer a \$10 residential and \$15 commercial TUF. Councilor Kilmer and Councilor

Marler stated they wanted to hear more from business owners and get feedback from the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. Council elected to defer a decision until the February 19, 2019 Council meeting.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Rodger Craddock stated the City submitted a \$2,000,000 Safe Route to Schools grant request and the application had moved forward for consideration by the Oregon Transportation Commission, with formal decision scheduled for January 17, 2019.

On January 15, 2019, a value analysis team met to evaluate all the variables of the facility plan for Wastewater Treatment Plant 1 and would make recommendations for any other options available. City Council Goal Setting session would be scheduled during the first quarter of 2019. The Coos Bay Downtown Association annual membership meeting would be held on January 17, 2019. City and Urban Renewal Budget Committee meetings were scheduled for April 2, 2019 with additional dates as needed on April 11 and 8, 2019.

Council Comments

Councilor Farmer asked if the Marshfield High School Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) wanted to present at a future Council meeting along with an update by Fire Chief Mark Anderson. Councilor DiNovo asked if the Port of Coos Bay (Port) responded to the Council's questions on the widening of the bay and making another presentation to Council. City Manager Rodger Craddock stated he had not received a response and would follow-up with the Port. Councilor Kilmer stated the Coos Bay Downtown Association would be having their annual meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2019, appreciated the Council's attentiveness regarding TUF, and was impressed the proposed lodging tax increase was accomplished quickly. Councilor Miles congratulated Lieutenant Kevin Cunningham on his promotion and Fire Chief Mark Anderson for thirty years of employment with the city. Mayor Benetti stated Susan Tissot would be leaving as the Executive Director of the Coos History Museum and wished her well, and stated he enjoyed working with the Council and staff in the past and looked forward to working with the Council and staff going forward into the new year.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for February 5, 2019 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.



Joe Benetti, Mayor

Attest: Nichole Rutherford
Nichole Rutherford, City Recorder