

## **MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

December 6, 1994

The minutes of the proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, beginning with a work session at 6:00 P.M. in the Manager's Conference Room at City Hall, followed by an Executive Session at 6:30 P.M., continuing to another work session at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of City Hall and proceeding to regular session in the Council Chambers at 7:30 P.M.

### **Those Present**

Those present were Mayor Joanne Verger, Councilors Joe Benetti, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler and David Williams. City staff present included Interim City Manager Bruce Meithof, City Recorder/Finance Director Gail George, City Attorney Paula Bechtold, Police Chief Marc Adams, Fire Chief Cliff Vaniman and Public Works Director Ralph Dunham. Members of the media were also present at the second worksession and regular Council Meeting..

### **Work Session**

Public Works Director Ralph Dunham gave a presentation on the Highway 101 Beautification project. He explained that the Cities of Coos Bay and North Bend jointly applied for grants for beautification of the Highway 101 corridor through the two cities. He related that six public hearings have been held and made the preliminary plans available for Council review. Dunham proceeded to point out the features of the design and gave the Council information on the costs associated with the various phases of the design. He informed the Council that we would be receiving a \$220,000 grant to start the project and the City is required to provide a 12.5% match which will pay for the architects fees. It was noted that one of the priorities is the south entrance to Coos Bay which is currently considered quite bleak. There was some discussion of the work being proposed and whether or not the State Highway Department would approve of some of the design. Dunham handed out the architects design for the former Chevron property and said he had concerns because it was designed as a plaza with very little parking. He said part of the reason for this is because a drive through Kiosk showing features in the area was planned for part of this property. Mayor Verger asked how much additional staff would be required to take care of the proposed corridor of trees. Dunham replied that the landscaped areas would require more maintenance than the trees and he anticipated that three temporary workers would be required during the summer to maintain everything and noted that we currently have one temporary during the summer.

### **Executive Session**

On motion by Councilor Miller, seconded by Councilor Williams the Council went into executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (d) and (h) for the purpose of discussing personnel

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matters, labor negotiations and potential litigation at 6:30 P.M.. Those attending were the mayor and all councilors present, Interim City Manager Bruce Meithof, City Recorder/Finance Director Gail George, City Attorney Paula Bechtold, Police Chief Marc Adams, Fire Chief Cliff Vaniman and Public Works Director Ralph Dunham. A member of the media arrived at 7:05 P.M.

### **Work Session**

Public Works Director Ralph Dunham left after the executive session and did not attend the regular Council Meeting. Mayor Verger reviewed the agenda for the evening. She noted that she would be giving a State of the City address following the flag salute. Verger also added Resolution 94-20 as item number five.

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

### **Flag Salute**

Mayor Verger called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

### **State of the City**

Mayor Verger gave a State of the City address noting the accomplishments of the City during the year including

### **Oath of Office for Mayor**

Mayor Verger declined to take the oath of office stating she did not intend to serve her second term as mayor.

### **Consent Calendar**

Mayor Verger read the consent calendar which included the following items:

- a) Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of November 15, 1994.
- b) Approval of the minutes of a special meeting of November 10, 1994.
- c) Receiving and filing of the abstract of the November 8, 1994 General Election results.
- d) Approval of an OLCC license application for Keith Awram and Rosella Freeman for the Coney Station #1 .

Councilor moved for approval of the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Councilor and carried with all Councilors present voting aye.

**Public Comments**

Helen Scully, Coos Art Museum expressed thanks for Mayor Verger's service to the community and her support to the Art Museum.

Sergeant Webster asked for an update on an agenda item from the June 21st council meeting regarding the Bay Area Rescue Mission. He wanted to know if any progress had been made on testing for tuberculosis at the mission, citing that he has heard of one case of someone who is currently eating at the Mission. Mayor Verger asked if he had talked to the Mission or the County Health Department as she did not feel it was proper for the Council to ask for this service. Webster stated that the minutes reflected that the Council was to do something about this health problem. He noted that he is still having problems with rentals in the area of the Mission and feels there is still a definite negative impact in the area. He said he did not understand why this is being allowed to happen. He thanked the City for their efforts in the Empire area including the Christmas decorations. He related that people are not continuing to fix up properties in the area because of concerns about the Mission. Councilor Spangler asked if the Council had agreed to go to the County Health Department about the Mission and Verger said she did not feel the Council should go to the County about the Mission. Webster then related some problems with drugs he has heard of in the area and wanted to know what was being done. When asked if he had talked to the Police Department Webster answered he had. Webster related another incident and Councilor Benetti reported that such incidents happen all over the City. Benetti also stated that the zoning cannot be changed just to evict a current business and said that this is the first time this issue has been brought back up since the meetings several months ago. When asked if he had attended the Mission board meetings, Webster replied no, but that he had been inside the Mission. He restated his opinion that the Mission is having an impact on the area.

Ken Harland, member of the Planning Commission, said he was sorry to see the Mayor leave and has enjoyed Coos Bay and seeing people working together to solve problems.

**Authorization to Increase Rental Rates at the Coos Art Museum**

Pursuant to the management agreement, the Coos Art Museum requested that the Council approve new rates for rental of the Art Museum for special functions. Helen Scully explained the new proposed fees which calls for a fee of \$250.00 for use of the atrium for up to four hours use and four hours set up and take down with additional hours at \$35.00 per hour, \$100 for rental of each of the small galleries or \$175.00 for both and \$400.00 for use of the Main Gallery. Councilor Benetti moved to approve the proposed fees. The motion was seconded by Councilor Miller and carried with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

**Resolution 94-20 Regarding Employee Retirement Contributions**

Resolution 94-20 which is attached hereto and made a part hereby was adopted with all Councilors present voting aye on motion by Councilor Williams and seconded by Councilor Miller.

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**City Attorney Report**

No Report was given.

**City Manager Report**

No Report was given

**Council Comments**

Councilor Spangler would like to see the Council give each person appearing before the Council a Course of action to take on the matter brought before the Council

Councilor Miller said the tree lighting was beautiful

Councilor Benetti asked for a report on Hannah's property. Meithof reported that the survey crews have been taking elevations on this area and another tide gate problem area. He informed the Council that he has instructed Public Works to make Mall Block Two their number one priority and because of this they were not able to prepare a report as of yet.

Mayor Verger reported that Bill Elliott called and said he will be reporting for work on January 16, 1995. She feels the Council has made an excellent choice and wants the Council to help him make a smooth transition. She thanked Jane Olbekson for her work on the Tree Lighting Ceremony and said she was thrilled to see Santa on the tug.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilor Benetti adjourned the meeting to 7:00 o'clock P.M. in the Council Chambers of City Hall on December 20, 1994.

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Joanne Verger  
Mayor of the City of Coos Bay  
Coos County, Oregon

**ATTEST:**

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Gail George  
Recorder of the City of Coos Bay  
Coos County, Oregon

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