

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

April 16, 1996

The minutes of the proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, beginning with a work session in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. and proceeding to a regular session in the Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m.

Those Present

Those present were Councilors Joe Benetti, Gary Combs, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler, and Dave Williams. Mayor Joanne Verger was excused due to a business trip and Councilor Judy Weeks was excused due to another commitment. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, City Clerk Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Finance Director Gail George, Community Services Director Bruce Meithof, Library Director Carol Ventgen Fire Chief Cliff Vaniman, Police Chief Marc Adams, and Accounting Operations Supervisor Mary Beth Holst. Members of the media were also present.

WORK SESSION

Council President Joe Benetti opened the work session and asked if there were any comments on consent calendar. City Manager Grile commended Steve Doty for obtaining funds from the State Marine Board for repairs to the Empire boat ramp. Mr. Benetti referred to the revised memo containing bid information on the Empire Lakes Park restroom project. He noted the bids were higher than the budgeted amount and asked Community Services Director Bruce Meithof if it would be beneficial to rebid the project. Mr. Meithof responded that because of the deadline for the grant there was not time to rebid. Councilor Gary Combs recommended proceeding with the project.

COUNCIL MEETING

Flag Salute

Council President Benetti led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

Consent Calendar

Council President Benetti presented the consent calendar which consisted of the following items:

- a) approval of minutes of the regular meeting of April 2, 1996
- b) Resolution 96-14 - appropriating grant funds for repair to the Empire boat ramp
- c) volunteer recognition week proclamation

Councilor Miller moved to approve the consent calendar. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which carried with all Councilors present voting aye.

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Employee Award for Sgt Kevin Hedgepeth

Council President Benetti presented Kevin Hedgepeth with an appreciation certificate and a \$100 savings bond in recognition for his outstanding work on preparing the WEB home page for the City. Mr. Benetti also presented an appreciation certificate to Michelle Hedgepeth for her support and work on the WEB page. He commended Kevin and Michelle on doing a good job.

Relay for Life Presentation

Patty Farmer, representing the American Cancer Society, reported on the upcoming Relay for Life event. Ms. Farmer commented that over \$80,000 had been raised last year and that currently there were 150 teams formed. She urged the support of the City Council and encouraged anyone interested in participating or sponsoring a team to contact her. Ms. Farmer reported that there was strong support from the community for this event and that all money raised goes directly to the American Cancer Society.

Tree City USA Recognition and Proclamation

Rick Rogers, State Forestry Department, presented Council President Benetti with a plaque and flag commemorating the City of Coos Bay as a Tree City. Mr. Rogers reported that Coos Bay was one of 27 cities in Oregon to be recognized.

4th Court Street Vacation - Ordinance No. 229

City Manager Bill Grile commended staff for proposing a good solution to what could have been a serious problem. Councilor Miller moved to adopt the Planning Commission recommendation and enact Ordinance No. 229. Councilor Combs seconded the motion. City Clerk Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title only and the Council was polled with the following results;

Voting aye:	Councilors Benetti, Combs, Miller, Spangler and Williams
Voting no:	None
Absent:	Mayor Verger and Councilor Weeks

Award of Bid - Empire Lakes Park Restroom Project

Council President Benetti reviewed the revised memo noting the budgeted amount for the project was \$50,000. Councilor Combs commented that due to the level of use of the park the restrooms were very much needed. He expressed frustration with the cost of the project and said he would support proceeding with the improvements. City Manager Grile reported the cost of the whole project was \$70,000. There was further discussion on the size of the parking area and cost of repairs necessary to the bridge. Mr. Meithof commented the bridge repairs would begin during this budget year and be completed next year. Councilor Combs moved to award the bid to Laskey Clifton Corp. for \$67,495.44 for the project, with the cost for the additional parking to be taken

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from funds within the Parks Division budget. Councilor Miller seconded the motion which carried with all Councilors present voting aye.

Public Comments

Flora Lee Lockhart, Coos Bay, said she would like to thank Mr. Grile for attending Downtown Association meeting and speaking about urban renewal. She asked if additional copies of the handouts could be made available. Mrs. Lockhart commented that mall block 3 was developing well and was pleased the magnolia tree had been preserved.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Grile reported the City Attorney would be meeting with Steve Clay on Friday regarding the block 4 design agreement. Mr. Grile commented the Western Bank property purchase would be closing at the end of the week. He said five budget meetings had been scheduled and that it was imperative for all members to attend.

Mr. Grile reported on a meeting with members of the AFSCME union with Operations Management Institute (OMI). He said a cost analysis showed that it would not cost the City more money to benefit from OMI managing the wastewater treatment plants, and that employee fringe benefits equal or exceed benefits offered by the City. Mr. Grile commented that notice had been given to the union to respond by April 30th if they wished to submit their own proposal. He indicated a proposal from OMI may be ready for the May 21st Council meeting.

Mr. Grile reported on the Bandon destination resort and asked if Council would support the project. Consensus of the Council to authorize Mr. Grile to represent the City in support of the project at the County Planning Commission meeting of May 8th.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilor Spangler inquired about the status of the contaminated soil near the Empire boat ramp. Mr. Meithof reported the Community Services Department had been in contact with a representative of the property owners about removing the soil and they are awaiting a letter from DEQ regarding the removal. Mr. Spangler asked when the nautical flags would go up in the Empire district and Mr. Meithof responded the week before Memorial Day.

Councilor Gary Combs reported on the countywide strategic tourism marketing plan. He said the plan brings both private and public entities together to better serve the tourism industry. Mr. Combs commented on a meeting with Senator Wyden in which he suggested the Senator look into improving transportation for the Bay Area, family wage jobs, and youth employment.

Councilor Joe Benetti commented the strategic marketing plan was necessary for the County to participate in state grants. He encouraged everyone to attend the budget meeting on the 18th at 7:00 pm. Mr. Benetti commented on signage for the downtown area and inquired if the City regulated the signage. Mr. Meithof said the State regulates the signs along the State highways and the only signs allowed are those on the property of the business. After further discussion of sign placement, state and federal regulations, the City Manager said he would look into the matter and report back to the Council.

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Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President Benetti adjourned the meeting to May 7, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Joe Benetti
Council President of the City of Coos Bay
Coos County, Oregon

ATTEST:

Joyce Jansen
City Clerk of the City of Coos Bay
Coos County, Oregon