

## **MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**March 7, 2000**

The minutes of the proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, beginning at 7 p.m. with a work session in the Council Chambers and proceeding to a regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

### **Those Present**

Those present were Councilors Jeff McKeown, Cindi Miller, Don Spangler, Kevin Stufflebean, and Judy Weeks. Mayor Joanne Verger and Councilor Joe Benetti were absent. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen, City Attorney Randall Tosh, Community Services Director Bill Finney, Fire Chief Stan Gibson, and Police Chief Chuck Knight.

### **WORK SESSION**

Council President Miller reviewed the consent calendar and noted Larry Goodman's request to use downtown parking lots for a carnival in May. Councilor Spangler suggested asking the Downtown Association if they supported the carnival being held in the downtown area. Councilor Weeks reported the Stage Committee is accepting donations for building the Mingus Park stage. Councilor McKeown asked the cost of the architectural work for the project and Community Services Director Bill Finney reported \$30,000 included the architect's fee and stage construction. Councilor Weeks commented the architectural fee is approximately \$2500 to \$3000.

City Manager Bill Grile credited Andy Nasburg for presenting the idea for the Newmark/Ocean Master Plan. Mr. Grile reported the plan would tie in with the Council's goal of dealing with industrial/commercial property and would lock in some funding from the ODOT exchange funds. He explained the interest from the principle would be used to retire the debt. Mr. Grile commented the plan would also address current storm water problems and sanitary sewer needs in this area, and a traffic study should be done before proceeding with the plan. Councilor Stufflebean suggested there was no need to do a study when the City already knows there is a problem. Mr. Grile commented the LaClair and Newmark intersection would need to be designed by someone with expertise in these matters and City staff does not have this ability. Councilor McKeown suggested ODOT do the study and Mr. Grile noted ODOT contracts out for this type of work. Councilor McKeown expressed concern about using the jurisdictional exchange funds for this project and suggested toning down the project. He agreed on the importance of opening up more commercial property and that Newmark Avenue does need work from a safety perspective. Mr. Grile commented the need for improvements on Newmark had been discussed by the Council in earlier meetings and staff understood Council to mean they wanted to proceed with these improvements. Councilor Weeks recommended tabling the item until a full Council is present. Councilor Stufflebean commented no money should be spent from the ODOT funding for three years. Councilor Spangler objected to spending money on another study and inquired about amending the charter to secure the ODOT funds. Mr. Grile reported a charter amendment or an ordinance would accomplish the goal of locking up the money for street-related interests. Councilor Spangler expressed concern that using the money for projects would result in no funds for maintaining the streets. Mr. Grile said the interest would be used for other projects while the principle would be used for street maintenance. Mr. Grile noted the City will still receive ODOT funds for projects such as F Street and Front Street. Consensus of the Council was to table the matter to a later meeting.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Flag Salute**

President Miller opened the meeting and led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

**Consent Calendar**

President Miller reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of Resolution 00-08 authorizing appropriation of insurance funds to replace property. Councilor weeks moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

**Report from Tourism Promotions Committee**  
**Director Beve Saukko**

Director Beve Saukko reported several conventions have been booked for the Bay Area and a Navy ship is scheduled to be in port on August 8<sup>th</sup>. The Bay Area coupon book will be coming out soon, the committee has joined the Tall Ship Association for dues of \$250 annually, and the committee has increased advertising to include Sunset magazine and the Oregonian and Register Guard newspapers. President Miller inquired if a ship could be brought in for the Fun Festival in September and Ms. Saukko reported she spoke with the recruiter in Eugene and it looks promising. Councilor McKeown commented a state championship swim meet will be hosted in Coos Bay in July and will bring in several hundred people. He asked if her office would be available to help promote the event. Councilor Spangler asked how convention organizers pay for the place to hold the event and Ms. Saukko reported that many of the organizations have small budgets and the Tourism Promotions Committee subsidizes the rental of space.

**Report from Chief Stan Gibson**

Chief Gibson reported the boiler at the Empire Station has been replaced with the work done by local vendors, and the project came in under budget. Chief Gibson noted that testing of the emergency operation plan is being prepared; one with the National Guard in August and one with the airport for a table-top exercise of a plane crash. He reported a test of the tsunami siren will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, spring cleanup of the Pioneer Cemetery is planned for April, Pacific Power will be providing a line for a light at the flagpole at the cemetery, and the annual firefighters banquet will be held on April 18th.

**Approval of Recommendations for School Zone Safety**  
**Concerns at Madison School**

Chief Knight reported the Safety Committee recently met to discuss the Madison School safety concerns and to prepare a recommendation for the Council. Also included at the meeting were school officials, parents, law enforcement personnel, city staff, and insurance representatives. The committee's recommendation is to replace the school zone signs around the school, restripe all crosswalks in the area, place an additional crosswalk on Madison and Flanagan, install traffic buttons on the pavement in the school zone area, and repaint the stop bars at all intersections in the area. Chief Knight commented materials and supplies are already available and work could begin immediately on these recommendations. The committee would like the Council to consider installation of a traffic control device at Newmark and Cammann and also

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recommended the school district reconsider their policy on use of crossing guards.

Councilor Weeks moved to direct staff to implement the recommendations and contact the school district about using crossing guards. Councilor Stufflebean seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye. Principal Tedder thanked the Council for their attention to this matter and Madison School students presented the Council with luncheon invitations for April 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Approval of Policy for Use of Downtown Parking Lots**

Community Services Director Bill Finney reported a number of requests have been received for use of downtown parking lots for uses other than parking cars. The City has spent \$100,000 to improve the lots and last year when the carnival used the lots some damage was sustained to the surface. A request to use the lots for the carnival in May has been received, however, the City will be doing the lighting construction phase during this time and it would not be conducive to have a carnival going on at the same time. Staff is recommending the downtown parking lots not be used for other than parking.

Councilor Spangler suggested the policy not exempt the Blackberry Arts and Fun Festivals from use of the lots. Councilor Stufflebean commented the carnival has been held in the downtown area for many years and inquired if staff had any suggestions on where the carnival could be held. Mr. Finney reported there were no recommendations on where to place the carnival; staff's main concern is for the protection of the parking lots. Mr. Grile commented a number of possible sites have been suggested and none have been acceptable or willing to have the carnival.

Mr. Larry Goodman, general manager of Northwest Broadcasters, commented there are some objections to having the carnival downtown, however, in response to the concern for damage to the surface, a bond was put up and \$300 was used to repair the diesel fuel damage caused last year. Mr. Goodman commented a first class job was not done on the patching. He noted if the City will be trenching for the electrical lines for the new lights, there will be additional patching. Mr. Goodman suggested an approach of how can we do it would be more appropriate, rather than bringing forth excuses not to have the carnival. He commented it would be a big disappointment to children not to have a carnival. There was further discussion on various problems associated with having the carnival downtown and concern for the operation of downtown businesses. Mr. Goodman presented letters from downtown businesses who support bringing in the carnival.

Rhondi Potter, Downtown Association Board Member, reported the matter was not discussed in terms of good or bad. She commented if the problems with the City could be resolved, the Board could discuss the carnival at their next meeting. Flora Lee Lockhart reported she has been a member of the Downtown Association for many years and the carnival has been to town for many years. She commented one of the problems is the carnival takes up spaces customers would normally use for doing business and during the time the carnival is in town, many businesses lose considerably in sales.

Mr. Grile reported the lighting project is scheduled to begin the first of May and go through June with completion before the tourist season begins. Councilor McKeown recommended a consensus from the Downtown Association regarding the carnival be given to the Council. Councilor Spangler suggested more information be brought to the Council before a decision is made. Councilor Spangler moved to continue the item to the next meeting. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Authorization to Proceed with Plans for the Mingus Park Stage**

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Community Services Director Bill Finney reported the Mingus Stage Committee has met with Architect Stuart Woods to review the stage plans and is committed to completing the project in time for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in the Park event. Staff is requesting authorization to proceed with the project and prepare to go out to bid. Stuart Woods, Architect, reported the Parks Commission has reviewed and approved the plans. He explained the proposed location for the stage and reviewed the plans. Mr. Stuart reported the stage is designed in a way that would allow it to be covered in the future. He commented the stage would sit approximately two feet above ground and the blocks and bricks would be incorporated in the foundation. Councilor Weeks reported the committee includes members from the performing arts and this design is their recommendation. Councilor Spangler inquired about the architectural fee and Mr. Stuart's reported his fee is \$1800. Councilor McKeown moved to authorize staff to proceed with the Mingus stage project. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Review of Proposed Study for the Newmark/Ocean Commercial Master Plan**

City Manager Bill Grile commented a number of concerns were raised regarding the Newmark/Ocean master plan during the work session which staff will address if the item is continued at the next meeting. Councilor Stufflebean moved to continue the item. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

City Attorney Randall Tosh recommended waiting until the November ballot before going for a charter amendment to allow time for research for the best options of setting up a trust for the ODOT funds. He reported it is the attorney general's opinion the money is constitutionally limited for use only on highways.

### **Authorization for Installation of a Stop Sign at Fenwick and Virginia Streets**

Community Services Director Bill Finney reported the Council previously authorized installation of stop signs at Stanford and Crocker and now the traffic has changed to Fenwick. Authorization is requested to install stop signs at Fenwick and Virginia to slow the traffic. Councilor Spangler moved to authorize the stop signs. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye.

### **Appointment of a Council Representative to the South Coast Development Council**

Councilor Stufflebean moved to appoint Councilor McKeown as representative to the South Coast Development Council. Councilor Weeks seconded the motion which passed with all Councilors present voting aye. Councilor Spangler commented the appointment is appropriate as Councilor McKeown has done a lot of the work in establishing the South Coast Development Council.

### **Enactment of an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 124 Exempting Certain Residential Streets from Weight Restrictions**

Councilor Weeks moved to enact Ordinance No. 289. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion and Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title only and the Council was polled with the following results:

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Voting Aye: Councilors McKeown, Miller, Spangler, Stufflebean and Weeks  
Voting No: None  
Absent: Mayor Verger and Councilor Benetti

### **Enactment of an Ordinance Authorizing a Loan from the Special Public Works Fund of the State of Oregon for the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board Water Supply Project**

City Attorney Randall Tosh explained changes to the ordinance as requested by the Water Board which will be read into the record by the Deputy Recorder. Councilor Stufflebean moved to enact Ordinance No. 291 as corrected. Councilor weeks seconded the motion and Deputy Recorder Joyce Jansen read the ordinance title and corrections to the ordinance. Councilor Spangler commented on a concern from local businesses regarding not being able to bid on the project. Mike Helfrich, Water Board member, reported the engineering firm set the standards for the project and primarily, there was one contractor indicating local businesses would not be able to bid. Mr. Helfrich commented the contractor was incorrect. Mr. Helfrich explained that certain aspects of the project require expertise in certain areas, and further, many local firms will be working on the project as sub-contractors. The Council was polled with the following results:

Voting Aye: Councilors McKeown, Miller, Spangler, Stufflebean, and Weeks  
Voting No: None  
Absent: Mayor Verger and Councilor Benetti

### **Public Comments**

Rhondi Potter, Coos Bay, reported the Downtown Alive! event will be held on April 1<sup>st</sup> and is an opportunity for the community to come together and experience the culture of the area. Ms. Potter commented the Downtown Association has events planned throughout the year.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Bill Grile reported the ODOT scenic byway grant requires a 20 percent match and recommended resubmitting the downtown restroom project with the match coming from Urban Renewal Agency funds. Mr. Grile commented the schedule for government channel programming is now shown on the City's web site.

### **Mayor and Council Comments**

**Councilor McKeown** reported the South Coast Development Council now has 11 committed board members and has established a committee to begin a search for a recruiting firm or individual. Interim officers have been elected and will serve until July 1<sup>st</sup>; Councilor McKeown as chair, College President Stephen Kridelbaugh as secretary, and North Bend Councilor John Briggs as Treasurer.

**Councilor Stufflebean** reported there was a good turnout for the Poolhouse grand opening on Saturday, and approximately \$33,000 for rental of the Boys and Girls Club was not charged to organizations last year as a way of giving back to the community.

**Councilor Weeks** reported the Parks Commission meeting last evening included discussion of the need to replace the decking on the Choshi bridge at an estimated cost of \$35,000, receipt of a \$54,000 grant from the State Marine Board to repair the Empire dock, and a recommendation that the Council consider

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constructing a tennis court on the park house site. Councilor Weeks commented the employee luncheon will be held next Friday at Abby's Pizza.

**Councilor Spangler** commented the Boys and Girls Club asked for funding each year, yet they do not charge for the use of the facility and suggested the club collect revenues to help fund their programs. Councilor Spangler reported attending a briefing with Representative Peter DeFazio regarding support for getting fiber optics going.

**President Miller** reported the next Fun Festival meeting will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the Port office and invited anyone interested in being involved to attend. President Miller reported attending the Commission on Children and Families meeting and reminded everyone to contribute items for the time capsule.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, President Miller adjourned the meeting to March 21, 2000 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

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Cindi Miller  
Council President of the City of Coos Bay  
Coos County, Oregon

ATTEST:

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Joyce Jansen  
Deputy Recorder of the City of Coos Bay  
Coos County, Oregon