

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

May 21, 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 Mayor Joanne Verger, Councilors Joe Benetti, Gary Combs, Don Spangler, Judy Weeks, and Dave Williams. Councilor Cindi Miller was out of town. City staff present were City Manager Bill Grile, City Clerk Joyce Jansen, Community Services Director Bruce Meithof, Police Chief Marc Adams, and Library Director Carol Ventgen. Members of the media were also present.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Verger reviewed the consent calendar. Councilor Weeks inquired if the rent for the Drop-In Playschool had been waived last year and City Manager Grile said it had not. Mayor Verger commended the school on their facility and program. City Manager Grile commented cuts to the highway 101 project were mostly in North Bend and noted the plan recommended changes to the landscaping of photinia island located north of the Timber Inn. Councilor Combs commented there were maintenance problems that should be looked at and suggested the matter come before the Parks Commission for review and recommendation. Mr. Gus Langley made a request to the Council that the area be left as currently landscaped. There was further discussion on possible changes to the sprinkling system, maintenance concerns, and the adding of flowering plants.

Mayor Verger reported Ordinance No. 230 vacates portions of Bennett Street and South 6th Street to allow for the expansion of the public library. The Mayor commented that Councilor Weeks had agreed to serve on the Joint Coos Bay-North Bend TV Committee. Mayor Verger reported on establishing paving requirements for business parking lots, both from an aesthetics standpoint and a safety issue of gravel coming out onto paved streets. City Manager Grile commented the problem with the current ordinance was the lack of clear standards and requirements for paving. Councilor Benetti opined that everyone be given equal treatment. There was further discussion on establishing paving requirements; taking into consideration new businesses and expanding businesses, clarification of the language, and establishing paving criteria. City Manager Grile suggested the ordinance establish the paving criteria and have the decisions made on an individual basis by the Planning Commission.

COUNCIL MEETING

Flag Salute

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

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Consent Calendar

Mayor Verger read the consent calendar which consisted of the following items:

- a) approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of May 7, 1996
- b) OLCC Renewals
- c) Stand for Children Day proclamation

and read the proclamation to the assembly. Councilor Weeks moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Combs seconded the motion which carried with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Request to Waive Rent at Empire Lakes Community Building - Drop-In Playschool, Inc.

Addie Endicott, Drop-In Playschool, thanked the City for building the fence at the facility. She read a letter in which the waiver of the rent during the summer months in the amount of \$450 was requested. Mayor Verger moved to waive the rent in the amount of \$450. Councilor Spangler seconded the motion which carried with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Award of Contract - Highway 101 Enhancement Corridor Project

City Manager Grile reported the low bid for the ODOT grant to beautify the portion of highway 101 through North Bend and Coos Bay was Umpqua River Navigation. Mr. Grile said total bid was \$446,475 and Coos Bay's share was \$231,550. He noted proposed changes for the photinia island located north of the Timber Inn. Councilor Weeks asked if the project included a sidewalk near the Timber Inn and City Manager Grile said it was not included and would need to be considered as a separate project. Community Services Director Meithof said the project included the areas of the Coalbank Slough entrance to Coos Bay, development of the downtown Chevron property, and the Timber Inn corner. Councilor Weeks moved to accept the bid for \$231,550 and award the contract to Umpqua River Navigation with a recommendation that the Parks Commission review the proposed changes to the photinia island. Councilor Combs seconded the motion which carried with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Ordinance No. 230 - Vacation of a Portion of Bennett Street and South 6th Street

City Manager Grile reported the Planning Commission had reviewed the street vacations as part of the library expansion project. Councilor Williams moved to adopt Planning Commission's recommendation and enact Ordinance No. 230. Councilor Benetti seconded the motion. City Clerk Joyce Jansen read the ordinance by title only and the Council was polled with the following results:

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

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Council Appointment to the Joint Coos Bay-North Bend TV Committee

Mayor Verger reported that she serves on both the Joint Coos Bay-North Bend TV and the Public Access TV committees and had previously requested she be replaced on the Joint TV Committee. Mayor Verger said had spoken with Councilor Weeks and she has agreed to serve on the Joint TV Committee. Councilor Combs moved to appoint Councilor Weeks to the Joint TV Committee. Councilor Williams seconded the motion which passed with the Mayor and all Councilors present voting aye.

Discussion - Policy for Paving Requirements

City Manager Grile reported the current ordinance gives staff the ability to be flexible and waive certain development requirements. He further reported the need for clarification of criteria and standards for paving requirements which would provide consistency throughout the city. Mayor Verger commented that certain standards are necessary for the city and noted that aside from appearance, there is also a safety factor to be considered. Councilor Combs said each situation should be reviewed individually, and he felt a display area could have different criteria than a parking area. Councilor Williams suggested the ordinance be rewritten establishing paving criteria and that the decisions be made by the Planning Commission. He cautioned that the ordinance not be too restrictive. Councilor Spangler agreed and suggested the ordinance be rewritten.

Carl Bock, Coos Bay, reported on development of an RV park on Ocean Boulevard. He said the estimate for paving the area was over \$8,000 and inquired if flexibility in the time to meet the paving requirements could be included in the ordinance.

Consensus of the Council was to direct staff to prepare an ordinance establishing paving criteria and standards, and require the decisions be made by the Planning Commission.

Public Comments

Bill Rosencrantz, Coos Bay, reported that three months ago he appeared before the Council to request the removal of trees located behind his building and he had been referred to the Tree Board. The Board met and the decision was not to remove the trees. He expressed concern about possible damage to the foundation of his building and requested an appeal of the Tree Board's ruling. Mayor Verger commented that previously his concerns were about the leaves on the roof and Mr. Rosencrantz responded he had recently checked into the roots of the trees. City Manager Grile said he was unaware of Mr. Rosencrantz's problem and did not know he would be appearing before the Council. Consensus of the Council was to set up an on-site meeting to look at the trees.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Grile reported a meeting with Front Street property owners was scheduled for May 28th and he would be meeting with Nikki Whitty, (CCD), Chris Claflin (OEDD), and Community Services Director Meithof to put together a Rural Investment Fund grant application. He noted the plan could cost as much as \$50,000 with perhaps a \$25,000 match. Mr. Grile reported

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there had been little progress on the plans for a parking structure; ODOT may be able to use the traffic model from the BATS study for the downtown traffic study; and the parking committee will be considering solutions for downtown parking. Mr. Grile commented that he was not successful in re-negotiating the lease with Southern Pacific and had signed the lease and authorized payment of the \$6,941 in arrears. He said the annual rent would be \$2,290. The City Manager and Community Services Director would be meeting with Steve Clay later in the week regarding the design for Mall Block IV. Mr. Clay has set Saturday, July 13th for taking public input from citizens. A meeting of the downtown signage committee has been set for May 31st. Councilor Benetti recommended moving forward on the RFP for a downtown parking structure and not include a traffic study in the RFP.

Council Comments

Councilor Weeks reported on attending the plumbers meeting and suggested Community Services consider putting out a newsletter for the building and plumbing contractors. Councilor Weeks commended staff for the projects they are currently working on and recommended catching up on current projects before starting any new ones.

Councilor Combs reminded everyone of the Chamber reception on May 23rd to introduce Kathi Joy, the new Chamber Director. Councilor Combs commended Crystal Shoji for her work with the Chamber and her contributions to the community. He recommended the Parks Commission review the proposed changes for photinia island. Councilor Combs reported the Parking Committee would be expanded and would be doing an inventory of downtown parking.

Councilor Spangler asked why the City had entered into an agreement with Southern Pacific and Councilor Combs responded the boardwalk project could not have been done without leasing the property. Councilor Spangler asked for clarification on the parking RFP and City Manager Grile said he would be proceeding with the RFP after the Council receives a report from the Parking Committee. Mayor Verger said people from the previous parking task force committee would be added to the current parking committee.

Mayor Joanne Verger reported on attending the League of Women Voters convention and the change of command at the Coast Guard Station. She commented that the high school band had performed for the ceremony and they were very good. Mayor Verger reported on receiving a number of complaints regarding the condition of the Bunker Hill area. City Manager Grile said it would be up to the County Commissioners to tighten down on their ordinance for blighted areas. Mayor Verger reported the Memorial Day parade would be on Saturday beginning at 11:00 a.m. and announced her intention of seeking re-election as Mayor.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Verger adjourned the meeting to May 29, 1996 at 4:30 p.m. at 262 Central Avenue.

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

ATTEST:

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