

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

October 15, 2013

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 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

Those Attending

Those present were Mayor Crystal Shoji and Councilors Mark Daily, Jennifer Groth, Stephanie Kramer, Gene Melton, John Muenchrath, and Mike Vaughan. City staff present were City Manager Rodger Craddock, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Finance Director Susanne Baker, Deputy Finance Director Amy Kinnaman, Library Director Sami Pierson, Community Development Director Eric Day, Public Works Director Jim Hossley, Acting Fire Chief Mark Anderson, and Police Chief Gary McCullough.

Flag Salute

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

Public Comments

No comments were given.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Shoji reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of 3a: approval of the minutes of October 1, 2013; 3b: acceptance of the September 2013 accounts payable and payroll check registers; and 3c: acceptance of the September 2013 combined cash report. Councilor Daily moved to approve the consent calendar approving the minutes of October 1, 2013, accepting the September 2013 accounts payable and payroll check registers, and accepting the September 2013 combined cash report. Councilor Kramer seconded the motion which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Daily, Groth, Kramer, Melton, Muenchrath, and Vaughan voting aye.

Presentation of the Annual Coos Bay Public Library Report by Director Sami Pierson

Library Director Sami Pierson provided an annual report on the Coos Bay Library. Total library inventory included: 120,742 items in print, 10,499 audio, 7,999 videos, and 47,156 downloadable items. During 2012/2013 the library had 188,219 visitors, 295,566 items circulated, 32,598 computer users, and 14,072 reference questions. Future goals for the Library included connecting with the community, varied programming, providing quality materials, and combining the traditional library with new approaches to service. Ms. Pierson extended a special thanks to the library board members, library staff, and volunteers.

Consideration of Approval of the Revision to the Empire Design Standards

Community Development Director Eric Day stated at the September 3, 2013 Council meeting, staff presented a revised draft of the Empire Design Standards; Council provided further direction to staff to further revise the ordinance. Staff completed the requested revisions to the

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ordinance for the Council's consideration and public hearing. Mr. Day briefly reviewed the changes to Empire Design Standards which included review options and a wider range of design to choose from. Mayor Shoji opened the public hearing. Mayor Shoji read a public comment received from Dick Leshley of Yellow Cab Taxi wherein Mr. Leshley stated he liked the two prong approach but noted a conflict in the landscaping requirements. No further comments were given and the hearing was closed.

Councilor Daily was discouraged by the lack of effort put forth in drafting the revised ordinance. Councilor Vaughan expressed concern about the integrity of unauthenticated design drawings. Councilor Groth suggested the purpose of revised ordinance was to provide flexible but cohesive design standards within the Empire district. Councilor Vaughan suggested there was a conflict within the ordinance regarding landscaping requirements. Councilors Daily and Kramer were in favor of maintaining the historical theme from the original ordinance. It was the consensus of the Council to remove "landscaped beds" from the list of site enhancements listed in the Site Details section of the proposed ordinance. Due to the timing of the published notice for the public hearing, the Council postponed consideration of enacting the draft ordinance until the November 5, 2013.

Consideration of Approval of the Revision to the Parks Master Plan

Public Works Director Jim Hossley stated during a September 19, 2013 joint work session with the Parks Commission, Council requested minor narrative clarification throughout the Parks Master Plan document along with adding two additional items to the plan: Map all recreational facilities in Coos County and provide a finance strategy for partnering or sharing resources. Mr. Hossley briefly reviewed the plan and stated the overall purpose of the plan was to establish a vision and set goals for the City's parks for the next ten years; noted the entire Parks Master Plan was dependent on funding.

Kristy Kelty, Coos Bay: spoke on behalf of Friends of Mingus Park; expressed concern about the health and safety of the wildlife at Mingus Park. Concerns included abuse of ducks and geese, overfeeding, the type of food being fed to the waterfowl, fishing on the lake, and off-leash dogs. Carlene Dater, Coos Bay: expressed support of the inclusion of a dog park in the Parks Master Plan. Laurie Hill, North Bend: also spoke in support of a dog park. Rondi Potter, Coos Bay: also supported the dog park; suggested it would help the local businesses and the local economy.

Mayor Shoji suggested including the following statement in the front of the Parks Master Plan: "Adoption of the Parks Master (aspiration) Plan does not guarantee implementation. Implementation of the plan, in whole or in part, is contingent upon available resources, e.g. grant funding for capital improvements and funding for ongoing maintenance of the current and proposed improvements to the City's park facilities and amenities." Councilor Vaughan was pleased with the priorities set forth in the Parks Master Plan; suggested expediting the implementation of waterfront access along the Boardwalk. Christine Coles spoke on behalf of the Parks Commission: stated the Parks Commission spent hours prioritizing the projects defined within the plan. Mayor Shoji inquired why the Visitors Center Plaza was not listed in the Plan; requested a Parks and Recreation District be listed as an option for funding.

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Councilor Groth moved to adopt the Parks Master Plan. Councilor Muenchrath seconded the motion. Councilor Groth amended the motion to include adopting the statement proposed by Mayor Shoji. Councilor Muenchrath seconded the motion as amended. A call for the question was made which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Daily, Groth, Kramer, Melton, Muenchrath, and Vaughan voting aye.

City Attorney's Report

No comments were given.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Rodger Craddock highlighted budget challenges within the City's General Fund; advised the phase two loan for wastewater improvements was approved, the City was awarded a \$750,000 grant with the remaining \$7,034,025 approved with the terms of 1% on a 20 year loan.

Council Comments

Councilor Muenchrath noted concern about comments that it was difficult to start a business in Coos Bay; requested a work session to look into the process for starting a business in Coos Bay; suggested the Council reconsider a bidding process for the construction of Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 (WWTP#2) as opposed to the approved CMGC process. Public Works Director Jim Hossley advised changing the wastewater project to a bid process would likely delay the bid for construction until next year. Councilor Kramer moved for the Council to reconsider the bidding process for the construction of WWTP#2 as opposed to the approved CMGC process. Councilor Muenchrath seconded the motion which failed with Councilors Daily, Kramer, and Muenchrath, voting aye and Mayor Shoji, Councilors Groth, Melton, and Vaughan voting nay.


Executive Session

An executive session was scheduled pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (i) for the purpose of evaluating the job performance of the City Manager. Councilor Kramer moved to postpone the executive session scheduled for the purpose of evaluating the job performance of the City Manager. Councilor Daily seconded the motion which carried with Mayor Shoji and Councilors Daily, Groth, Kramer, Melton, Muenchrath, and Vaughan voting aye.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Shoji adjourned the meeting. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for November 5, 2013 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Attest:



Susanne Baker, City Recorder



Crystal Shoji, Mayor