

# MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

January 4, 2022

The minutes of the proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon, held at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers, 500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon.

## **Those Attending**

Those present were Mayor Joe Benetti and Councilors Lucinda DiNovo, Drew Farmer, and Rob Miles. Councilor Carmen Matthews attended virtually by teleconference. Councilors Stephanie Kilmer and Sara Stephens were absent. City staff present were City manager Rodger Craddock, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Nichole Rutherford, Deputy Finance Director Melissa Olson, Deputy Public Works and Community Development Director/City Engineer Jennifer Wirsing, Fire Chief Mark Anderson, and Police Captain Mike Shaffer. City staff attending remotely by teleconference was Library Director Sami Pierson.

## **Flag Salute**

Mayor Benetti opened the meeting and led the council and assembly in the salute to the flag.

## **Public Comments**

Mayor Benetti read a statement regarding new public comment regulations.

Kamryn Stringfield, Coos Bay stated a group was formed called Coos County Neighborhood Watch and wanted to know why a vigilante group was formed. Police Captain Shaffer stated they were aware, were not encouraging, and were trying to mitigate and communicate with the group to be good witnesses if they see something to contact the Coos Bay Police Department.

## **Public Comment Form**

No public comment forms were received.

## **Consent Calendar**

Mayor Benetti reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of:

3a: Approval of December 21, 2021 Minutes

3b: Approval of December 28, 2021 Minutes

Councilor DiNovo moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Miles seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Matthews, Miles. Absent: Kilmer, Stephens.

### **Approval of Ziplly Right-Of-Way(s) Agreement**

City Manager Rodger Craddock stated Ziplly Fiber completed its acquisition of Frontier Communications Northwest operations in May of 2020. Telephone and internet services formerly provided by Frontier Communications in Coos Bay were now provided by Ziplly Fiber. City staff worked with representatives from Ziplly Fiber on a right-of-way (ROW) agreement which would allow Ziplly Fiber's use of the city's ROW for installation of a telecommunications network. This agreement coordinated with Coos Bay Municipal Code (CBMC) 13.20 Utility Franchises and Licenses, Ordinance 516 which established the fees associated with use of the city's ROW. The agreement was provided to Council for review.

Councilor Miles moved to approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. Councilor Farmer seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Matthews, Miles. Absent: Kilmer, Stephens.

### **Approval of Amended Skate Park Rules**

City Manager Rodger Craddock stated several months ago the Parks Commission was approached to change the park rules to allow mixed use of the Skate Park. The current rules, adopted in 2009, allowed skateboard use only. Other skates, scooters and bicycles requested lawful use of the park. The Parks Commission discussed this issue at their December 16, 2021 meeting, unanimously recommending Council allow multiuse of the skate park as long as the city could maintain insurance coverage. Staff reviewed the existing skate park rules and provided recommended changes with assistance of CityCounty Insurance (CIS) staff for amended language. Allowing mixed use of the skate park would raise the city's annual insurance premium with CIS an additional \$2,000 (currently roughly \$218 per year for single use) and there would be costs to update signs. City Manager Rodger Craddock stated it was cheaper to pay the additional insurance premium than try to enforce single use schedules for the multiuse.

Councilor Stephens provided a comment that AYA stated the skate park was not designed for scooters which was part of the need for the repairs and requested additional public input. Councilor Matthews, who was also a member of the Parks Commission, stated those who had recently repaired the skate park stated it was now safe and were in favor of multiple user types. It would wear the park faster, but it would not be in the near future. Council discussion ensued.

Councilor Farmer moved to adopt Resolution 22-01 amending the Skate Park rules. Councilor DiNovo seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Matthews, Miles. Absent: Kilmer, Stephens.

### **Award of Contract for the Collections and Maintenance Office Remodel Project**

Deputy Public Works and Community Development Director/City Engineer Jennifer Wirsing stated the collections and maintenance office at Wastewater Treatment Plant I was originally the sludge thickening room and was converted into an office and locker room in 1975. The office and locker room has exceeded its life expectancy and needed a remodel. The remodel would include replacing the interior stairs with exterior stairs. The existing stairs were known as ship stairs and overly steepened. The steep stairs do not meet current code and are hazard to traverse. This would free up floor space and allow for another bathroom to be constructed. The project would also include the construction of cleaning and storage

facilities, the replacement of leaking doors and windows, and the installation of new flooring.

In June 2021, the city retained architectural services from Crow Clay and Associates, and in December 2021 bids were received by Richards Remodeling for \$773,346.32 and Wildish for \$406,500.00. The architect estimate was \$300,000; however, the bidding market had been unpredictable the last year. If the contract was awarded, staff would work with the contractor to look for value engineering and cost savings opportunities. Staff recommended awarding the bid to Wildish for \$406,500 plus a 15% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$467,475. Funds for this project would come from the Water Quality Improvement Fund 29-810-530-3002 Plant 1 - Capital Projects.

Councilor DiNovo moved to award the construction contract for the Collections and Maintenance Office Remodel Project to Wildish for \$467,475 which included a 15% contingency. Councilor Farmer seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Matthews, Miles. Absent: Kilmer, Stephens.

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

City Manager Rodger Craddock gave appreciation for all City staff during the recent storm which caused wind/rain damage, with Public Works staff clearing roads and cleaning up damage overnight, along with the Police and Fire Departments dealing with downed trees, lines, and redirecting traffic; the previous weekend the combination of two of the three dispatch centers in Coos County was completed; and city staff would be verifying substantial completion of the Coos Bay Public Library roof.

### **Council Comments**

Councilor Matthews thanked City staff for all their efforts cleaning up after the storm. Councilor Farmer stated even with many trees down there were still a lot of trees in our area and Representative Boomer Wright sent two drafts of house bills for the state house to address mental health issues which were being provided to mental health professions for review. The biggest issue was Oregon's restrictions on when you could help people with mental health issues. Councilor DiNovo stated Council had agreed to have flags for the Coquille Indian Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians flown permanently on the boardwalk with the American and State flags, asked the status of the project, and wished everyone a Happy New Year with a better and more prosperous 2022. City Manager Rodger Craddock stated it had been delayed due to current priorities and would have staff address by February 2022. Councilor Miles stated the Library Steering Committee and architect consultant would be having two public meetings on January 12, 2022 at the Elrod Fire Station 2pm-4pm and in Council Chambers 6pm-8pm. Mayor Benetti thanked City staff on behalf of Council and citizens for all the hard work during the storm, wished everyone a Happy New Year, and read the letter posted by Beth Clarkson in the Coos Bay Downtown Association update.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting. The next regular council meeting was scheduled for January 18, 2022. These minutes were approved as presented by City Council on January 18, 2022.



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Joe Benetti, Mayor

Attest: Nichole Rutherford  
Nichole Rutherford, City Recorder