

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

August 17, 2021

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, Stephanie Kilmer, Phil Marler, Carmen Matthews, and Rob Miles. City staff present were City Manager Rodger Craddock, City Attorney Nate McClintock, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Nichole Rutherford, Public Works and Community Development Director Jim Hossley, and Police Chief Chris Chapanar. City staff attending remotely by teleconference was Community Development Administrator Carolyn Johnson.

5:45 pm - Council Interviews

Council interviews were held in the City Hall Conference Room for the council vacancy due to resignation of Councilor Marler. No decisions were made.

Flag Salute

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

Public Comments

Pam Connelly, Coos County - Ms. Connelly shared information about overdose awareness and the efforts undertaken locally to educate the community, including upcoming event at Kaffe 101 on August 24, 2021 and the celebration of International Awareness Day on August 31, 2021.

Manoocher Olyaei, owner of Pine Cove Estates located at 1432 Newmark Avenue addressed Council regarding his concern over his high billing from the Coos Bay/North Bend Water Board, specifically the monthly Transportation Utility Fee (TUF). Mayor Benetti shared process undertaken to establish the TUF amount and the benefit all citizens receive with the small fee each home and business pays, resulting in improved roads throughout the city.

Public Comment Form

No public comment forms were received.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Benetti reviewed the consent calendar which consisted of:

3a: Approval of July 27, 2021 Minutes

3b: Approval of August 3, 2021 Minutes

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

Presentation of the Coos Bay Downtown Association Semi-Annual Report

Semi-annual reports are a required component of the management agreement with the Coos Bay Downtown Association (CBDA), with the current agreement set to expire on June 3, 2024. Hollie Boardman, Executive Director of the CBDA shared an overview of the last six months, as well as upcoming events.

Mayor's Appreciation Award to Tristen Reasor

Mayor Benetti presented Tristen Reasor the "Mayor's Appreciation Award" in an effort to formally recognize him for leadership and supervision in the renovation and repairs of the Skate Park. Mr. Reasor and a small group of volunteers had worked over last couple of months, completing much needed repairs to the Skate Park. Well over 500 hours were donated by this group, with over half of those hours put in by Mr. Reasor.

Presentation of Appreciation of Service Plaque for Councilor Phil Marler

Mayor Benetti presented Councilor Phil Marler with a plaque honoring Councilor Marler's service to the City of Coos Bay and its citizens. Councilor Phil Marler served as a city councilor from 2016 - 2018, council president from 2018 - 2021, and as a city council representative on various boards during his term of office. Furthermore, he served on the Budget Committee from 2010 - 2016 and the Planning Commission from 1996 - 1999.

Consideration of City Councilor Appointment to Fill an Unexpired Term

Council President Phil Marler announced he would be moving from the Coos Bay area and would be stepping down from the Coos Bay City Council. Staff advertised the unexpired term opening and received applications and letter of interest from Richard Baxter, Jim Kingsley, Sara Stephens, and Wim de Vriend. Council members interviewed each of the applicants just prior to the start of the meeting. By action of Council ballot, the Council appointed Sara Stephens to fill the vacated position.

Revision to Department of Land Conservation and Development Grant Funding Application Related to Housing Needs Assessment

Council Goal 5, Economic Development, included: Explore the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and its relationship to possible annexation opportunities.

With Council authorization, the City had an opportunity to apply for DLCD funding for explore this project as an alternative to update to the 2020 Housing Needs Assessment. The application deadline to submit an alternative application was August 31, 2021. A Council letter of support was provided for review.

It was anticipated that if funded, the project assessment would include opportunities and constraints for future UGB and annexations, the City's criteria and expectations for new lands in the UGB and in annexed areas, Comprehensive Plan and Development Code update work and necessary information and requirements for future UGB and annexation applications.

Councilor Kilmer moved to authorize modification of grant application and issuance of letter for explanation of alternative project. Councilor Marler seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Kilmer, Marler, Matthews, Miles.

Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of Supplemental Budget - Approval Would Require Adoption of Resolution #21-22

It is anticipated during the fiscal year that several supplemental budgets will be brought forward for consideration to adjust the budget based upon operational needs. Reasons for a supplemental budget include appropriating grant funding not included in the budget, appropriating additional carryover balance from the prior fiscal year that was more than budgeted and are needed to meet operational needs, reallocating funds within categories, and appropriating new funds. The City has been awarded a \$25,000 Oregon Community Foundation grant to support Mingus Pool operations; and has been approved for a \$100,000 Business Oregon loan with an award of a \$100,000 matching grant to support repair and/or replacement of tidegate infrastructure. The City was previously awarded a Community Development Block Grant through Business Oregon for housing rehabilitation which was anticipated to have been fully expended during the 2020-2021 fiscal year, however, due to several challenges related to the pandemic and staff turnover at Neighborworks Umpqua (grant administrator), receipt and expenditure of grant funds will not be occurring until the current fiscal year.

Mayor Benetti opened the public hearing. No public comments were provided. The public hearing was closed.

Councilor Matthews moved to adopt Resolution 21-22 authorizing a supplemental budget appropriating additional funds for fiscal year 2021-22. Councilor Marler seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Kilmer, Marler, Matthews, Miles.

Consideration to Extend Marijuana Business License Moratorium

Community Development Administrator Carolyn Johnson shared that on March 2, 2021, Council extended a moratorium on new business licenses for marijuana businesses to September 1, 2021. Council also directed Planning Commission review and recommendations regarding Coos Bay Municipal Code (CBMC) 17.335.080, Indoor Marijuana-related businesses.

Notification to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) of proposed Development Code regulations is required 35 days ahead of the first public hearing on Development Code changes. The submission of notification on potential changes to DLCD was not timely. For this reason, the Council's first public hearing on the matter cannot occur until October 5; however the subject is also scheduled for Council's September 28, 2021 work session.

The moratorium on new marijuana business licenses was scheduled to expire September 1, 2021. Council should determine whether the moratorium should be extended until the public hearing process can be completed. If the Council takes action on October 5 to adopt and ordinance revising 17.335.080 regulations, the ordinance would go into effect on November 5.

Councilor Miles moved to extend the marijuana business license moratorium until November 5, 2021. Councilor Kilmer seconded the motion which carried. Ayes: Benetti, DiNovo, Farmer, Kilmer, Marler, Matthews, Miles.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Rodger Craddock shared the new consoles in the 911 Dispatch center are expected to be fully installed this week and training will soon follow; repairs to the Skate Park continue and are expected to be finished within next couple of weeks; the Mingus Pool project nearly complete with planned reopening of the pool by next week; 4th Street project is on schedule and expected to be completed by August 31, 2021; delay with the LED Streetlight replacement project due to supply chain delays and expected to be completed in early September; Englewood School cleanup project bid opening scheduled for August 31, 2021; and 891 Front Street building demolition award was awarded and contractor has 90 days to complete the project.

Council Comments

Councilor Miles shared an update on the Boys & Girls Club summer youth enrichment program which included STEM, music, dance, tennis, and gymnastics, and noted there are about 200-250 kids per day that participate in the program; Coos Bay library board meeting update on statistics- over 16,000 items checked out and 4,400 visitors; and thanked Councilor Marler for his years of service to the City of Coos Bay. Councilor Kilmer thanked the applicants for the open council position, great selection of candidates and willingness to serve; great to have Councilor DiNovo back for in person attendance; and thanks to Councilor Marler for his service and input, research and representation of the public voice. Councilor DiNovo thanked Councilor Marler for his service, ability to pull ideas together succinctly, and steady voice; and many thanks to Councilors and staff for the kindness and support provided during time of loss. Councilor Marler shared sadness for loss Councilor DiNovo recently experienced; diverse council has been an inspiration, providing refreshing ideas to move the city forward, especially in regards to infrastructure, with great strides in achieving that goal; appreciate staff support over the years; and important for public to know that reason for great staff is due to the City Manager's efforts of selection and mentoring. Councilor Matthews expressed thanks to Councilor Marler for his service and support, sharing great perspective and providing mentorship, will continue to contemplate 'what would Phil do'; wonderful to have Councilor DiNovo back at meetings; thanks to all volunteers who help the community thrive, including those repairing the Skate Park, the applicants for councilor opening; important we all remember to be thankful for those who step up and commit to service, its been tough couple of years for all of those in service positions, so remember to be kind; excited to hear the Mingus Pool is reopening and installation of basketball hoop; reminder Music on the Bay is underway. Councilor Farmer noted Councilor Marler would be missed, with his insight and research a vital element of the success of the council; shared all will miss Don Ivy and offered condolences to Councilor DiNovo for the loss; and discussed concern for those who oppose the wearing of masks putting others at risk, with just a bit of effort, discomfort, and compassion, we can all work toward mitigating some risk of COVID transmission. Mayor Benetti thanked Councilor Marler for his service to the community and will be greatly missed; appreciated the number of applicants interested in the open councilor position; shared was happy with the efforts to get the camping ordinance developed and enacted, providing tools to staff; asked about the progress of getting additional trash cans; and important to note that 4th Street would be complete before Councilor Marler leaves the community. Public Works and Community Development

Director noted that staff would be meeting with Mr. Craddock to review research, in order to provide summary of research to Council soon.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the council, Mayor Benetti adjourned the meeting. The next regular council meeting was scheduled for September 7, 2021. These minutes were approved as presented by City Council on September 7, 2021.



Joe Benetti, Mayor

Attest: 
Nichole Rutherford, City Recorder