

CITY OF COQUILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 7, 2007

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Steve Britton, Councilors: E.N. "Corky" Daniels, Kathy Hagen, Linda Short, Fran Capehart and Loran Wiese

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Terence O'Connor, Fire Chief Dave Waddington, Public Works Director John Higgins, Finance Director Chuck Dufner, Library Director Anne Conner, City Attorney John Trew and Deputy Recorder Rene Collins

PRESS: Alexander Rich The World

AUDIENCE: A roster of those present is on file in the City Recorder's Office

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Britton called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Councilor Capehart read a Proclamation urging the citizens of Coquille to support the VFW's efforts on behalf of veterans by purchasing and wearing the Buddy Poppies. Mayor Britton recognized the Proclamation. The Buddy Poppies will be sold on May 17th and 18th.

Mayor Britton appointed Sandy Gilliard to the Planning commission.

Mayor Britton serves on the Board of Directors for the South Coast Development Council, cities in the area are represented and everyone is leaning toward adopting a gas tax to help with the street repair fund. Councilor Short received 25 signatures supporting a .03 gas tax. The Mayor has asked about 50 people and only two individuals are against it. Councilor Short asked if a public meeting could be held later this month to review the process and answer questions. City Manager O'Connor asked if anyone had been interested in being on the committee, Mayor Britton said no most people said just do it. The idea of the committee was to have a public process to make recommendations as to which order the streets are to be repaired. Mayor Britton said the money needs to go to the streets that need it the most and the Public Works Director could decide in conjunction with the new water lines and the street condition report. Council would like to have a public meeting at the next council meeting regarding the gas tax.

4. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Hagen asked if someone who lives outside the city limits could be on the Parks and Recreation Committee? The City Manager said it has been policy in the past that you need to live within the City limits. Councilor Britton asked if we could make a policy that the committees could have one person at large from outside the city limits? City Manager O'Connor said yes if council wanted to set that policy. Councilor Short said the flower baskets would be hung the week of May 21st. The whiskey barrels and the old benches are being removed from down town. Councilor Capehart hopes everyone will consider attending the League of Oregon Cities conference from September 26th through the 29th, five councilors said they would attend. Councilor Capehart said there would be a food handlers test at Denny's on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. The River Walk Committee will meet on Thursday. Cody Waddington was nominated Mr. CHS. Councilor Wiese announced that there would be an Urban Renewal meeting Tuesday at 5:30 at City Hall.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Public Works Director Higgins said the Luba Remand appeal date is May 9, 2007. The Planning Commission will be meeting for a work session after Urban Renewal on Tuesday. Library Director Conner said the book sale was very successful and they raised over \$1,000. The City Manager announced that there had been 29 car vandalism reports with the estimated damages to be approximately \$50,000 and there was a break in at the High

School and other various issues on the weekend. Finance Director Dufner said the manager of the perpetual fund (trust fund) is retiring and being replaced.

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager O'Connor reported that most of the demolition is done except in the public works dept at the new City Hall Building. Some of the roofing is being removed and they are waiting for some beams. He gave his permission to do alternate #1 to the south wall because it was in very bad shape, which will increase the cost by \$9,800.00.

At the last Council Meeting staff was directed to seek the services from a planning professional to help with the possible partitioning of the GP site, Mr. Segal said the planning of the GP site might be included in the scope of work he is doing with the City and the Smart Code development. The State planner was not sure that it would be included in that contract, but said there may be another contract available.

Ms. Hallmark requested the closure of N. Baxter from 3rd to 5th Street to conduct the Cub Scout Soap Box Derby down Baxter on May 12, 2007.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Lowell Thomas, 854 N Elliot, gave council a letter from Robertson, Sherwood Architects on the pool project. The cost of the new pool is estimated between \$450,000-\$600,000. They committee is going forward with the initial design process which will cost between \$21,000 and \$28,000. He asked if Council had any design requests, they had none at this time. Councilor Capehart said that the meeting is at 1:30 on the Tuesday May 15, 2007. When the design is complete the committee will apply for larger grants.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A: City Council Minutes of April 2, 2007
- B: City Council Minutes of April 12, 2007
- C: City Council Minutes of April 23 28, 2007

Councilor Wiese made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Councilor Hagen seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

9. Smart Program

The Smart program is non-profit; they are invited to schools to help children who need one on one assistance. Community members volunteer one hour a week and the children receive 2 books a month to start their own library. At Lincoln Elementary School they serve 53 students twice a week. The children have received approximately 750 books to this point. The program is to help children succeed. Councilor Wiese asked what there budget was, the budget for Coquille was \$13,500 and due to the amount of students has increased to \$15,900. The cost is approximately \$300 per child per year. When a donation is made 80% goes directly to the child 10% to administrative and 10% to fund-raising.

10. Resolution 06-2007

Mayor Britton asked if the audience had any comments on this resolution. Mr. Thomas asked if this a continuation of building reserves to meet the debt requirements, the City manager said yes and we are about 1.50 away from where we need to be and the increase is built into the base rate. Councilor Wiese made a motion to adopt resolution 06-2007 amending the license, permits and procedures book and adopting new water, sewer rates for the city of Coquille and new rates for purchasing City water from a fire hydrant and authorizing the rates and fees contained therein. Councilor Daniels seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

11. Resolution 07-2007

City Manger O'Connor said the State gave the county authority to be the inspector, the counties resolution says the governing board needs to pass a resolution. Councilor Hagen made a motion to adopt resolution 07-2007 authorizing Coos County to provide regulation and licensing of food service facilities, tourist facilities and public swimming pool and spa facilities within the City limits of Coquille and granting enforcement authority for same. Councilor Capehart seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

12. Resolution 08-2007

Councilor Wiese made a motion to adopt Resolution 08-2007 extending the City of Coquille’s workers compensation coverage to volunteers of the City of Coquille. Councilor Hagen seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

13. Easement by Brian and Lesley Nelson of the Coquille Broiler

Attorney Trew said if you give an easement to the Nelson’s it would go with the property, and some may say that you are giving away the Cities property. He said the City could issue a license stating you may use the property as long as the city agrees and so fourth. Mayor Britton liked the idea of the issuing the license. Ms. Gilliard asked if the liability would still fall to the City, attorney Trew said yes. Councilor Wiese made a motion to approve staff’s recommendation to provide a license to the Nelsons for the use of City property for the wheel chair ramp behind the Broiler and to restrict the parking in front of the ramp. Councilor Hagen second the motion, all voted in favor

14. Franchise request by Comspan

The City Manager suggested that this be taken under review to address some additional issues and not act on it at this time. Councilor agreed and directed staff to address the franchise issue with Comspan.

15. Operation Coquille – Discussion concerning the development of the Coquille River Walk project

Mr. Thomas said the committee will meet Thursday afternoon and would like to have some direction from Council as to the work to be done this summer, the City Manger suggested looking at the stability of the trestle. The summer plan can be changed to include some protection to the top of the trestle from the elements of the weather. Mayor Britton asked what would the cost of the 4” concrete base and the safety rails would be for the trestle, Mr. Thomas said what ever is put on now will have to removed to install the roof. Mayor Britton asked if the timbers can be sealed, Mr. Thomas said the committee is relying on the architects and engineers suggestion. The committee would like to come back with a plan in June to Council. City Manager O’Connor said that this discussion may be premature because the committee has to decide if they are going to use the funds they have raised, which they would not have matching funds for grants. If the City is going to be the contractor there are wage issues and structural questions about the trestle. Attorney Trew said Council needs all the facts before making a recommendation.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660 (2)(E) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFERRING WITH THE PERSON DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNING BODY TO NEGOTIATE REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.

Mayor Britton announced that the City Council would meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(e) for the purpose of conferring with the person designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions. It was explained that representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend, but all members of the audience are asked to leave the room. The news media cannot report on the deliberations from the executive session and no decision will be made in executive session. The executive session was opened at 8:39 p.m. for discussion on the sale of the GP property. Executive session was closed at 9:40 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Mayor Britton adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Mayor Steve Britton

ATTEST: _____
Deputy City Recorder