

CITY OF COQUILLE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 5, 2003

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Steve Britton, Councilors: E.N. "Corky" Daniels, Kathy Hagen, Mollie Anderson, Fran Capehart, Janice Torbeck and Loran Wiese

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Terence O'Connor, Public Works Director John Higgins, Finance Director Sherri Flora, City Attorney John Trew, Accounting Technician Joni Donovan

PRESS: Robert Jump, Coquille Valley Sentinel
Amy Moss Strong, 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 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led those assembled in a flag salute.

2. DISCUSSION OF CITY WATER/SEWER RATES

Steve Major, representing Dyer Partnership, continued with his presentation from Monday night's Council meeting, detailing the Water and Sewer Rate Study results and the Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) concept. He stated that the current and the new rate systems are both based on consumption and that equivalent dwelling units are used to evaluate commercial flows in comparison to a single dwelling. The base for an average residential unit usage per month is 3,800 gallons and this threshold will change annually based on the winter average.

Discussion followed regarding commercial establishments and the calculation of units. Currently, per City ordinance a commercial establishment is charged 1 unit for each separate business or occupant. City Manager O'Connor stated that the number of situations similar to Judi Costello was insignificant compared to the overall commercial district. He suggested that the definition for units related to a commercial establishment be revised to reflect that one unit be charged for every establishment that has a separate, securable, lockable outdoor entrance. Councilor Anderson made a motion directing staff to redefine what constitutes one unit for a commercial establishment per City Ordinance Chapter 13.04. Councilor Torbeck seconded the motion, with all voting in favor.

Councilor Anderson made a motion to adopt the recommendation made by Steve Major to bill commercial users with usage less than 3,800 gallons based on consumption only and therefore not charge a minimum of 1 EDU. Councilor Torbeck seconded the motion, with all voting in favor.

Councilor Capehart made a motion to waive the current utility billing for Judi Costello, based on the revised calculation of units for a commercial establishment. Councilor Wiese seconded the motion, with all voting in favor.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Britton adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Recorder