

**CITY OF COQUILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 7, 2002**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Mike Swindall, Councilors: E.N. "Corky" Daniels, Kathy Hagen, Mollie Anderson, Bruce Parker, and Fran Capehart

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Terence O'Connor, Police Chief Mike Reaves, Public Works Director John Higgins, Fire Chief Dave Waddington, Finance Director Sherri Flora, City Attorney John Trew, Library Director Sharon Smith, Community Activities Director Ann Steeves

PRESS: Ed Wolfe, Coquille Valley Sentinel

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Swindall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Swindall led those assembled in a salute to the flag.

3. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Swindall read a proclamation for the Coos County Library District Month. Councilor Anderson made a motion to adopt the proclamation and thereby proclaim November 2002 as "Library District Appreciation Month". Councilor Daniels seconded the motion, with all voting in favor.

4. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Capehart stated that the GP site is looking good. Councilor Parker stated that the Oktoberfest had very good attendance.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Fire Chief Dave Waddington reported that it has been a busy weekend with fire and ambulance calls and power was out due to a blown transformer on South 6th. He stated that the Fire Prevention Open House will be held this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. and citizens are allowed to burn from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. Public Works Director John Higgins stated that after advertising in the newspaper and on the radio, the RV Sanitary Dump site was closed on September 30. Community Services Director Ann Steeves reported that she had recently returned from a couple of conferences. One of the conferences was the Rural Telecommunications Conference, which included other regional consortium and an opportunity to look at progressive projects and methods that other communities have used to implement broadband fiber optics to provide an economic development tool at an affordable price. She also stated that the City may have an opportunity for a grant through USDA Rural Development and she will be meeting with a representative to evaluate what the grant might offer to the community to bring broadband here. Ms. Steeves also reported that she had attended the Regards to Rural Conference talking about economic development and brought back some good marketing opportunities. She is also currently working on a brochure to market the Community Building. Library Director Sharon Smith thanked the Mayor and Council for their swift approval of the library proclamation and stated that the capability of having stable funding over the last 10 years has allowed the libraries in the county to provide an excellent level of service to all residents. She stated that they will be promoting our library services and that there is much to be proud of, including the fact that Coquille's circulation has increased 20% over the past 10 years. In addition, last year 2,814 items were added to our collection, which

is 50% more than items added in 1992. She commented that given the increase in costs of materials, the libraries are well managed and able to keep up with the times and they want to thank all the members of the community and taxpayers of the Coos County. Police Chief Mike

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Reaves reported that the Traffic Safety grants have been renewed for 2002-03 and amount to \$4,500 for overtime costs. He stated that his department is still one officer short as Lt. King is on vacation and will return the end of the month. Finance Director Sherri Flora reported that two auditors from Moss Adams had begun our annual audit process today and she expects that process to be completed by the end of the week. She also introduced the City's new utility billing clerk, Traci Weston, and requested that Councilors complete and submit to her the registration for the League of Oregon Cities conference to be held November 8-10.

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager O'Connor presented his report to Council reporting on the following:

- GP access road
- GP site plan
- GP street lighting

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Pat Sheeley, 285 N. Baxter requested that Council consider parking in front of residence without being cited. Councilor Parker stated that this was a reasonable request. Consensus was reached that this matter would be referred to the Public Safety Committee, with a report to Council at the next meeting. Mr. Sheeley also stated that the parking citation amount should be increased from the current \$5.

Lee Sparks, ODOT representative, stated that he had provided photographs to Council at a previous meeting and requested input from Council on the interpretive plaque. Councilor Anderson stated that she would follow-up with Councilor Wiese on this project. He stated that he had also met with City Manager O'Connor and asked for a definition of the gear box and has faxed a letter to Salem. There are several gearboxes and he requested that Council locate the photographs and then a circle could be drawn around the specific gearbox.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council minutes of September 3, 2002
- B. Special City Council Minutes of September 10, 2002

Councilor Anderson made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Councilor Daniels seconded the motion, with all voting in favor.

9. WATER BILL DISPUTE – GARY MERCER

Gary Mercer, 190 E. 3rd, presented information regarding the water bill at his rental unit and requested an adjustment. Mr. Mercer questioned the beginning read on the newly installed meter and the increased consumption. Councilor Hagen made a motion to deny the adjustment request. Councilor Daniels seconded the motion, with all voting in favor.

10. REPORT BY CITY ENGINEER ON DEQ MANDATED SEWER ISSUES

Steve Major, Dyer Partnership, presented his report on DEQ mandated sewer issues. Several weeks ago Dyer Partnership smoke tested the City to identify areas where water can get into the sewer system. 170 leaks were identified; including 96 service laterals, which if fixed would result in a reduction of flows in the system. The ultimate goal of eliminating those flows is to downsize the treatment plant, which in turn decreases the costs of the wastewater treatment expansion. As part of the improvements that have to be completed to the wastewater treatment plant, City needs to also look at eliminating these leaks. Mr. Major and Mr. Higgins need to review the report, determine cost estimates and which leaks City staff can fix and which will need to be fixed by a contractor.

In addition, the City and DEQ are in the process of entering into a Mutual Agreement and Order. One of the conditions of that MAO is for the City to monitor raw sewage that is being discharged to the river during high flows. DEQ is asking the City to put in a bypass line, which would ultimately benefit the City because it would quantify the flows and help determine the size of the treatment facility. Mr. Major stated that costs were originally estimated at \$120,000 and have been revised to \$92,000.

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Mr. Major requested authorization from Council to proceed with this project so that it can be completed before the rains begin. City Manager O'Connor recommended that staff compile additional information to present to Council at a special meeting prior to granting authorization on the bypass line project. A special meeting was set for 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 11.

11. 2002 NEEDS AND ISSUES INVENTORY – LOCAL PRIORITY LIST

Community Services Director Ann Steeves discussed the 2002 Needs and Issues Inventory – Local Priority List. Councilor Anderson moved to accept the 2002 Needs and Issues Inventory as presented by staff. Councilor Capehart seconded the motion, with all voting in favor.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Swindall adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Recorder