

CITY OF COQUILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 7, 2013

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Rowe, Council President Loran Wiese, Councilors Susan Heaton, Fran Capehart, Dave Chappelle, and Linda Short.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Ben Marchant, Finance Director Dufner, Police Chief Blue, Fire Chief Waddington, Library Director Conner, Planning - Public Works Director Urban, City Recorder Collins, and City Attorney Trew

PRESS: None

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

Mayor Rowe opened the work session at 6:05 p.m.

Mayor Rowe closed the work session at 6:35

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Rowe said it has been an eventful month. He said the Coquille Chamber – Coquille River Walk Wine and Art Auction was a great event on Friday.

Mayor Rowe attended the League of Oregon Cities Conference (LOC) and our City won a Gold Safety award due to the low rate of injuries during the year 2012-2013. City Manager Marchant said the department supervisors should receive recognition for promoting a safe work environment for the employees. Mayor Rowe said the conference was productive and it was a great opportunity to attend the classes and the workshops and to have the opportunity to network with other mayors and councilors.

4. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Heaton said she attended a couple of the Garden Club Meetings. She attended the Coquille Chamber – Coquille River Walk Wine and Art Auction and thought it was fun with Councilor Wiese as the auctioneer. She thought the LOC Conference was very well attended and organized. She got lots of ideas; she would like to see a high school representative attending the council meetings, a dinner or tour boat on the river, a passenger train to Eugene, a panel on economic development and the Emergency Management Team to address issues for when the “big one” comes.

Councilor Wiese said the first ever Coquille Chamber – Coquille River Walk Wine and Art Auction was fun. Wes Whittman donated art to be auctioned off and a portion of the proceeds were donated to the Coquille River Walk.

Councilor Chappelle said the LOC Conference was amazing and he learned a lot of things.

Councilor Short said she also enjoyed the LOC Conference and learned a lot and toured the Pearl District in Portland. She also attended the Coquille Chamber – Coquille River Walk Wine and Art Auction and thought it was well attended and the event was good. She reminded others that December 7th is the Christmas Tour of Homes and the Episcopal Church will have 15 table settings for viewing and a craft bazaar.

Councilor Capehart said she attended her 16th LOC Conference. The conference was very informative and she learned so much. The interaction and networking with other city officials is so valuable. She toured the Oregon Historical Museum which included a display of presidents which was wonderful. The Coquille Chamber – Coquille River Walk Wine and Art Auction was fun and well attended and both groups made money. The next event is Halloween for the Children in Coquille which will be hosted by the Coquille Chamber.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Fire Chief Waddington said there were no changes to his report. He said it is Fire Prevention week, and he invited everyone to the Fire Prevention Open House this week on Wednesday at the Fire Department.

Library Director Conner said one of the staff members is receiving an 8 week Emergency Preparedness training class offered by FEMA and will be sharing the information with staff. Trivia Night is November 2, with the cost of \$10 a person.

Police Chief Blue said the police department has been very busy, but they do check on the elderly on a daily basis, and because we are a small community they are also animal control. Council received copies of the police department's press releases. Councilor Capehart said she is very proud of Officer Smith; he was being called names by a young man at the court house and he acted in a very professional manner through the incident. Councilor Heaton asked for a summary of the continuous arrests of the same people so the citizens know.

Planning - Public Works Director Urban asked for some direction about item #3 in regards to the alley that is between the 700 block of Collier and Dean Streets that was going to be blocked. The surrounding property owners talked to the actual property owner of 787 N. Dean and she would like to exchange a right of way in the alley for a right of way on 8th Street which would leave the lot the same size. Councilor Wiese said this is the first time he assumed that Jan Torbeck had the go ahead from the home owner, and he thinks this should be a lesson to make sure that we are talking to the person who can make the decisions. Mayor Rowe asked if Planner - Public Works Director Urban was looking for a motion or direction. Urban said he wanted direction to speak with the owner of the property. Councilor Wiese thought we had given them a special provision for parking a few years back so we need see if that agreement is still in place. Councilor Short asked where the exchange property is located; Public Works Director Urban said it is on the north side of the house (8th Street). The exchange would allow the alley to be 10 foot wide.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to enter into negotiations with Frances Torbeck about a property exchange. Councilor Chappelle seconded the motion. Councilor Heaton said she wants to make sure that the situation stays calm for all parties. All council members voted in favor. Attorney Trew advised Council to proceed with caution as he first wants to check to determine the legal owner of the property. He asked if there is a trust and does someone have a power of attorney from the owner.

Councilor Heaton asked where we are in the process for demolishing the 4th Street house, Planner - Public Works Director Urban said he is waiting on bids and the project could be done by the end of the month.

Councilor Chappelle said the VFW requested flag holes to be drilled by the clock and Subway on Hwy 42 and North Adams. Planner - Public Works Director Urban said to have the VFW call him.

Finance Director Dufner said the investment account is earning 3.74%. Our auditors delayed the audit for a few weeks and we will be upgrading our software and hardware in a few weeks.

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Marchant said everything is going well. He just returned from the Oregon's Main Street Conference which a lot of cities are participating in this program to help with downtown revitalization activities. Coquille is already doing many of the things to keep our downtown vibrant; for example flower baskets, poetry boxes, and festivals. The events speak of pride, volunteerism and the spirit in the Coquille community. There were a lot of good ideas on how to make things more attractive to pedestrians. He also announced that after 18 months of negotiations with the Police Officer's Association there is a police contract, for which he thanked Chief Blue, Officer Henthorn and Doug Luce, representative of the Fraternal Order of Police Union, for all their work.

He said later on the agenda is a surplus request for the old merry go round and he would like to see it donated to the Carousel Association so they could make a mock carousel for display.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Robert Lance 74 W. 1st, owner of Boblins, invited everyone to come downtown and shop. He has bought the building next door and is planning on fixing it up. He is concerned that if the homeless lady sleeping in front of his business falls off the bench and hurts herself that he will be responsible; he requested that the issue of people sleeping on benches be addressed. He had security cameras installed, but he can't get an answer on what constitutes theft and he was referred to the District Attorney's office. He is concerned about the building across the street falling down and causing damage to his buildings. He asked who would be responsible for the damages, and suggested there needs to be rules for buildings in the city and for people sleeping downtown. Councilor Short feels that Mr. Lance has brought up some good concerns.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

- City of Coquille Council Meeting Minutes September 16, 2013

Councilor Capehart made a motion to approve the consent calendar as presented. Councilor Short seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

9. LABOR CONTRACT FOR COQUILLE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

City Manager Marchant said this was a team effort and they are pleased with the results and the major changes are listed in the packet. A lot of the changes were in contract language and the change of recognizing 12 hour shifts. Councilor Heaton said the contract looks fine except for the wording needs to refer to men or women. Councilor Short asked if they would receive a 16% raise over the next 4 years, City Manager Marchant said yes and they could also receive an additional 2% for certification completion. The officers lost value in the change of insurance due to a change in unions. Councilor Chappelle asked if the increase will bring the wages to a competitive amount, City Manager Marchant said yes. Marchant said this contract will help retain quality officers and set a new direction for the morale, vision and mission of the department, and a change in the culture. He thanked Chief Blue for her tireless effort over the past couple of years as the morale is improving and it will continue with the quality of the Police Department. Chief Blue said that she recognizes Mr. Lance's concerns and hopes that conversation was with a previous officer.

Councilor Heaton made a motion to accept the labor contract for the Coquille Police Officer's Association Fraternal Order of Police. Councilor Chappelle seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

10. ORDINANCE 1489 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF COQUILLE MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 10, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

Planning Public Works Director Urban said this ordinance was prepared along with a resolution as the code requires. The ordinance lets it be listed in the code book and the resolution lets it be put in place.

Councilor Heaton made a motion to have Ordinance 1489, an ordinance adopting amendments to the City of Coquille Municipal Code Title 10, Vehicles and Traffic be read by title only. Councilor Short seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

Councilor Heaton made a motion to adopt ordinance 1489 adopting amendments to the City of Coquille Municipal code title 10, vehicles and traffic. Councilor Wiese seconded the motion.

Councilor Heaton - Yes
Councilor Wiese - Yes
Councilor Chappelle - Yes
Councilor Short - Yes
Councilor Capehart -Yes
Mayor Rowe - Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

11. RESOLUTION 21-2013 A RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO TRAFFIC AND PARKING IN THE CITY OF COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY, OREGON

Planning - Public Works Director Urban said this resolution is required by code to make the change affective.

Councilor Heaton made a motion to adopt resolution 21-2013 pertaining to traffic and parking in the City of Coquille, Coos County Oregon. Councilor Wiese seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

12. RESOLUTION 22-2013 A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF SUCH PROPERTY.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to adopt resolution 22-2013 declaring certain personal property to be surplus property and providing for the disposition of such property. Councilor Chappelle seconded the motion. Councilor Short asked if it was given to the Carousel Committee what it would be used for. City Manager Marchant said it would be placed in the Carousel shop as a display with carousel animals and act as a possible photo opportunity. All council members voted in favor.

Councilor Chappelle made a motion to give the merry-go-round to the Carousel Committee. Councilor Wiese seconded the motion, Councilor Short voted no, all others voted in favor.

13. PUBLIC WORKS STREET EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Planning -Public Works Director Urban said he was looking at a boom truck and chipper that looks like it would fit the needs of the City. He has not received a call back at this time from the owner of the equipment. Urban said the one that we looked at in Central Point was not acceptable. This item would be checked out before it was purchased. City Manager Marchant said without the authorization from the Council we can't negotiate the purchase of the equipment.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to authorize the purchase of a boom truck and chipper not to exceed \$31,500. Councilor Short seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

14. BIOSOLIDS DEWATERING FACILITY PROJECT ACCEPT ALL BIDS

Planning & Public Works Director Urban said we received the following bids on the biosolids dewatering facility project:

Wildish Building Company - \$195,400

Laskey Clifton - \$275,000

Councilor Wiese asked about the timing of this project. Steve Major, Dyer Partnership, said it was separated because Wildish Building Company did not want to extend the Waste Water Treatment project contract to include the Biosolids Dewatering Facility project due to additional bonding costs. The City did receive funding on this project from the DEQ. The City is purchasing the equipment at the cost of \$253,500 and the installation cost at low bid is \$195,400.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to accept the following bids for the Biosolids Dewatering Facility project; Wildish Building Company \$194,500, Laskey Clifton \$275,000. Councilor Heaton second the motion, all voted in favor.

15. BIOSOLIDS DEWATERING FACILITY PROJECT AWARD CONTRACT

Councilor Wiese made a motion to award the Biosolids Dewatering Facility project to Wildish Building Company in the amount of \$195,400. Councilor Chappelle second the motion, all voted in favor.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Rowe adjourned the council meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Executive session

Executive session – pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Mayor Rowe said the City of Coquille Council will meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (h), which allows the council to meet in executive session to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive's session; all other members of the audience are asked to leave the room. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during the executive session except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No decision may be made in executive session at the end of the executive session, we will return to open session and welcome the audience back into the room.

Mayor Rowe opened the executive session to order at 8:16 p.m.

Mayor Rowe closed the executive session at 8:27 p.m.

Executive session – pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations

Mayor Rowe said the City of Coquille Council will meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (d), which allows the council to meet in executive session to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. Designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive's session, all other members of the audience, representatives of the news media and audience are asked to leave the room. No decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, we will return to open session and welcome the audience back into the room.

Mayor Rowe opened the executive session to order at 8:27 p.m.
Mayor Rowe closed the executive session at 8:45 p.m.

17. Regular Session

Mayor Rowe opened regular session at 8:45 p.m.

Councilor Short is concerned about what Mr. Lance said during the regular session of the Council meeting and asked how to answer his questions about Bill's Place building, security in his business, the homeless staying on the benches, and if the Council should adopt new rules and regulations. Councilor Heaton said that he has said people do try to avoid the person on the bench and walk on the other side of the street. Councilor Heaton wants to encourage him to keep his business and to fix the downtown buildings. Attorney Trew said that there is no answer to the homeless problem. Councilor Chappelle said if she is not a danger to herself you can't do anything. City Manager Marchant said you have staff to research these issues and come back with possible solutions. Chief Blue can address the security in town, the dangerous building code it is up to the council how much they want to deal with. Public Works Director Urban said there is State Building Codes that can deal with some of the issues. Councilor Short said State Building Codes should be checking on these issues, Councilor Wiese said that anyone can call building codes if they have a question. After further discussion it was decided Planning - Public Works Director Urban would contact Mr. Marca to see where he is in the process with the Bill's Place Building.

Mayor Rowe closed the regular session at 8:50 p.m.

Mayor, Matt Rowe

City Recorder, Rene Collins