

**CITY OF COQUILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 1, 2010**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Steve Britton, Councilors E.N. “Corky” Daniels, Loran Wiese, Linda Short, Fran Capehart, Bruce Parker and Matt Muenchrath.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Terence O’Connor, Public Works Director John Higgins, Library Director Anne Conner, Police Chief Mark Dannels, Finance Director Chuck Dufner, City Attorney John Trew

PRESS: Coquille Valley Sentinel, The World Newspaper

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

1. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

2. MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Mayor Britton said he enjoyed the 125th birthday celebration at the community building.

3. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Capehart said there were 250 guests at Coquille’s 125th Celebration; the leftover food was donated to the Seniors Meal Program. Councilor Capehart thanked the committee and said they were great to work with.

Councilor Short said there will be a Pool Committee meeting with the architect on Tuesday March 2, 2010 at 1 p.m. at the Community Building to review the pool design. She thanked Dave Waddington and Ken Heaston for putting up the banners at no cost and they look very nice. On March 14th the planting of the flower baskets will take place at 2:00 pm. at the flower shop next to Curves and everyone is invited to help and they also need volunteers to help water in the morning and the evenings and any donations are appreciated.

Councilor Wiese said it was a pleasure to be the master of ceremonies for the 125th Celebration and wanted to thank Councilors Capehart and Short, Molly Anderson and Anne Conner for all their work.

Councilor Daniels said the program at the 125th celebration was great and there was a good turn out and it made him feel young again.

Councilor Muenchrath agreed Saturday was fun and it was great to visit with everyone.

4. STAFF REPORTS

Fire Chief Waddington thanked everyone who attended and supported the 15th Annual Pancake Feed, and they will be able to donate \$1,200 to the Children’s Burn Center and have donated \$25,000 over the past fifteen years.

Public Works Director/Planner Higgins said he did not have anything to add to his report. Council Parker asked what the State Marine Board would like to do at Sturdivant Park. Higgins said they would overlay three parking lots and the entry way.

Library Director Conner said she had nothing to add to her report.

Chief Dannels said the reports in the packet are from the CMI system and he will be utilizing the system to provide better information.

Finance Director Dufner said he is working on the budget.

5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager O'Connor said Robin Miller is working on a new presentation for the River Walk to the State Parks on March 15, 2010. Rick Goche and Steve Martizia will be making the presentation. Representative Krieger made an inquiry as to why the project has not been successful in receiving funding and he was told that the grant committee felt the matching dollars were shaky and that the plan for the river walk was not part of the comprehensive plan. O'Connor said these items are addressed in the presentation.

Budget work is being done and a five year trend is being reviewed on each fund and the general fund continues to have a declining fund balance through the 2015-2016 budget year. Staff is working on ways to deal with the difficulties starting this year and to continue in future years.

The South Coast Cruiser have requested to block off 1st Street from Adams to Birch Street during the Gay Nineties Celebration on June 5, 2010. Councilor Parker made a motion to allow the South Coast Cruisers to block off 1st Street from Adams to Birch during the Gay Nineties Celebration on June 5, 2010 from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Councilor Wiese seconded the motion; all voted in favor. O'Connor said it was noted in the letter they would not have a cruise in 2010.

City Manager told Council that he would not be at the April council meeting as he will be out of town for his mothers 80th birthday.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council minutes February 1, 2010
- B. City Council minutes February 9, 2010

Councilor Wiese made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Councilor Daniels seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

7. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

None

8. REQUEST BY CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS FOR A FRANCHISE EXTENSION UNTIL A NEW FRANCHISE CAN BE NEGOTIATED

City Manager O'Connor said Charter Communications wants to extend the franchise agreement until the end of the year or until a new franchise can be negotiated.

Council Muenchrath made a motion to approve the extension of the Charter Communication franchise until December 31, 2010. Councilor Wiese seconded the motion; all voted in favor,

9. DISCUSSION ON INSTITUITNG BUSINESS LICENSES

City Manager O'Connor said the following cities use a business license to generate the following dollars: Brookings \$56,000, Reedsport \$17,000, Port Orford \$2,000, Gold Beach \$36,000 and Coos Bay \$85,000. Councilor Parker does not feel that the business people should have to pay another fee. Councilor Capehart said that the hotel owner and RV park owner said the fee should be shared with all the business and the City needs funds to help promote the area. O'Connor said the dollars will go into the general fund and the money can be put into a special line item for a particular project. Mayor Britton said he is in favor of it because it is minimal fee and could create a list of contacts for police and fire. Councilor Parker said each realtor would have to pay a fee from his office and thinks it is fair. Attorney Trew said a business license tax is a tax it is not to help the Police or Fire Department because it could be liability if the information is wrong. Councilor Muenchrath asked if we are just trying to generate more funds and what will the funds be used for. He likes a detailed plan with a goal. Councilor Muenchrath thinks the businesses need to be invited to speak before the business license tax is voted on. Councilor Wiese said there would be a line item for the income and Council can chose where to spend it during the budget process. Councilor Daniels is opposed to how the proposal is written because those with liquor license pay a fee and are registered; it really is a tax. Mayor Britton thought it could just use the information to aid the fire and police departments. Councilor Capehart said she feels that would help keep business legitimate in our area. City Manager O'Connor said it will not protect the citizens against receiving a poor quality job; it is only a revenue producing fee. Attorney Trew said it is a tax, that the City will not check on these businesses. Mayor Britton said he feels Council should think about the tax and talk with the local business owners about their feelings and put it on the agenda for May. Councilor Wiese said he has spoken with five business and they

would be willing to pay the fee if they are going to get something from it. Kelly Thompson and Jean Ivy said they feel as long as the fee is moderate and there is an accountability of the funds. Councilor Parker said maybe the Chamber of Commerce should raise their yearly fee to help with the advertising. Councilor Muenchrath said that it is important for people to know what the money is going to be used for if a tax is mandatory. Councilor Wiese said that we need to have a plan and sell it to the businesses, and listen to the businesses and how they feel about it. City Manager O'Connor said there are approximately 130 commercial accounts in the water system and which would calculate to \$4,500 of income a year.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Britton adjourned the Council Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor, Steve Britton

ATTEST: _____
Deputy Recorder

URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
March 1, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wiese called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. URA minutes February 1 2010

Member Daniels made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Member Capehart seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

3. REQUEST BY BOB TAYLOR FOR 50% COST SHARING ON REVITALIZING THE COQUILLE VALLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM AT 153 N. CENTRAL BLVD

Mr. Taylor, property owner and member of the Coquille Valley Museum (CVM), gave a brief history of the museum and how their operation runs. CVM is requesting \$10,000 to help repair the back wall and there are several other minor repairs that need to be done. Mr. Taylor has contacted several contractors and they referred him to Glenn Stoops. Mr. Stoops has been in business for over 19 years and has inspected the building and estimated repairs to the wall and floor at \$20,000. After the repairs, Mr. Taylor would give the museum a long term lease. The URA would like to see either more estimates or letters declining to bid and a more detailed description of the problems and repairs to be done.

4. DISCUSSION ON ADDITIONAL CURA PROGRAM POLICES AND PROCEDURES

Chairman Wiese said last month and this month there have been requests for money to help with more than a façade improvement, the requests are for repair and new construction. Wiese thinks that a new list may need to be developed based on a survey. Albany allows for inside improvements and equipment. Some districts offer partial loans with documents. O'Connor has made a form for ranking projects that can be used for finding of facts which will show how the project meets the standards. Chairman Wiese said a sub-committee should be formed to talk with O'Connor about making recommendations. Member Muenchrath and Britton and Chairman Wiese will serve on the committee. Member Britton asked if there were any restrictions to fixing property and then selling and making more money. In reality it needs to increase tax value, and it does not matter who owns it. Chairman Wiese will call members Briton and Muenchrath to setup meeting time.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wiese adjourned the Council Meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Chairman, Loran Wiese

Secretary, Rene Collins