

CITY OF COQUILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 6, 2011

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Matt Muenchrath, Council President Loran Wiese, Councilors E.N. “Corky” Daniels, Linda Short, Fran Capehart, Tim Spanberger, and Bryan Baird.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager O’Connor, Finance Director Chuck Dufner, Interim Police Janice Blue, Fire Chief Dave Waddington, Library Director Anne Conner, City Attorney John Trew and Deputy Recorder Rene Collins.

PRESS: The World

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Muenchrath said he was glad to see the sun and he enjoyed the gay 90s.

4. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Spanberger is excited to see the pool opening on 6/16/11.

Councilor Baird said he participated in the teenopoly and it was a good event. Baseball season is about over and will be planning other activities for the summer with the kids.

Councilor Short said the Coquille Garden tour will be on July 9, 2011, there are eight different gardens with entertainment and music at Ernie’s Barn. The proceeds will be donated to the covered playground and the River Walk projects. There are still days available for the free swim for the pool; the cost is \$400 a day.

Councilor Capehart went to California for the holidays.

Councilor Wiese said Public Works Director and Planner Higgins will be missed. He enjoyed Gay 90s and the pancake feed was good. Councilor Daniels said the Kiwanis will give three scholarships from the pancake feed proceeds.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Library Director Conner said there is fabulous summer reading program and when you sign up you can register for a savings account for college lottery drawing. The programs will be on Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00 and there will also be three additional days of entertainment. Dora the Explorer will be hidden around the library and prizes will be given.

Fire Chief Waddington said Oregon Volunteers Fire Fighter notified him that Eric Bue is one of the finalists for the Oregon State Volunteer Fire Fighter of the year.

Interim Police Chief Blue said the Gay 90s was very quiet as was the graduation all night graduation party.

Mayor Muenchrath asked about the docks at the Sturdivant Park. Public Works Director Higgins said the walking docks are pulled up because they are not floatable. City Manager O’Connor said that they should be repaired and put back in the water in August.

Finance Director Dufner said the corporate bonds are yielding a return at 5.28%. He announced there is an agenda item requesting a change in the budget calendar due to other conflicts.

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager O'Connor said the Boy Scouts are requesting to block off N Baxter from 3rd Street to 5th Street on Saturday June 5th from 9:00 a.m. to noon for their annual soapbox derby. Councilor Capehart made a motion to allow the Boy Scout Troop to block off N Baxter from 3rd Street to 5th Street on Saturday June 5th for their soapbox derby. Councilor Wiese seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Julio Valera has requested a liquor license. He will be operating the Colonial Mexican Restaurant (formerly El Paradiso) at 1220 W. Central Blvd. The police department has completed the background check and found no negative results. Councilor Wiese made a motion to recommend approval of the Liquor License request by Mr. Valera. Councilor Spanberger seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

City Manager O'Connor said the City and ODOT enter into a flexible service maintenance agreement which allows the City to contract with ODOT for maintenance work, which usually means center and fog lane painting on Central. Councilor Wiese made a motion to authorize the Mayor Muenchrath to sign the Flexible Service Maintenance Agreement with ODOT. Councilor Short seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

The City received the final notice to proceed with the first portion of the River Walk path. The bids will go out and hopefully the work will start in September 2011. There will be a gravel parking lot that will be outlined with curb and gutter. There will be a paved brick pathway from that parking area which is off of Cedar Street to the trestle. The trestle will be redecked and a paved walkway from there to South Mill Avenue.

City Manager O'Connor read his following thoughts about Public Works Director/Planner Higgins

This item is one which is difficult to express adequately. This will be the last regular council meeting in which John Higgins will be the City's Public Works Director.

I cannot think of words to express my heartfelt joy and sadness for this moment, joy for having been fortunate to have known John and served with John in service to Coquille, sadness in knowing that when I come in the office at 7:30 in the mornings, that John (who had been at work since 6:30) will not be there to greet me and share a moment or two of time to either bring me up to date on an emerging or concluding issue, or more importantly to reconnect as teammates in sometimes stressful occupations.

For the better part of 42 years, John unstintingly gave of himself for the betterment of the Coquille and her citizens. John was always available for working on a problem day or night, weekday or weekend.

But even as the melancholy which comes with the realization that John is leaving the daily rhythm of work of the City, joy manifests itself once again as I know John will now have the time to do those things which he finds pleasure in....his children and grand children, riding his motorcycle deep into the forests he so loves, fishing and hunting, although he will be the first to admit all the wild creatures he hunts and fishes for are perfectly safe when he is after them.

In the past we have had proclamations celebrating John's service to the City, we have presented plaques to him in commemoration of his service to the City and community but I think the best honor one could achieve is to count John among your friends and to have John count you among his. And because of John's nature, there are many in this community who can count on being both a friend to and a friend of John Higgins.

Words fail me and rather than go on and embarrass both myself and John, I will end with thank you John for your service, your commitment to Coquille, your passion for the job and for your friendship to me.

O'Connor said Joe Slack from HGE is here to review with the Council some additional thoughts and visuals on the possible entry way signage for N. Adams and Hwy 42. The property line goes from the corner of the car repair shop diagonally through the center of the storage shed to E. Main Street. Mr. Slack showed a drawing of a design with a 6' wall with trees behind and a planter bed in the front with a seating area. Cement can be stamped to give it depth or the City's name can be in raised letters. Mayor Muenchrath would like to hear from the community how they feel about the project and the cost. City Manager O'Connor said that a public hearing could be held and he hopes it will be a story in the local news. Councilor Wiese asked in the pricing the project if it could be done in stages; Mr. Slack said yes. City Manager O'Connor said there is an ODOT entryway program which could contribute money to the project and URA funds will be used to pay for the project. Council directed staff to get cost estimates and have some discussions with ODOT on their thoughts.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Muenchrath called for any public participation, with the person stating their name and address.

Felix Millan, 326 N Adams Street, provided copies of his current water bill. He has lived in the area for eleven years and moved in May 22, 2011. The bill period was from April 7 thru May 16, 2011 which had zero consumption with a charge of \$48.40. He was directed by staff to bring his concerns to Council; he feels people should not have to come to council that they should be able to speak to someone in the water department. He was not aware that part of the \$100 he paid was non-refundable and it was an account maintenance fee. Finance Director Dufner said he opened his account in April and there is a \$25 account fee maintenance fee, and \$75 deposit required for renter to receive service. City Manager O'Connor said that the charge is a minimum bill and the usage could be up to 999 gallons. Mayor Muenchrath said that because you had access to the water, he feels that he should have received a bill.

Ms. Ethel Petry, Shelly Rd, asked if the road lines will be put on this year and City Manager O'Connor said they should get us the next time. Ms. Petry said when she sees the cars on the corner at the repair shop she feels someone is working and earning a living. Mayor Muenchrath explained that sometimes people judge the City by how its businesses look. She would like to something like redwood posts with vines growing on it in the entrance design.

8. CONSTENT CALENDAR

- City Council minutes of May 2, 2011
- Annual Amendment for Library Services

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

9. PUBLIC HEARING – RATE ADJUSTMENT WADSWORTH SANITATION

Mayor Muenchrath opened the public hearing at 8:21 p.m.

Our franchise agreement requires that we hold a public hearing if there is to be a rate change, the proposed rate change is 75 cents per month in residential rates and \$4-\$5 per month in most commercial rates depending on the size of the container. The first rate change is a cost of living adjustment. The last was 5 years ago. The second was the household hazardous waste program that the county is putting in place. The Household hazardous waste program will be open to residents year round.

Mayor called for any public comments; there were none. The public hearing was closed at 8:25.

10. RESOLUTION 11-2011 A RESOLUTION CHANGING THE RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES AND APPROVING A RATE INCREASE FOR THE FRANCHISE HOLDER

Councilor Wiese made a motion approving resolution 11-2011 changing the residential and commercial garbage collection rates and approving a rate increase for the franchise holder. Councilor Spanberger seconded the motion; all voted in favor

11. ADOPTION OF REVISED BUDGET CALENDAR FOR YEAR ENDING 2012

Finance Director Dufner said the meeting date would change from June 13th to June 20, 2011 due to a conflict with the Planning Commission meeting.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to revise the budget calendar as presented. Councilor Short seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

12. RESOLUTION 09-2011 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INCREASED LOAN AMOUNT OF THE CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING LOAN NUMBER R24293 TO \$7,122,846 AND INCREASE THE LOAN RESERVE TO \$240,476.

Finance Director Dufner said during the review process USDA determined the City would need an additional \$186,406 to complete the sewer plant project.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to approve resolution 09-2011 authorizing the increased loan amount of the clean water state revolving loan number R24293 to \$7,122,846 and increase the loan reserve to \$240,476. Councilor Spanberger seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

13. RESOLUTION 10-2011 A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF SUCH PROPERTY

Fire Chief Waddington said the 2000 ambulance is being replaced by the 2010 and the funds received from the sell will go back to the reserve equipment fund.

Councilor Spanberger made a motion to approve resolution 10-2011 declaring certain personal property to be surplus property and providing for the disposition of such property. Councilor Capehart seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

14. RESOLUTION 12-2011 A RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO TRAFFIC AND PARKING IN THE CITY OF COQUILLE, COOS COUNTY OREGON

Mayor Muenchrath said that a letter was received from Lorene Darling requesting to reconsider parking resolution on N. and S. Vernon Street.

City Manager O'Connor said the portion of Vernon that she is concerned about is only a half width street and near her house is a gang mail box center. The neighbors are blocking her driveway while checking and reading their mail. The ordinance says "no parking on the street" it would now say no parking on the dedicated portion of North Vernon Street. If the resolution is adopted the signs can be adjusted, which will cost the city approximately \$200.00.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to adopt resolution 12-2011 pertaining to traffic and parking in the City of Coquille, Coos County Oregon. Councilor Daniels seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

City Manager O'Connor said Councilor Short is going to Sunriver to give a presentation to Oregon State Parks requesting \$279,000 for the pool. If the funds are granted it will finish what is needed to start the project.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Muenchrath adjourned the meeting at 8:40

Mayor, Matt Muenchrath

Deputy Recorder, Rene Collins