

CITY OF COQUILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 1, 2010

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

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Terence O’Connor, Public Works Director John Higgins, Finance Director Chuck Dufner, Police Chief Dannels, Fire Chief Dave Waddington, City Attorney John Trew and Deputy Recorder Rene Collins.

PRESS: Coquille Valley Sentinel and Coquille Today

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 the pavement has been redone at Sturdivant Park it has been raised by about 10”.

3. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Muenchrath said it has been a good month and encouraged everyone to vote. Councilor Parker said the paving on SE Third is wonderful and it is a huge improvement to the City. Councilor Short said the Ford Foundation granted \$250,000 for the pool project and they still need to raise a couple of hundred thousand dollars; they have raised one million dollars. The Coquille Sentinel has asked her to prepare a calendar of events taking place in the City during November and December so if anyone has something, let her know; it will be in the paper twice a month. Councilor Capehart is hoping to have another gazebo in the park. Christmas in Coquille will be Saturday December 4th including the lighted parade. Councilor Capehart would like to use some of the money budget in council goals to help purchase lights and decorations for the community building. Councilor Short made a motion to spend up to \$750 for the community building decorations. Councilor Parker seconded the motion; Councilor Muenchrath and Wiese opposed the motion; all others voted in favor.

4. STAFF REPORTS

Police Chief Dannels and the Police Department presented a plaque to Paul Jackson owner of Figaro’s Pizza for all he does for the community.

Police Chief said it is busy time of year with the Haunted house which raised \$2,000. The Senior Class and the Leadership Group helped with this project. The proceeds will be divided among them and Shop with the Heros Program. Last year the Shop with the Heros Program helped over 200 children and raised \$13,000. This year we hope to make it bigger and better. Chief Dannels challenged all the council members to participate in the lighted Christmas parade on December 4th and he would provide the trailer and truck. City staff put together a grant request for security improvements from CIS and received \$10,000. The improvements will include panic buttons and new back door on the police department.

Red Ribbon Week, last week, the Police Department participated in a dodge ball tournament with the high school kids.

The Girls Soccer team will be heading to Marshfield on Saturday and the boys will play at home on Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

Chief Dannels provided a presentations about the police department. It included highlights of their leadership, standardization, training, retention, incentives, and call statistics.

Current issues:

- Recruitment and retention concerns have become a competitive challenge
- Coquille officers are the lowest paid in the County

Proposal:

- Increase officer salaries to meet competitive local market standards; \$300 month increase
- Adjust the current overtime budget by \$10,000
- Part-time sworn officer 20 hours a week – primary responsibilities would encompass community service needs and shift coverage
- Administrative support 20 hours a week

Mayor Britton asked what ideas he has for funding this requests; the Chief said he and the City Manager have discussed a tax levy and he feels it might be supported.

Councilor Muenchrath asked what the dollar amount would be. The Chief said compensation is \$18,000 plus an addition 40% for the PERS. City Manager said it would cost the city \$635,000 for five years, which calculates to one dollar per thousand for a tax levy. City Manager O'Connor said if you cut funds in other areas of the general fund it would have to be parks and finance administration. Councilor Wiese said we need to ask the community what they are willing to do for safety and the standing in the community of the Police Department is very high but what happens after the five years? Mayor Britton said the Council supports the Police Department and we need to ask the people what they think. Councilor Wiese said it amounts to approximately \$150.00 per year per house owner. City Manager O'Connor said he will come up with a more definitive number and bring those numbers back to Council.

Tim Spanberger, 959 N. Folsom St. Coquille, asked if any kind of contract is signed for two year commitment from the officers we send to the academy; Police Dannels said yes there is one in place, but he is not sure how sound they are.

Planner Higgins said the projects that are being worked on at this time is paving at Sturdivant Park and SE Third Street and Central Street Waterline. Some citizens have shown concern about the corners at the bottom of SE Third and the City has paved from property line to property line.

Fire Chief Waddington worked in the haunted house with a lot of the kids that are here tonight and they did a great job.

Finance director Dufner said the investments accounts are still doing well. The published budget was distributed to council.

5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Submitted a letter of interest to the State Parks Department for funding an additional \$200,000 on behalf of the Coquille River Walk projects, the project would pave approximately 4800 feet of River Walk on the GP property. The matching funds could come from general fund or URA.

Attached is copy of the memo to the Council regarding staff's analysis of the request by Jan Torbeck with respect to the alley behind her step mother's house on the corner of Dean Street and 8th Street.

There have been several discussions over the past months with the City Engineer regarding the best and most cost effective method of dealing with the solids at the proposed waste water plant. The solids could be hauled away as we do now or find approximately 80 acres to spread the solids over during the dry season which means storing it during the rest of the year or process it so it becomes a class A material which turns it into dirt and anyone can handle it. The most cost effective is to hall it away as we do now, the second is to turn it into Class A material which will add an additional million dollars to the cost of the plant.

The Coquille Softball Club is seeking information about potential funding for their project. City staff is supportive of the idea of making better use of Sturdivant Park and partnering with others, but further information is needed before the City can make a decision. City Manager O'Connor suggested the project be turned over to the Parks and Recreation committee which includes staff participation.

Traci Gederos volunteers for the girls' softball club which consists of girls 14 and under. The club has had a difficult time playing at Sturdivant park because of the flooding. There were over fourteen teams and half of the games had to be rescheduled and some were played at other fields. Johnson Rock volunteered the dirt that they will be moving from the hospital excavation and they would mound the fields at no cost, which would help with the standing water issue. City Manager O'Connor said there is a process and would require permits because it is in a flood way. DSL will need to be consulted and there may be some concern about the type of soil. Traci Gederos provided a map of the layout and there would still be soccer fields. Ms. Gederos said that top soil would be placed on top of the mounds. Councilor Muenchrath would like to have staff find out if the project is viable.

Terry Craig suggested leveling the field and compact and that may not require a permit. Ms. Gederos said the fields need to be mounded to help with the drainage.

Councilor Muenchrath asked if Ms. Schiller had received a letter in response to her request regarding burning and smoke issues in the City. City Manager O'Connor said he had not replied to her letter. Councilor Muenchrath made a motion to direct staff to send Ms. Schiller a letter stating that we are not interested in placing a ban on wood burning stoves. Councilor Parker seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Diane Courtright, 30 E 1st, said there will be an open position on council when Councilor Muenchrath become Mayor and would like know how that would be handled. The charter states that Council accepts applications and then Council appoints a person to finish the term.

Dan Hampton from Coquille High School thanked everyone for being patient with the students tonight and it is important for the kids to see government in action. He also thanked everyone who helped with the Homecoming parade.

Jim Owen, 473 W 17th, stated that a friend told him that an employee was fired from public works for stealing gas for the past 2 years. Attorney Trew said the matter has been forwarded to the District Attorney. Mr. Owens asked if the employee was able to resign from his position, City Manager O'Connor was not able to answer this question. Mr. Owen read two letters of support and asked the Council to consider the inconsistencies of the two incidents.

Attorney Trew said that there are no provisions for appeal to the City Council for a person's job. Mayor Britton said that he does not want to continue to have discussions about personnel issues. Mr. Owens said he is going to fight for his job. Councilor Wiese told Mr. Owen said he needs to find out what hurdles there are and go that way.

Attorney Trew said that we can't have people coming and talking about other employees and their situations; it can create misinformation and confuses people. Attorney Trew said it would be appropriate for the Mayor to ask people not to engage in these types of topics.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. City Council Minutes of October 4, 2010

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

8. REQUEST BY FAWN FOR USE OF COQUILLE COMMUNITY CENTER ON MARCH 13, JULY 17, AND OCTOBER 2, 2011.

Councilor Muenchrath made a motion to approve the request by FAWN to use the Coquille Community Center on March 13, July 17 and October 2, 2011 at no charge. Councilor Daniels seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

9. REQUEST BY COQUILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR USE OF THE COQUILLE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR CHRISTMAS IN COQUILLE SATURDAY DECEMBER 4, 2010.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to approve the request by the Chamber of Commerce for use of the Coquille Community Center for the Christmas in Coquille Saturday December 4, 2010 at no charge. Councilor Muenchrath seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

10. REQUEST BY BETA SIGMA PHI COQUILLE COUNCIL FOR USE OF ENTIRE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THEIR VALENTINE BALL SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2010

Councilor Short said that the proceeds from the Valentine Ball will benefit Coquille Community Pool Fund and feels the project is always a success.

Councilor Wiese made a motion to approve the request by Beta Sigma Phi for use of the entire Community Center for their Valentine Ball on Saturday February 12, 2010 at no charge. Councilor Daniels seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

11. ACCEPTANCE OF AMBULANCE BIDS

Chief Waddington said the advertisement advertised for bids a new Type III Ambulance and one bid was received.

H&W Emergency Vehicles bid was \$126,441.00

Councilor Wiese made a motion to accept the bid from H&W Emergency Vehicles in the amount of \$126,441.00. Councilor Daniels seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

12. AWARD OF AMBULANCE BID TO H&W EMERGENCY VEHICLES

Councilor Wiese made a motion to award the contract to H&W in the amount of \$126,441. Councilor Muenchrath seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

13. APPROVAL OF IGA WITH SCINT

Councilor Wiese made a motion to approve the intergovernmental agreement with SCINT for 2010. Councilor Short seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

14. RESOLUTION 16-2010, A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE LICENSE, PERMITS AND PROCEDURES BOOK AND ADOPTING NEW SEWER RATES FOR THE CITY OF COQUILLE AND AUTHORIZING THE RATES AND FEES CONTAINED THEREIN

Councilor Wiese made a motion to adopt resolution 16-2010 amending the license permits and procedures book and adopting new sewer rates for the City of Coquille and authorizing the rates and fees contained therein. Councilor Parker seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Mayor Britton recessed the council meeting at 8:36 p.m.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION – ORS 192.660 (1) (e) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFERRING WITH PERSONS DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNING BODY TO CONDUCT REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Mayor Britton announced that the City Council would meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (e) for the purpose of conferring with persons designated by the governing body to conduct real property transaction and 192.660 (2) (h) to consult with Counsel with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. It was explained that representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend, but all members of the audience are asked to leave the room. The news media cannot report on the deliberations from the executive session and no decision will be made in executive session.

Mayor Britton opened executive session at 9:03 p.m.

Mayor Britton closed executive session at 9:20 p.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Britton asked where the City was in the process with Code Red; City Manager O'Connor said that we have sent information to them and they are waiting for a response from Frontier.

Councilor Short asked what is the next step in the goals setting process. City Manager O'Connor said we need to stop making goals and start working on the agreed upon goals. O'Connor said the next step is to prioritize goals at the next planning session.

Mayor Britton adjourned the Council Meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Mayor, Steve Britton

ATTEST: _____
Deputy Recorder

URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
November 1, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wiese called the Urban Renewal Agency meeting to order at 8:48

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. URA Agency Minutes of September 20, 2010

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

3. REQUEST BY COQUILLE VALLEY MUSEUM FOR ADDITIONAL PROJECT FUNDING

Patty Strain, 95196 Sitkum Lane Myrtle Point, She said that Bob Taylor, the owner of the Coquille Valley Museum building, asked the URA for ½ of the funds for the repair project on the building. The project has run over the projected cost estimates due to the additional helical piers for the amount of \$8,000. The Engineers recommend that the basement be filled with poly styrene blocks and over laid with plywood, steel plate and concrete which will increase the cost \$9,000. They are requesting an additional \$8,624.00. Executive Director O'Connor said that the URA' cannot supplant funds that have been donated to the museum. URA could pay one half of the remaining \$7,340 that remains to be paid.

Member Britton made a motion to pay an additional \$ 3,670 for the Coquille Valley Museum project. Member Short second the motion; all voted in favor.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wiese adjourned the Urban Renewal Agency meeting at 9:02.

Chairman, Loran Wiese

Deputy Recorder, Rene Collins