

MINUTES

Eugene City Council
McNutt Room--City Hall

June 25, 1996
11:30 a.m.

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Tim Laue, Laurie Swanson Gribakov, Shawn Boles, Pat Farr, Kevin Hornbuckle (after 11:55 a.m.), Barbara Keller, Nancy Nathanson, Jim Torrey.

I. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND TIME ESTIMATES

Mr. Laue moved, seconded by Ms. Swanson Gribakov, to approve the agenda and time estimates as presented. The motion carried unanimously, 7:0.

II. ITEMS FROM THE MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER

A. Allegations About Hyundai Restructuring

Mr. Laue said the council needed to discuss allegations about the restructuring of the Hyundai company, and impacts on the current plant under construction. Ms. Norris agreed to send information to the council.

B. Fire Station #10

Ms. Nathanson acknowledged the work of staff who set up the opening ceremony for Fire Station #10, which she noted would be renamed for the neighborhood.

C. Citizen Requests

Ms. Nathanson suggested that the City Manager consider how she and other councilors could be notified about requests that go directly to staff, not necessarily each one, but particularly those with significant neighborhood or work program impact, or indicating a trend. Ms. Norris agreed to speak to Executive Managers about how to set up such a notification mechanism.

D. Contingency Fund

Mr. Torrey asked for a list of requests/allocations for contingency funding for the past fiscal year to provide a structure for a council discussion of future requests.

E. Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWWC)

Mr. Torrey expressed concerns about system development charges (SDCs) as they relate to wastewater treatment. Ms. Norris agreed to schedule a briefing session on this issue.

F. Hyundai and SDCs

Ms. Keller said she shared concerns expressed by Mr. Laue and Mr. Torrey. She asked that no contracts be signed until after the council could discuss the issues. Ms. Norris said there was no deadline for contracts, but there were consequences in waiting. City Attorney Glen Klein confirmed that one ramification of waiting would be that fees would be based on the methodology in place at the time of application, rather than any new methodology that might be adopted. Ms. Swanson Gribakov flagged the issue of signing an administrative rule about SDC funding. She suggested the issue was time-sensitive, since it affected the fee structure.

G. Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority (LRAPA)

Mr. Boles announced that all participating jurisdictions had been asked to comment on their relationships with LRAPA. He said it would not happen immediately, but he was working on a statement.

H. Signs and Mural Code

Mr. Boles asked for clarity on the distinction between signs and murals. He stated that the content of a mural, as art, should be irrelevant.

I. Public Bicycles/Key Vaults

Ms. Keller noted that a newsletter from the League of Oregon Cities outlined a program in Copenhagen for free public bicycles. She expressed interest in looking at the aspects of the program, particularly directional beepers installed in the bicycles, which could be significant to the current bicycle theft problems in Eugene. Ms. Keller also mentioned the use of key vaults for senior citizens to allow emergency personnel access in case of an emergency.

J. Public Forum

Mr. Farr expressed an interest in discussing structuring public forums so that people who speak get a fair and uninterrupted hearing. Ms. Swanson Gribakov observed that the Citizen Involvement Committee (CIC) was reviewing the rules for public forum, and suggested that Mr. Farr's observation had been added to that review.

K. Emergency Service Center

Mr. Farr said he was pleased the council had approved funding for the Highway 99 Emergency Service Center, but asked that the council discuss needed funding for the First Place Family Center as well.

(Mr. Hornbuckle joined the meeting at 11:55 a.m.)

L. Public Service Officer

Ms. Swanson Gribakov expressed appreciation for the "quality, objective" work of departing public service officer Sue Collins.

M. Drug Activity

Mr. Hornbuckle announced that drug dealing at 5th Avenue and Adams Street was again on the rise.

N. Tours

Mayor Bascom announced that two tours were being scheduled: 1) the University of Oregon housing units on Friday, and 2) the materials recovery center in Glenwood (to be scheduled at the convenience of council).

O. Bicycle Thefts

Mayor Bascom stated that the time line for work on bicycle thefts appeared too late for the height of the season, when students return to school.

P. Human Powered Parade

Mayor Bascom expressed disappointment that the police officers at the human powered parade were on motorcycles, rather than bicycles.

Q. Signs on Buses

Mayor Bascom asked that the issue of signs on buses be flagged for discussion.

R. Bach Festival

Mayor Bascom announced that the Bach Festival had been expanded this year.

S. Responses from City Manager

Ms. Norris responded to some of the issues raised. She reported that the large signs on LTD buses adhered to the sign code ordinance. Ms. Norris agreed to send information to the council about the mural ordinance. She also said she would provide detailed information about the SDC issues as soon as possible, and would discuss shortening the time line for bicycle theft response with staff.

III. ACTION: PLANNING COMMISSION FY 97 WORK PLAN

Mr. Laue moved, seconded by Ms. Swanson Gribakov, to approve the Planning Commission FY97 Work Plan.

Ms. Keller expressed appreciation for the time to review the work plan. She asked whether the multi-housing tax exemption program was being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Planning Director Jan Childs responded that this issue had not been referred to the commission, although historically the commission had been involved in review of changes to the multi-unit tax exemption program. Planning Commission Chair Scott Meisner suggested the commission would welcome the opportunity to review the program.

Ms. Swanson Gribakov suggested that the council move forward on the tax exemption program review, referring it to the Planning Commission only if needed. Ms. Keller agreed.

The motion carried 7:1, with Mr. Hornbuckle voting in opposition.

IV. WORK SESSION: EUGENE LOCAL AREA STREET PLAN

Ms. Childs stated that the purpose of the work session was to review the Planning Commission recommendations prior to the July 8 public hearing. She noted that the agenda memorandum included all questions received so far, encouraging councilors to submit any further questions to her.

Ms. Nathanson expressed appreciation for the "excellent" quality of the report, particularly beginning with the principles. Ms. Nathanson said she was specifically interested in principles #11 and #14, regarding private streets and the use of parking bays.

Ms. Keller said she had several questions which she would discuss with Ms. Childs, so as not to take up council time. Ms. Keller said she was pleased with the flexibility of standards, which she said represented a substantial change in the attitude toward streets. Ms. Keller also expressed concern that allowing private streets added potential for gated communities.

Mr. Farr asked about the standards for the design of private streets. Ms. Childs responded that there were currently no requirements, but they would be added. She noted that if the commission's recommendations were enacted, private streets would be an exception. She did note, however, that there were no restrictions about gates. Mr. Farr asked for information about maintenance of existing streets. Ms. Childs answered that information about maintenance could be added as an appendix to the plan. Mr. Farr said he would refer the rest of his questions directly to Ms. Childs.

Mr. Torrey emphasized the need to notify stakeholders about the upcoming public hearing. He stressed the importance of a clear document that would become "the" street document in the City. Mr. Torrey asked about the use of traffic calming devices in relationship to the plan.

Mr. Boles stated that the principles in the plan answered the issues noted in the materials. He suggested it was unnecessary to call out the issues, since they would be answered by the adoption of the principles. Mr. Boles suggested the principles be provided as information at the public hearing.

Ms. Swanson Gribakov applauded the flexibility of the plan. She suggested adding an appendix about existing streets to the document so the information could be found in one place.

Mayor Bascom expressed agreement with the concepts of reducing street widths and setbacks for sidewalks. She suggested caution about grade restrictions.

Mr. Hornbuckle expressed appreciation for the format and principles of the report. He asked about including requirements for traffic-calming devices.

Ms. Nathanson asked for a summary of staff responses to letters included in the agenda material. She also asked how the plan would be implemented. Ms. Childs noted that extensive outreach had been done for over a year with the development community to ensure awareness of proposed changes. She said staff would continue to provide information as the plan is implemented.

Ms. Keller asked for additional information about commercial and industrial streets.

In summary, Ms. Childs said the Planning Commission hoped for council action prior to the summer break. She asked councilors to retain their copies of the document for the hearing. Ms. Childs acknowledged the work of Allen Lowe, Project Manager, as well as all those listed on the inside cover, particularly Jerry Jacobson, Dave Reinhard, Joe Ferguson, and David Boverman.

V. WORK SESSION: PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND NATURAL AREAS STUDY

Public Works Director Chris Andersen, Eileen Argentina, Public Works Engineering, and Steve Gordon, Lane Council of Governments, reviewed the report. Mr. Gordon particularly pointed out highlights of the report, such as the key guiding principles on page 13, the inventory in Chapter III, and the keys to the report in Chapter VII, and Table #10. Mr. Gordon said that besides acquisition, other methods of protecting natural areas had been explored, such as donations, exchanges, inter-agency cooperation, and regulation. He pointed out that one of the critical concepts of the study was connectivity.

Ms. Keller expressed appreciation for the report. She emphasized the need to move forward in a timely way, and argued against waiting for the completion of the Growth Management Study. Mr. Torrey agreed with the need to move ahead. He asked for an analysis of using tax abatements. Ms. Nathanson called the report excellent. She suggested adding an element that explores the use of land in public ownership, such as schools and EWEB, that are not necessarily dedicated to public use full time. Ms. Nathanson asked how these lands could be included as public open spaces.

Mr. Boles agreed with the need to move forward with the recommendations. He stressed the concept of connectivity, but said it was hard to visualize with the maps provided. Ms. Swanson Gribakov

praised the report, but expressed concern about the potential costs. She asked that the recommendations be grouped into phases or smaller pieces for review. Ms. Swanson Gribakov also expressed particular interest in interjurisdictional efforts such as Bethel schools which are being built around a park for shared use. Mayor Bascom also expressed interest in the connectivity issues. She suggested a large block of time at the trimester session to discuss this issue.

Mr. Hornbuckle said the report was good, but that it ignores the need of the council to discuss fair taxation to implement general government programs such as public safety, social services, transportation, and capital improvements. He said the council should be discussing all the funding needs and how to address them. Mr. Farr appreciated the report, asking for follow-up on the issue of intergovernmental participation. He reiterated the example of Bethel schools and parks and expressed an interest in pursuing similar programs. Mr. Farr also supported a balanced approach, including discussion of safety in existing parks.

VI. LORANE HIGHWAY ASSESSMENT PROJECT

Ms. Andersen reminded the council that the issue was back for closure. She briefly reviewed the history as outlined in the agenda memorandum.

Mr. Laue called this a "lose-lose" situation, referring to opposition from residents and from staff to find a compromise position. However, Mr. Laue said given the opposition, he supported using the funds for more pressing road projects.

Mr. Laue moved, seconded by Ms. Swanson Gribakov, not to initiate the Lorane Highway project, and direct staff to negotiate with Lane County to redirect the funds elsewhere in Eugene.

Ms. Keller argued that this was not a "lose-lose" resolution. She said she was convinced that upgrading the roadbed would increase speeds and safety hazards. However, Ms. Keller said she supported the idea of an area transportation study.

Ms. Swanson Gribakov said she appreciated the safety issues brought up by staff, but did not want to "shove the project down the throats" of the residents. She said she had been prepared to support a compromise position, but would vote with the majority of the council.

Mr. Farr agreed that Lorane Highway was a beautiful route and supported maintaining its character. He asked whether alternate routes were adequate. Ms. Andersen responded that the area was basically in-filled, and Chambers and Willamette streets formed the corridor arterials. Mr. Farr commented that the resolution sounded more like "win-win" to him.

The motion carried unanimously, 8:0.

Ms. Keller moved, seconded by Mr. Hornbuckle, that staff initiate a transportation study of the Lorane/Crest/Storey area and bring back a scope to council for review.

Ms. Nathanson asked that the study include alternate modes. Ms. Swanson Gribkov asked for information about costs and timing.

The motion carried 7:1, with Mr. Boles voting in opposition, stating that he would prefer a study be citywide.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda H. Norris

Linda H. Norris
City Manager pro tem

(Recorded by Hannah Bradford)
cc113026.066

MINUTES

Eugene City Council
McNutt Room—City Hall

June 26, 1996
1:15 p.m.

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Tim Laue, Laurie Swanson Gribakov, Shawn Boles, Pat Farr,
Kevin Hornbuckle, Barbara Keller, Nancy Nathanson, Jim Torrey

Her Honor Mayor Ruth Bascom opened the meeting.

I. APPELLANT HEARING FOR INITIATIVE BALLOT TITLE CONCERNING REVISION OF CITY CHARTER TO IMPOSE ON EWEB'S SALE OF WATER AND ELECTRICITY

City Attorney Glenn Klein informed the council that Mr. Dave Sweet had requested a ballot title identical to the one already adopted by the council except for the noted date change. Mr. Klein said as far as he was aware, Mr. Sweet had not withdrawn the original initiative for which the previous ballot title had been issued.

Mr. Sweet handed a document to a representative of the City Recorder's Office, stating that he was withdrawing the original initiative at this time.

Mr. Boles moved, seconded by Mr. Torrey, to approve the new ballot title.

Mayor Bascom announced the appellant, Mr. Dave Sweet, would be allowed two minutes to speak.

Mr. Sweet asked that the council refer the initiative directly to the November ballot.

Ms. Keller objected to the process, noting that the council was obliged to take this time once again for no purpose other than to give Mr. Sweet his "air" time and that his remarks were not pertinent to the wording of the ballot title. Ms. Nathanson agreed, noting that there was no substantive difference in the title than in the one already approved.

The vote on the motion was 4:4, with Ms. Nathanson, Ms. Keller, Mr. Farr, and Mr. Laue voting in opposition. Mayor Bascom broke the tie by voting in the affirmative, passing the motion 5:4.

The meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda H. Norris

Linda H. Norris
City Manager pro tem

(Recorded by Hannah Bradford)
cc11526.066