

M I N U T E S  
JOINT MEETING OF  
VENETA CITY COUNCIL AND  
LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

at Veneta Community Center  
25192 East Broadway Avenue - Veneta, Oregon  
7:00 p.m. - Monday, June 25, 1990

PRESENT: LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - WILLIAM ROGERS, CHAIRMAN  
ELLIE DUMDI; JACK ROBERTS

ALSO: Jim Johnson, County Administrator

PRESENT: VENETA CITY COUNCIL - J. W. "BILL" SMIGLEY, MAYOR  
ALYCE LLOYD, AL STARNES

ALSO: Dan J. Dean, City Administrator  
Shirley M. J. Overed, City Recorder  
J. Kenneth Jones, Veneta City Attorney

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Mr. Smigley and Mr. Rogers both called their respective Council and Board meeting to order.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: AL STARNES moved that the council approve the consent agenda as presented. 2nd Alyce Lloyd. On voting, Lloyd, aye; Smigley, aye; Starnes, aye.

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- Approval of Minutes - June 11, 1990
- May 29, 1990; May 14, 1990
- Resolution 563 - Transfer
- Ordinance 318 - AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE CITY'S ELECTION TO RECEIVE STATE REVENUES - 2nd Reading and final enactment
- Acceptance of Easement from Johnnie Meens
- Notice of Election - Council Positions - November 6, 1990

Ordinance 318 was accordingly read by title only for its second reading and for final enactment.

LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ellie Dumdi introduced the County Commissioners who were present - Mr. Rogers representing East Lane County, Mr. Roberts representing the north Eugene area, and Mrs. Dumdi representing the West Lane area. Mr. Rogers indicated that prior to the scheduled meetings the Board allows 20 minutes for each top with public comment limited to three minutes per person.

During the Commissioners Public Comment period, Sam Hale III of Veneta expressed his concern about relief for displaced wood products workers. Mr. Rogers indicated that both Mrs. Dumdi and Mr. Rogers are on the Economic Develop-

ment committee for the county and have been working with some processes regarding this. He indicated there is a job training program that is a department of the county using federal moneys for displaced workers in a contract with Lane Community College. They have received some additional funds for that program because of the presently existing difficult situation.

Mrs. Dumdi indicated she is on the Private Industry council. The federal government has granted the private industries council more money for the dislocated worker program but not enough for the demand there is. The plan for the last fiscal year for 1989-90 was to serve 60 workers in the dislocated worker program before it was known how many people would be involved. She advised that, instead, there were 487 people who needed help. The money which has just been received, although \$700,000, has a very narrow scope, and is much less than had been requested. The Bureau of Labor does not want to lose control of the moneys that they hand out so there are very tight restrictions on it, which are not always to the best advantage of the people needing the funds.

She further indicated that there could be some funds from the state's lottery funds. An Economic Task Force established last year studied the situation and looked for areas which would be heavily impacted, with Oakridge and Mapleton being two areas in Lane County. The state is considering some programs to assist those communities in finding alternatives.

There being no further public comment Mr. Rogers closed their portion of the agenda.

Commissioner Dumdi spoke of a meeting she had that morning with 500 very enthusiastic high school students who have indicated an interest in getting into politics. This seminar was sponsored by the American Legion. They run mock elections, etc. She was a speaker at that meeting.

JOINT MEETING OF VENETA CITY COUNCIL AND LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

1. OREGON COUNTRY FAIRE. Mrs. Dumdi has spoken with Arna Shaw, general manager of the Faire. She referred to a group meeting with Faire members as well as representatives from the Veneta-Elmira area last year where some of the mutual problems had been discussed. She described the Faire as being a festival which is not originated within the community but is imposed on the community. She felt that a lot of progress had been made in helping them realize the impact that that has had here. The new highway has helped considerably which cut down on the traffic congestion. The state police, she felt, have been very cooperative in working with this.

There have been "No Parking" signs installed along the old Highway 126 where a lot of problems had arisen before, and this will be done again this year. The Country Faire personnel will provide the labor to put the signs up, and the Country Faire will be responsible for any future losses of signs.

The Sheriff's Department has been very cooperative, also. They will monitor the situation this year to keep statistics for future information. There has been no agreement from the Country Faire people to provide extra security. They indicate there is security on the grounds and feel that is sufficient. Their Board refuses to take any further action on that.

Mr. Dean indicated that some of the major concerns that he has heard is of people in the outlying area is Faire goers who camp on neighboring properties. The Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce met with Ms. Shaw to discuss that. That will at least open discussion for the future on how to solve the camping problem.

Mr. Rogers suggested that, in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department keeping statistics, city staff and council might also want to communicate any other types of problems to the Sheriff's Department as well. He also felt that it might be possible to enhance county ordinances, such as trespass.

Councilman Al Starns, as liaison to the Veneta Police Commission, indicated that a concern has been that when the Faire is taking place that the calls which were made for help by the Sheriffs removed the deputies from coverage of the contract area. This coverage is their prime responsibility which is owed to the taxpayers of the city.

Mrs. Dumdi suggested that, following this year's Country Faire, that the Veneta City Council could get together with the Faire Board to discuss these issues with them. She felt that a go-between person might not be able to extend the same message to everyone. Mayor Smigley indicated that that idea has been discussed somewhat but has not yet been done. He pointed out that they did work with the State Highway in the construction of the new by-pass to make sure that there were turn lanes to handle the traffic problem for the Faire. He felt that last year it worked out very well. Mr. Starns felt that the alternate ways to get out here also helped to alleviate congestion.

2. COUNTY ROADS. It was not yet known what funds there might be available from timber receipts. Mr. Roberts indicated that the agreement between Lane County and the City Council regarding the transition of roads and the payment of moneys to the city from the county road fund does have a clause which indicates that if the timber receipts falls below \$17 million then the Board can consider a different approach for assisting cities. The Board also has a reserve fund that it would determine how it could be used, although it is too early to determine anything at this time. It is expected that National Forest receipts will be less heavily impacted than the BLM funds.

In answer to Mr. Starns' question about the Federal administration's suggestion of going to net distribution rather than gross, Mr. Rogers replied that this was not proposed in the current federal budget. In several previous years it had and was always not included by Congress. It was included in the Bush budget. However, there are a number of people in the administration who want to do that. It was noted that the National forest receipts are for road funds only; the BLM receipts go into the county's general fund.

3. ALTERNATIVES TO ALTON BAKER GOLF COURSE. Mr. Smigley pointed out that long prior to the time that the Alton Baker Golf Course was proposed the suggestion of a golf course in this area had been discussed. Mr. Dean indicated that this could tie together a number of items. That is, in meetings with the Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Committee, it was suggested to use this area as a tourist destination. But there would have to be more activities to draw people here, in addition to the Fern Ridge Reservoir and the city's access to it. Since the county is working on a golf course he wanted to explore the possibility of a joint venture with the county for a course out here.

Mr. Rogers pointed out that the county did not set out to build a golf course. They had to consider how to fix it up after having filled it up with garbage. They were going to provide the land and let the private sector develop it. At the last legislative session they lobbied for a bill that would allow making a long-term lease for that specific purpose.

Marketing studies show that there more demand for 18-hole golf courses. The county was encouraged to develop this; there is no fear of competition as there are more courses needed to satisfy the demand which already exists. Names mentioned for developers of golf courses are Woodard in Cottage Grove; Jeffries in Eugene; Dan Whalen; Peter Thurston of the County staff has learned a lot about golf course needs. Although, as Mr. Roberts pointed out, studies indicate that most people like to live within 5 miles of where they play golf.

4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. The Veneta City Council and the Economic Development Committee have felt the need for a 5-10 year growth study. The city has been contacted by personnel at the University of Oregon's Community Workshop to do such a study for the City of Veneta and surrounding areas, including the unincorporated areas of Elmira, Noti, Vaughn, and Crow. It is felt that these areas are directly tied to Veneta and therefore should be included both for their benefit and that of the City of Veneta to better understand what is needed in this area. The University of Oregon staff presented a two-tiered proposal. One was to focus on an overview of the City of Veneta. The second was a comprehensive study of the outlying area as well as of the City.

It is the committee's recommendation that the full study be completed. In order to do so it was felt appropriate to seek outside funding. To date Mr. Dean has contacted four private enterprises which have committed a total of \$2,000 to the study. The total cost of the study is \$9,800. The City Council has made a commitment of at least have this amount. The request to the commissioners is fund one-quarter of the study if staff is able to come up with the last \$500 private enterprise donation.

It is hoped to gain information about the population trend for the next 5-10 years; a targeted industries study identifying those industries that we should be recruiting for this area; and a marketing strategy to go after those industries. The businesses which have committed their funding help are Bohemia, Swanson Superior, Lane Electric, and EFUD.

Peter Thurston is a contact person at Lane County regarding regional strategies money. Mrs. Dumdi suggested this might be a possibility for the City to pursue. Although Mr. Rogers felt it might be specifically designated for technical assistance which is already allocated and can't be used for things of this nature - only for job research and development. Jim Zelenka of L-COG could probably provide help with maps, population projections, statistics, etc. Mrs. Dumdi agreed that the county does not have any money in their general fund to help and of the small cities in the county who might need such assistance.

5. PROPOSAL FROM RON CRAMER. He has a project presently only in an idea-stage that he wanted to bring to the Council and Commissioners' attention. He is suggesting that the McCutcheon drainage ditch located across from the north side of West Lane Center, south of the Corps of Engineer's property and north of the former location of the Tri-County Bank be constructed so as to be an extension of Fern Ridge Reservoir into Veneta.

Mr. Cramer indicated he has proposed this to the Corps of Engineers. They liked the idea of expansion of the lake and solve other problems with it, including providing economic development to the City of Veneta by having a Marina; there is good boat storage facilities on the lake. It would bring boat traffic right up to Territorial. There can be tremendous impact of the water projects such as that for Lake Havasu City.

Elevations by Bill Guile indicate that the ditch is 2 feet higher than Fern Ridge Reservoir at its highest. None of the water in that ditch is caused by Fern Ridge backing up. The ditch could be dredged down and out which could solve any flooding problems at the former Applegate Trail Days park area. There would be no condemnation involved in using Corps of Engineers' property. They would like to have interest of other people in this project - Chamber of Commerce, Commissioners, etc. Federal flood control moneys might be available. Additional help could come from Congressman DeFazio's staff.

6. FUTURE PARKS - ZUMWALT. The Lane County Parks Director, Bill Chapman, had been expected to attend this meeting. However, in his absence, Jim Johnson described Class "C" and "D" county parks, those which are closed or do not get a lot of use or maintenance. Included in this category is Zumwalt Park, which is located just outside Veneta. He indicated that the park has been essentially closed for quite a few years, except for a limited one-time use on occasion. The difficulty is the county's ability to maintain and manage it including the Corps facilities.

Prior to his leaving the employ of Lane County, Mr. Chapman and his Parks Advisory Committee had designed a plan for the future use of county parks. Zumwalt in particular creates problems as it is in an area where there could be people who want to use it. The Parks Advisory Committee is to make recommendations to the Board on the future of these parks. In discussing ownership, Mr. Johnson advised that the Corps of Engineers owns the property, and Lane County entered into an extensive (99 year) lease which prevents them from doing a lot of the things they would like to do with the property. These leases can be transferred with the permission of the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Rogers indicated that the County is looking into other Corps and BIM-owned parks which the County has leased, with the idea of turning them back to those agencies because of the problems involved with keeping them in shape for use. The City of Lowell is considering managing the marina on Dexter Reservoir. Mr. Johnson indicated he will ask Mr. Chapman to call Veneta's City Administrator prior to his leaving the County this week.

7. RICHARDSON POINT FEE STRUCTURE. The fees do not change every year; they probably will next year. Only Perkins Peninsula Point has no fee. Mr. Starns felt that with each increase that some families cannot afford it, and as a result Perkins Peninsula Point becomes overcrowded.

Mr. Rogers expressed his pleasure with having been able to work with the City. He indicated this is the last year he will be on the Board.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE JOINT SESSION OF THE VENETA CITY COUNCIL AND LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, this portion of the evening's meeting was adjourned.

After a short recess, Mayor Smigley called the remainder of the meeting to order.

TREE CUTTING IN CITY PARKS.

Mr. Dean pointed out that after the last council meeting that the Council had gone to the parks to look at the trees which were being proposed to be cut. Mayor Smigley had not been in attendance at that meeting.

Galen Carpenter of Veneta spoke on behalf of herself and several other concerned people regarding the item of park tree cutting. She felt that logging or clear-cutting this second-growth trees should be done with more planning. There is currently no park development commission in the City. She suggested that the city might be able to do some things to make sure that the citizens have all the parks that they want in the future. She felt that there is a wealth of informed citizens from whom information could be drawn to make good decisions.

There should be a long-range plan for the parks, clearly written, and developed in part by professionals, regarding the trees of the city and play structures, and user habits. Also, costs for development and maintenance of the developed areas. The people who wanted the tree-cutting matter discussed with the council will be happy to help on this.

The community needs to be involved in the proposed changes by a user survey which could be conducted through the West Lane News. She has seen some standard user surveys which could be used - questions such, who uses the parks; when; where; etc.

There could be a citizen advisory committee composed of those people who are interested in the parks and their use. She felt that there probably are professional pro bono services that could be used; local foresters; other public agencies recently involved in park development, one especially involved in significant playground development including clearing of trees for School District 4-J. With their budget problems they rely on parent groups, user groups, donations from businesses and civic organizations.

The University of Oregon's Landscape architecture department could also be used. She felt that they are looking for projects to work on as all their graduate students have to come up with a project for their Masters. Some of those issues concern long-term low maintenance costs. Pesticide-free maintenance should be a goal, and is possible if incorporated at the planning stage.

Playground equipment and structures should be of non-toxic materials as well as concern for safety.

In this long-range planning it could be done in a stage development plan. That is, begin with a certain amount of things to be done, and then in another few years continue with more of the project.

Rather than consider just the cutting of the tree to fund this Mrs. Carpenter suggested that there are park development grants available; free expertise available - e.g. where irrigation is needed United Pipe could help with the design of the irrigation. As to volunteer labor, District 4-J estimated that

their new playgrounds went in with 75% volunteer labor - 25% staff labor. Further, they used 50% donations from organizations such as Rexius, etc.

As to the two parks which had been targeted for tree-cutting, she felt that there needs to be an independent, professional selection of trees that might have to be thinned. She is not opposed to the thinning/cutting of the trees, it is how they are selected is imperative. She felt that some of the marked trees should not be cut - there are specific reasons why they should be left.

In the area east of the community center where the trees had been planned to be cut for a ball field, she questioned how much use there would be made of that area as a ball field, including the maintenance cost of keeping that field up. She questioned why the school's ball fields are not being used. The city could share maintenance costs with the school district if their ball fields were being used.

As to the 8th Street Park she noted that the person living to the north of the park had logged her property. One tree which was clearly on city property was removed. Mr. Dean indicated that that person had permission to cut that tree, and it was cut because a portion of it was endangering her house. Mrs. Carpenter learned that Mrs. Anderson felt that the trees could be thinned but not all cut down.

She felt this matter of development of the parks should be included in the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Smigley pointed out that there has been some input involved in this, and although the final suggestions may not be the same as were suggested there may be a reason for that. In order to have some of the facilities that are desired he felt there would have to be some clear-cutting.

Mr. Dean felt that the suggestion of working with the schools was a very good one, as was the suggestion of taking a more professional, landscaping approach. If the city could take advantage of the some of the resources she suggested the city could be inclined to do that. He indicated he would like to know where the park development grants could be obtained; what agency has them, what specifically we need to do to get these grants, as the goal of the city is to develop the parks.

As to the "clear-cutting" issue was to open up the park and make it a play field where children could run without going over stumps. He felt that people do not use the section of the park which had been discussed. It could be that there could be a better selection. He would welcome input. The concept was to have an open field in the park where children could play, not with just play equipment, but an open field. He indicated he has spoken with the school about joining one area of the ball diamond and improving the one on the school grounds. He pointed out that the ball diamonds at the Bolton Fields are usually full, and there is no parking which constitutes a dangerous area.

In answer to Mrs. Carpenter's question there is no long-range plan for the future development of any of the parks. Mr. Smigley indicated that when opportunities arise the city takes advantage of them as they are able to. He felt that, regarding the section to be opened up, part of the reasoning is for safety.

Mr. Starns indicated that when he first came on the council there had been a Park Board but it had disbanded, and this is the first new interest on the part of local residents that has been displayed for a long time.

Keyte Hladkey who lives on 9th Street indicated that there are several people who would like to serve on such a Committee - Galen Carpenter, Janet Pelroy, Karen Faust, and herself. She felt that the city should not put the cutting job out for bid until it is known what should be done. She felt there was no need to hurry at this point.

She was more concerned with the plans for the 8th Street Park. Since she and Janet Pelroy had been requested by the City Administrator for input regarding trees in the 8th Street Park she questioned whether their help was really necessary. She suggested that as well as getting the opinion of a forester that an arborist should also be consulted. Jeff Hale from the City of Eugene has offered to donate his time. Keyte offered to be in charge of fund raising.

Another concerned resident, Sandra Cushing, was not able to be present, but Keyte read a letter of concern from her. She indicated she does not want empty, useless space, particularly at the 8th Street Park. She wanted to be sure that the money received from the sale of the trees would go back into the Park. She presented the council with a letter from residents regarding the tree cutting concerns.

At the time of the council meeting where the council had surveyed the park areas to determine which trees could be removed, Mr. Dean presented the concept of how to proceed to the first step. Mr. Dean felt that the concept of a long-range plan, as suggested by the tree-coalition representatives, was a good idea. Along with Keyte and Janet he had identified some of the trees at the 8th Street Park. He pointed out that the council has made no decision at this time. He simply explained his concept of opening them up.

Mr. Smigley felt that with the additional information that has been extended to the council that the city administrator review as to how to proceed with further development of the park areas, and then re-submit the proposal to the council. It might delay things for this year, but he did not want to let the matter die for want of further action. There were long-range plans established for the beautification of the city, but Mr. Smigley felt that there should not be more parks or beautification than can be done in a timely manner.

Karen Faust mentioned that she is not using the park because the maintenance is not very good. She indicated that there is one of the merry-go-round rides which has some loose metal sticking out, loose bolts, unkempt park. She heard that the money might be used for more tennis courts. Many parents with small children cannot afford to go to Eugene to use parks there and won't use the parks here because of the bad maintenance. She felt, also, that there were not events for small children.

Mr. Dean indicated he will check with the public works department regarding the maintenance at the parks. There are only five people in the Public Works Department who have primary jobs to do as well, but he will see what the process has been to oversee the parks.

Mr. Sam Hale III volunteered his time and help.

Janet Pelroy has lived in this area for 8 years. She advises that her children do not like to go to the 8th Street Park. They call it "the Dark Park". The equipment is damaged. With the great number of families with small children in the neighborhood there is a great need for a useable park. She agreed that there should be plans to "lighten" up the park.

After general discussion, it was the consensus of the council to leave more groups of trees standing, but still open it up.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT.

1. Randy Taylor Property Bancroft Assessment. Mr. Jones indicated that the city has received notice of a Trust Sale on this property at Territorial and McCutcheon for \$1,700. The last payment was made in March of 1989. The notice was defective in that the legal description was not included. They will also send a copy of the preliminary title report so that he can determine where the city fits in. It is possible that the city will have priority over their sale.

2. Tom Wirfs' Agreements. Mr. Jones indicated that the city has two agreements with Mr. Wirfs of Cozy Homes, Inc. One of them closed on June 22nd. The earnest moneys were reviewed. The total purchase price was to be \$37,000. A \$1,000 non-refundable cash deposit has been made. The agreement was entered into on January 22, 1990 and was to be closed within 120 days. Mr. Wirfs had replied to a letter from Mr. Jones, indicating that Liberty would fund the one lot. The other four lots were subject to FMHA approval.

Mr. Smigley indicated that while the market is good the city would like to sell the lots, and probably could. Since Mr. Wirfs was in attendance at the meeting, he indicated that the work from the engineer to design the housing to the lots took longer than anticipated. Also, FMHA is involved with their requirements. Mr. Wirfs anticipated that everything could be settled within 30 days, and asked for an extension to that time. He asked that the city give him a strongly-worded letter which he could present to those who were holding him up in closing on these lots.

Mr. Dean recommended that this matter be continued for an additional 30 days, contingent upon receiving an additional earnest money of \$1,000 for all of the remaining four lots. After discussion,

**MOTION:** AL STARNIS moved that the council give an extension to Cozy Homes Inc. for 30 days, with an additional \$1,000 earnest money to be paid. Further, that the City Attorney be instructed to draft a letter to Cozy Homes, Inc. stating that the obligation has to be met within the 30 day time-period. 2nd. Alyce Lloyd.

On discussion, Mr. Smigley suggested that the word "non-returnable" \$1,000 earnest money be included in the motion. Mr. Jones suggested extending the time to August 1st rather than a term of "30 days" as that is a more definite time.

Mr. Starns so changed his motion.  
Mrs. Lloyd agreed with the changes.

The motion as changed is as follows:

MOTION: AL STARNs moved that the council give an extension to Cozy Homes, Inc. to 5:00 p.m. August 1, 1990, with an additional non-returnable \$1,000 earnest money to be paid. Further, that the City Attorney be instructed to draft a letter to Cozy Homes, Inc. stating that the obligation has to be met by August 1, 1990. 2nd Alyce Lloyd. On voting, all aye.

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Mr. Jones advised Mr. Wirfs that he will have an extension of the earnest money prepared for signature by Cozy Homes. Mr. Wirfs indicated he will be in to City Hall this week with the additional funds and to pick up the building permits.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

1. Water - Mr. Smigley inquired if anything had been resolved on Well #8. Mr. Dean felt that because the Public Works Director was not available for his knowledge about the workings that caused the concerns. Will had been contacted and things were fixed up.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE VENETA CITY COUNCIL MEETING it was duly adjourned.

ATTEST:

Shirley M. J. Overed  
SHIRLEY M. J. O'OVERED, CITY RECORDER

J. W. Smigley  
J. W. SMIGLEY, MAJOR