

Minutes of the Veneta City Council
Tuesday - November 12, 2002 - 6:30 p.m.

NOV 04 2002
PASSED

Council

Present: Mayor Tim Brooker, Thomas Cotter, Marion Esty, Fred Miller, and Julie Weisgerber

County

Commissioners: Anna Morrison, Bill Dwyer, Bobby Green, and Peter Sorenson (Cynthia Wheeldreyer not present)

Others:

Jan C. Wellman, City Administrator, Sheryl L. Hackett, City Recorder, Kyle Schauer, Veneta Public Works Foreman; Sgt Byron Trapp & Captain Brett Freeman, Lane County Sheriff's Office; Sommy Chickering, Lane County Public Works; and Bill VanVactor, Lane County

Mayor Brooker called the City Council to order at 6:34 p.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Earl Ellson; 26033 Vista Drive; Veneta, Or

On behalf of Marlene Colston and the Veneta Park Board, Earle Elson thanked the City Council for their leadership in paving the way to make the Territorial Park project happen. He said the park will have a very positive influence on the City's youth. Mr. Ellson said he is currently working on the Park and Recreation District and they are planning to place it on the ballot in 2004. Mr. Ellson said he would like the County Commissioners to support the formation of the district.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Fred Miller made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Thomas Cotter seconded the motion.

On voting: Marion Esty, aye; Thomas Cotter, aye; Mayor Brooker, aye; Julie Weisgerber, aye; and Fred Miller, aye.

The Consent Agenda as approved included minutes for October 28, 2002 and bills paid and payable for September/October 2002.

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. FROM MAYOR/COUNCILORS

- (1) Joint meeting between the Lane County Board of Commissioners and the Veneta City Council to discuss issues of common concern.
 - (a) Call to order - Lane County Board of Commissioners

Bill Dwyer called the Board of Commissioners to order at 6:37 p.m.

Anna Morrison presented the City with an IOU for the City-County Partnership Funds in the amount of \$89,066.13 for the upcoming year. Peter Sorenson said the money should arrive in December.

The Commissioners told the Council the draft of the County Transportation System Plan will be ready for review by the end of this month. Input has been received from LTD, the Railroad, Airport, rural fire districts, and other agencies impacted by the road system over the next 20 years. The County will hold at least four public

meetings around the county. The County planners are currently working on amendments to the Lane Code which will be needed as a result of the adoption of the TSP. The draft will be presented to the Planning Commission and Commissioners in May or June of 2003.

Bill Dwyer asked Sonny Chickering, Lane County Public Works, about the CAPP program. In response, Mr. Chickering said there was a one time allocation and the Board has awarded those funds. Two thirds of the agreements have been executed and some cities have their final plans and specs. Most projects will be completed next summer.

In response to a question from Bill Dwyer, Sonny Chickering said the County has recently combined some of their zone maintenance shops and adjusted the service boundaries. Junction City and Veneta have been combined to serve Central Lane County. A new facility being constructed on Jeans Road in Veneta should be operational by May or June of 2003.

Bill Dwyer said the City has requested an extension of time to complete the county funded Hwy 126 frontage road projects. Jan Wellman explained that obtaining wetland and ODOT access permits was very time consuming and delayed the projects. The projects will be bid next spring.

MOTION: Anna Morrison made a motion to approve amending the City's agreement for the frontage road projects by extending the term to cover an anticipated construction date of 2003. Bobby Green seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Chickering said a new round of CIP funds is coming up in February or March of next year.

Update on Current City of Veneta Projects

Jan Wellman said the 8th Street bridge over the Railroad, connecting 8th Street to Hwy 126, is currently the City's biggest project. The completion date is scheduled for the end of November. The bridge will provide a much needed emergency access across the Railroad tracks. The bridge will also provide the City with a second access to Hwy 126 and will help to open up redevelopment opportunities for W. Broadway.

The City is waiting for an ODOT access permit and wetland permits from DSL, the Corp of Engineers, and DEQ for the East Frontage Road project. Because of the delays caused by the permitting process and the inclement weather, the City felt it would be better to hold the project over until the spring and bid it along with the West Frontage Road project.

W. Broadway was recently improved with curbs, enhanced sidewalks, and brick crosswalks through an ODOT TEP grant. The TEP grant also paid for an improved pedestrian crossing on Territorial Hwy in front of Veneta Elementary School and a section of sidewalks on McCutcheon Avenue. The City has applied for another grant to complete the McCutcheon Avenue sidewalks and has plans to add street trees and decorative street lights along W. Broadway.

The Applegate Pioneer Museum was recently moved from Crow to W. Broadway to help draw more public to the downtown area.

The City acquired a 2.5 acre parcel of land on Hunter Avenue and is using Urban Renewal Agency funds to develop the first phase of a youth park. The park is currently under construction with a Grand Opening scheduled for Saturday. The park includes a skate park, the first climbing wall in the State of Oregon, a basketball court, and a large play structure. In addition to using Urban Renewal funds, the community has helped with a large scale fundraising effort to meet a challenge grant.

The City's new sewer treatment facility is now complete and next summer the City will move forward with water system improvements which include a new 1 million gallon water reservoir on Bolton Hill Road, piping, a new well, and a new treatment facility.

The City has about 250 new housing lots as a result of a large number of new subdivisions.

A new company, Pacific Wood Systems, recently relocated to Veneta and they are working on a project to build a new industrial park subdivision which includes a new street connecting Hwy 126 to Jeans Road.

Jan thanked the County for providing funding for two frontage roads along Hwy 126 which will connect Territorial Hwy to 8th Street and open up 7 to 10 acres of commercial lands for development on the south side of the highway. In response to a question from Bill Dwyer, Jan said the City would be happy to post signs at the construction site giving the County credit for the funding. Mayor Brooker said the City is very pleased with the partnership with the county and would be more than happy to make the public aware of the County funding.

Pete Sorenson told the Council that its road maintenance fund is expected to go away in the near future. The Commissioners will try to get some federal funds to pay for road projects.

Mayor Brooker said every dollar the City receives from the County for road maintenance is appreciated. He said rural areas have a unique situation by having county roads mixed in with city roads. He said

they need assistance to keep the roads in the community viable. He said the City will help support the Commissioners efforts to obtain federal funds.

Fred Miller asked the Commissioners if they have given any thought to forming a county-wide school district. In response, Commissioner Dwyer said the county voters rejected all six measures for property tax increases for schools. He said many small communities do not like the idea of consolidation because it means a loss of identity. Peter Sorensen said school budget cuts will continue without voter support.

Mayor Brooker said the real issue is that people won't support tax increases until they feel there is fiscal responsibility.

- (b) Adjourn - Lane County Board of Commissioners
Bill Dwyer adjourned the Commissioners at 7:16 p.m.

b. **FROM COUNCIL/COMMITTEE LIAISONS**

Marion (Planning Commission) - The Commission approved the Site Plan for the new water reservoir and a variance to sideyard setbacks for the Garber Subdivision.

Julie (League of Oregon Cities) - Veneta received a bronze safety award. There were some very good presentations and good networking opportunities. Julie said she brought back some information on Homeland Security to share with the Council.

Fred Miller (League of Oregon Cities) - Fred talked with Councilors from other cities that are just beginning the process of expanding their sewer systems and who are interested in Veneta's biolac system.

Fred Miller (Park Board) - The Grand Opening for the Territorial Park is scheduled for this Saturday.

4. **STAFF REPORTS**

a. **FINANCE OFFICER**

- (1) **Financial Status of Projects through October, 2002**
Jan said everything is in good shape and on schedule. The Council complimented Shauna's work with the City's finances.

b. **PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR MARLENE is sending out**

- (1) **Report on activities for the month of October, 2002.**

Kyle Shauer said they completed the lead and copper tests which are required every three years and the levels were very good. A lot of time was spend getting the poplar plantation is shape. The controller was finally received and they system has been working for two weeks without any further problems. In response to a question from Fred, Jan said Second Growth will not give the City an extended warranty unless the City gets involved in their dispute with

the bonding company.

The crew has begun the annual leaf pickup. A pothole on W. Broadway is in the process of being repaired. A water service to the new skate park was installed.

Fred Miller said he received a complaint about someone on Hunter Road who has been trapping cats. In response, Kyle said the cats get turned over to the City and those that appear to be stray are taken to Greenhill. Mayor Brooker said he would like to see some other solution to the problem.

c. CITY ENGINEER

(1) Progress and financial report on the sewer expansion project.

The sewer project is complete with the exception of some minor clean up work and routine maintenance. The financial report will be adjusted to show the unspent balance and liquidated damage items. RUS has reimbursed the City for all of the engineering fees. The unspent balance will be used for land purchase. Jerry Elliott has retained a draftsman to complete the asbuilts.

(2) Progress report on the Eighth Street-Highway 126 Connector, West Frontage Road, and East Frontage Road projects.

East & West Frontage Roads: Both frontage road projects will be bid together next February or March. DEQ, the Corp of Engineers, and DSL have all indicated they will be issuing their permits. The City will transfer funds to purchase credits at Amazon Creek Mitigation Bank by November 30th. The ODOT access permit has been returned to the Springfield office to be issued. The City has received the right-of-way deeds from Kay Larson. Some additional right-of-way needs to be acquired from Glen Watters. The Commissioners granted an extension for the grant until 2003.

Eighth Street-Highway 126 Connector: The November 30th deadline for the Local Street Network Fund for the bridge is coming up. The weather has not been very cooperative. Paving, striping, installation of the water line, and fences for the bridge still need to be done. ODOT has been contacted about an extension until December 14, 2002. If the weather cooperates, Laskey-Clifton feels the project will be complete by November 30th with the exception of striping the highway and hydro-seeding. If necessary, the City may use it's match funds to do some paving and striping on the highway next spring.

In response to a request by ODOT, Doug Weber sent a letter today requesting some additional time. The contractor has been very cooperative and is still working towards completing the project on time.

(3) Progress report on the Phase One improvements to Territorial Park.

The Territorial Park project is nearly complete and will be ready for the Grand

Opening on Saturday. The contractor submitted a bid to pour the pads and install the entrance structure and drinking fountain.

d. CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- (1) Announcement of Grand Opening celebration for the new Territorial Park project, scheduled for Saturday, November 16, 2002, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and a potential date for a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Eighth Street - Highway 126 Connector Bridge.

The grand opening activities will involve both the Park and the library.

Jan suggested that the Council set a date for a ribbon cutting ceremony for the 8th Street bridge at their November 25th meeting.

- (2) Motion to accept the new sewer plant and authorization to submit a letter to USDA Rural Utilities Service notifying them of the City's acceptance of the new sewer plant.

Jan Wellman recommended that the Council make a motion to accept the new sewer plant with the exception of the pending resolution of liquidated damages related to non-operational issues.

MOTION: Fred Miller made a motion to accept the new sewer plant for the City of Veneta, except for pending resolution of liquidated damages related to operational issues. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. OTHER

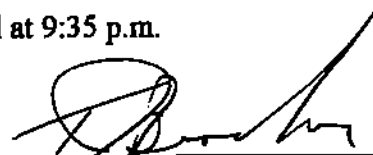
6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- (1) ORS 192-660(1)(e) - Real Estate Negotiations

Mayor Brooker adjourned the Council into executive session at 9:14 p.m.
Having made no decisions, the Council returned to regular session at 9:35 p.m.

7. ADJOURN

Mayor Brooker adjourned the City Council at 9:35 p.m.



T. J. Brooker, Chairman

ATTEST



Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder
(minutes prepared by SLHackett)