

Minutes of the
CANNON BEACH CITY COUNCIL
Work Session
Tuesday, November 28, 2023
Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Barb Knop, Council President Nancy McCarthy, Councilors Brandon Ogilvie, Lisa Kerr and Gary Hayes

Excused:

Staff: City Manager Bruce St. Denis, Chief of Police Jason Schermerhorn, Assistant Public Works Director Trevor Mount, Recorder Jennifer Barrett

Other: CIDA Architect Jennifer Beattie, Leslie, Dustin Johnson, Clatsop Nehalem representatives Dick and Roberta. Contractors Curtis Ganer, Jordan Fell and Keegan Peters.

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Knop called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion: Ogilvie moved to approve the agenda; Hayes seconded.

Vote: Hayes, McCarthy, Ogilvie, Kerr and Knop voted AYE: the vote was 5:0 and the motion passed unanimously.

Knop said the key tonight to be respectful and kind to everyone. There is a 3-minute limit, and the time will be on the screen. We will take comments from the Chambers, then Zoom. Please remember to start with your name and mailing address. You may not give your time to anyone else. Want to hear from each person that wants to speak. Will start with brief presentation to establish a baseline history. The intent of the council is to listen tonight.

Beattie gave a recap of the design team adding we appreciate the perspective coming tonight and welcome them all.

St. Denis gave an overview of the City Hall/Police Department project.

CH/PD Architect Jones gave an overview of the process to date, specifically as it relates to the community outreach efforts. We will continue to have outreach events and welcome your ideas and input.

CBE Architect Johnon noted our public process was similar as Jones, however we didn't have a program going in to it, giving an overview of the public outreach events.

Knop introduced Dick and Roberta Basch

Dick said it's been my pleasure and a heartfelt task to bring the magic at Ne'Cus to life again, and to

bring it to not only to Cannon Beach but the visitors that come here. Dick gave a history of the Ne'Cus site.

Roberta gave an overview of the site and what it means and the promise to the trees to take care of them. Roberta said I remember hearing stories from Joe Scovell and the stories of the beginning of the people hear and the how the thunderbird used to fly here. When we were asked to work here, we were asked as Clatsop Nehalem people and in that process also represented the people of Cannon Beach. We wanted to keep the spirit of the native people alive but wanted to keep the people of Cannon Beach and those who went to school here. We made sure we were there to represent everyone and wanted to stay humble. Shared stories, noting the thunderbird in the garden at the site as it represents new life. Discussed reciprocity.

DISCUSSIONS

(1) Open Discussion: City Hall & Police Station and Cannon Beach Elementary School Rejuvenation Project

Knop said the Council will listen; this is not a dialog. Knop read a prepared statement - This community meeting is held to provide the public with a platform to voice their opinions on the building projects. Due to an ongoing appeal related to the Elementary School Rejuvenation Project's design elements, however, neither the City Councilors nor the Mayor can address or provide personal opinions on that issue in this community meeting. That decision on the appeal has to be made on the record, so the City Council and Mayor cannot consider any comments made tonight when they make a decision on the design review for the Elementary School project. If you wish to discuss how the project does not meet the Design Review city code please come to the appeal hearing on December 5th, that's one week from tonight, at 6:00 p.m. and we can only consider the code questions.

Knop added please remember kind and respectful.

Dee Zimmerlee, Clatsop Nehalem, 10880 SW Reif Road, Powell Butte, OR 97753
Shared Clatsop Nehalem culture and spoke in favor of the project.

David Stowe 20216 Saywer Reach Ct Bend, OR
Vice Chair Clatsop Nehalem, this is close to our hearts, and spoke in favor of the design adding me and the rest of the tribe fully support this.

Mary Peterson PO Box 85, Tolovana Park
Spoke of the increase of property taxes. Spoke against the school project. Suggest donating the land back to Clatsop Nehalem and get rid of the debt.

Barb Murry PO Box 1490
Spoke against the school project, need a CH/PD, maybe to the school project after the others are done.

Jim Oyala
Shared story about submitting a letter to DreamWorks regarding Lewis and Clark. Suggested GO bonds and prioritizing projects.

Jim Cannon Beach Chamber.
Siad I have a lot of people tonight with opinions, I hear people being frustrated with not being heard.

Tim Ramy PO Box 429

Spoke about the TLT, the tourism portion and general fund. It won't impact property taxes, the TLT rate is average for the coast. We are doing the fiscally responsible thing.

Debbie Workmann PO Box 433.

Concern of size and scope of the CBE. Think it's bigger than it needs to be, noted concerns of parking. Suggested using TLT funds to figure out parking and congestion here. Worried part of the park would be used for parking.

Lila Wickham PO Box 208 Tolovana Park

Spoke about a gathering that was held last week and gained a better understanding of the Clatsop Nehalem special paradise. Thanked council for listening regarding moving the PD out of the tsunami zone. Don't forget the food pantry.

Rick Wickham PO Box 208

Thanked for Cannon Beach Food Pantry being able to use the location. If anyone has extra time the food pantry can use volunteers.

Jan Seibert-Wahrmund and Wes Wahrmund PO Box 778

Spoke in favor of the NeCus project, heritage site deserves the upmost care and respect. Hope as a community we can find what is good in this endeavor and improve on it as needed and create a gathering place for us to share.

Andrew Tonry PO Box 664

Spoke about funding, Final loan payment for CBE in 2054, noting potential changes that could impact the funding of the projects. There is a way to honor the tribe and sacred site without bringing more tourism. Way to do it without exacerbating the problem.

Anita Dueber PO Box 694 speaking of private citizen

Read the Cannon Beach Municipal Code for the Design Review Board.

Hannah Buschert PO Box 97

Spoke about the community businesses, if not for visitors our town would be like seal rock, elected officials want tourism to pay out their nose, spoke against the CBE project and shared her concerns.

Erik Ostrander PO Box 97

Spoke about the community, spoke concerns of impact of CBE on existing businesses. Spoke against the increase in TLT. Feels the funding of the projects is placed on the backs of the lodging and restaurant partners. Spoke of the times council specified increase to commercial establishments over residential.

Michael Henderson PO Box 1052

Spoke of having an ad hoc committee from local business owners to help run the city with better fiscal responsibilities. City should be run like a business.

Alan Barber Box 801 speaking not an employee of the Chamber of Commerce or member of Board of the History Center, but as a concerned citizen.

Spoke about why he moved here. Spoke of the split in the community from the prepared food tax then

pending projects. Asked to consider ways to scale project down to original budget. This project punishes the tourist by paying for the center. Spoke of concerns of the council. Thinks not being heard.

Deanna Pauli-Hammond PO Box 942

Gave story of telling kids no. Said there were three levels of project but was then no longer available. Spoke against the cost amount of the project. Want to remain a small quaint town without something on the edge of town that looks like we'll be putting in a McDonalds next. Thinks not being heard. A new PD and community center, CH can wait a little.

Laurel Hood 295 E Jackson

Spoke about CBE parking concerns. Could be using funds for PD and Fire Dept. Spoke about the preamble of the cannon beach Comprehensive plan which is supposed to be inclusive of the local citizens not to the detriment of the local citizens Thinks project should be simplified. Question if scope would be de novo or on the record, concerned the record is not correct. Spoke against the CBE project.

Liz Scott Outreach Manager Cannon Beach History Center PO Box 1005

Read letter that was submitted earlier in the day. Gave history center overview, noting the grants recently received and what they will do. hope to work together for an outcome that the community would be proud of.

Deb Atiyeh PO Box 1426

Spoke in support of all three projects. Support Clatsop Nehalem tribe. Gave benefits of the Ne'Cus project. I support the tribe and their dreams. Noted the discord in the town is not welcoming. Spoke about everyone getting along.

Tom Landrum PO Box 865

Spoke about people have mixed feelings such as the price tag. The design is lovely but doesn't fit in. Said people feel like we are on a runaway train that we can't stop but can control the speed. TLT is paying for this, the facilities collecting money from are in need of serious upgrades.

Todd Lawson Member of the Clatsop Nehalem Tribe but speaking on my own. Seattle, WA.

I've been to all events and gave an overview of process. There needs to be agreed upon facts, gave overview of the items being said that are not true such as the trees being cut down, this increasing the property taxes, how fire trucks can't get through. The tribe's participation is not driving the budget, it's just a fraction of it. I am getting emailed forwarded to me that are racist. I hope you can work better on the design review process.

Nancy Littell PO Box 734 Board member of Food pantry

Feeding people since April 15, 2009, every Wednesday and at the old grade school. Heard talk that we are losing the building, but we are staying, the city has never said we are leaving, they've given us information that we are staying. Given support from the tribe. A lot of sharing and love there. The building will be remodeled. The funds to do that are not part of the CBE funds. The panty board has not received one question if we are staying there or not, yet I am hearing around town we are being moved. Noted mission of the food pantry.

Watt Childress PO Box 40660 N Fork Road Nehalem, Jupiter's book

Thanked all Clatsop Nehalem people, noting his history of the tribe and the potential purchase of the site. Admitted have not listened to sessions but thought as long as tribe was a part it was ok, but heard from others that it wasn't, discussed how he reached out. Gave overview of an event – adding I want to

see more of those kinds of events. Bring the project back to scale, one that fits with the rest of the town.

Moved to Zoom comments. Know reminded to be kind and respectful.

Michelle Valigura PO Box 719

Mirror what Anita said. She did a really good job.

Lolly Alsop PO Box 1038

Gave history of connection to Cannon Beach, deeply care of community. Would love to honor the indigenous people. Spoke against the CBE project, instead of addressing the lack of housing in the town, noting concerns with housing and parking.

Sam Block PO Box 1413

Gave history of connection to Cannon Beach. The community is why I want to be here. Known a lot of people who had to leave due to no place to live. Concern focus is tourism when the business has to suffer from being understaffed. Noted housing concerns, when we are spending money on a project that is not clear, so I do not support this project.

Jennifer Childress 4066 N Fork Road Nehalem,

Gave history of connection to Cannon Beach. We can be in full support of the educational mission, and heritage and not be in support of the scale of the project. Gave examples of a past building project not in Cannon Beach, adding it's an example of costs running high and needing to rethink a project. A more expensive facility will drive up the costs of living in Cannon Beach. Asking to pause and consider consequences and effect on the community.

Lindsey Oyala-Bond 435 Silver Point Court Cannon Beach

Gave history of connection to Cannon Beach. I do not want my own grade school to become an event center. Want Council to focus on bones and building blocks of the community. Tourism is thriving in Canon Beach but housing is not.

Jessica Alexander PO Box 1148

Gave history of connection to Cannon Beach. Love the thought of a community center for myself, friends and family can go and spend time together and connect and make memories. Yes, tourists can join us too. I had to move from house to house to house in the last 5 years due houses being sold, noting the housing concerns. I've seen and heard is not what you guys are doing.

Lynn Holderson PO Box 1151

I agree with everyone in this room I am sitting in. Would have like to be in the chamber and know there is an overflow room and would like to be there. We live here, work here, it's our community and town and you are setting us up for failure. Spoke of housing concerns and the amount of time she's had to move. Listen to what everyone before me is saying. I love this town.

Lisa Nofield PO Box 843

Gave history of connection to Cannon Beach. My husband didn't speak tonight as he thinks you wouldn't listen to him. Disappointment we talk about what we want, and you are not paying attention. Concern we will bankrupt our community by all these projects at once. Appreciate heart of sole that has been put into the projects. Need to think of how to spend the money going forward. have to be together to keep the community strong and consider the financial price tag.

Paul Dueber PO Box 549

Spoke about tour if the CBE gym, we ask the council to step back a bit and reconsider the costs. Been involved with the Chamber, and one thing that always comes around is parking. To suggest the event center is going to accommodate parking that isn't going to end up in business or street parking, I think is short sighted to not have parking to support use of the facility.

Susan Glarum PO Box 108

Appreciate time effort and expense to CBE agree with others that grandiose scheme is impressive but not in scale or keeping what our town needs or wants. Focus honoring Clatsop Nehalem people and their voices being heard above all others.

Randy Neal PO Box 1092

Not an argument against the spirit of the project, it's against the dollars and scope it's been assigned. Deep down we all know money and development dollars will be its downfall. Tourism tax is a blessing and curse. Tourism dollars is the next generation of free money we have to deal with. Spoke of fallacies, of the tax dollars to pay the debt service. Noted disasters that could impact the TLT funds, adding who pays if we don't have TLT funds coming in. Noted size concerns of the space. Spoke of the duplication of resources.

Knop said I would like to thank everyone in the room and zoom. Thank you to the fire department for maintaining control and appreciate the kindness and respect shown tonight. We will be addressing this issue at the January 9th work session as a council. Thank you and goodnight.

ADJORNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Jennifer Barrett, Recorder

Barb Knop, Mayor