

**COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
February 16, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gary Williams called the meeting to order at 8:10a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Gary Williams, City Councilors Mike Fleck, Jeff Gowing, Thomas Munroe, Heather Murphy, Wayne Clark and Diane Conrad

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Richard Meyers, Public Works Director Jan Wellman, City Planner Amanda Ferguson, Finance Director Bert McClintock and City Engineer, Ron Bradsby

CITY ATTORNEY: Sean Kelly

OTHERS PRESENT: Winston Ross, Register Guard

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

(a) Resolution Declaring an Emergency to Remove the Chambers Covered Railroad Bridge

City Manager, Richard Meyers, said the City had received information from OBEC Engineers that the Chambers Covered Railroad Bridge had moved and was now leaning on both ends of the bridge upstream. The purpose of the special meeting was to declare an emergency to remove the bridge and to declare an immediate hazard to public health, safety or welfare. Pursuant to the City Code, the City Manager, Public Works Director or Finance Director could declare an emergency and spend funds without going through the bidding process. The City was taking it a step further and having the Council do that for two reasons 1) to get the resolution on the books; and 2) to have something in writing to provide to the permitting agencies showing Council had declared it an emergency so the City can move forward and take out the bidding procedures in the Code.

Richard said OBEC Engineers, who are already under contract with ODOT to be the engineers for the project, have found a contractor that had time and the expertise to do the bridge removal and dismantling. They could begin Monday, February 22, 2010. The contractor had given a quote of \$198,000, the City had a match of \$155,511 that was being used to match the \$1M grant, and ODOT had already been given \$40,000 of that and the City had another \$105,000

budgeted for the current year. The City would pay the costs as the match for the grant. The City would find the remaining \$40,000+ from the reserves or other funds and would address that issue in another meeting. One of the things that was required in declaring the emergency, was within thirty days the City had to bring back a report to Council showing what the costs were and what was done with the project so it was in a written report.

Mayor Williams said it was his understanding that the contractor to do the dismantling had a very short window of time, that they have commitments but they do have the ability in this time frame to facilitate the removal.

Richard said that was correct. The memorandum provided to Council had a special note in it that said Council should realize that the bridge was in terrible shape and could collapse during the dismantling, but that the contractor would be taking extra precaution, and should it collapse that the contractor should not be viewed in a negative way.

Councilor Conrad asked if there would be an additional cost if the bridge did happen to fall into the river.

City Engineer, Ron Bradsby, said there would most likely be an additional cost, it wouldn't be included in the \$198,000. He said that Jan Wellman, Public Works Director, had asked that instead of having a contractor on standby in case it did collapse, could it be taken down earlier. If it did collapse, hopefully the substructure would hold some of it and if some did make it in the river, the contractor with the necessary equipment that could retrieve as much wood and hardware as possible, would be hired.

Councilor Munroe asked if the City was going to do any preparatory work to expedite the process. The City had talked about a piece of ground near the bridge for storage and if the City was still planning to do that.

Ron said yes. Staff had met with the contractor on site and OBEC had provided a tree removal plan to planning departments. Tony Kirk, Utilities Supervisor, had marked a number of trees to be removed and that work would start Wednesday and the trees would be cut into lengths that were good for habitat at the turtle ponds.

Richard said the City was also in the process of trying to locate a place to store the materials, which was inside and dry and 150' x 100'.

Councilor Clark asked what happened to the financing package if the bridge fell into the river.

Richard said the City would still have the grant but didn't know what it did as far as the permit from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Ron said OBEC had hired a surveyor that would take electronically a 3-D model of the bridge to use in rebuilding the bridge to its original state.

Councilor Fleck asked if the City was overspending the match and if that would come back to

the City when the grant came in.

Richard said some of it might but the City would be looking for other grants and funding. The extra expense could be used as a match for other grants.

Ron said OBEC has been saying that there is going to be a second round of stimulus money and OBEC is campaigning for the second phase of the bridge project to get the interpretative portion completed and with documentation on his part the money that is overspent could be used as a match in those grants.

Councilor Conrad asked if the City couldn't come up with matching funds, would the City still have the grant or would we lose it.

Richard said the City would lose it, we have to have the matching funds.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR MUNROE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 1729.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Munroe	Councilor Murphy	Councilor Clark	Councilor Conrad	Mayor Williams
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Williams adjourned the special meeting of the City Council at 8:22a.m.

The next regular City Council Meeting will be held February 22, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Trudy Borrevik, City Recorder

Tom Munroe, Council President