

NORTH BEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 20, 2004

Mayor Rick Wetherell opened the meeting on the above date in the North Bend Council Chambers located at 835 California Street at 1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Janet Rubin, Howard Graham, Larry Garboden, and Susan Ottemiller.

RESOLUTION NO. 3004 – STATING THE COUNCIL POSITION ON THE
PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION VOTE OF THE CITIES OF COOS BAY AND
NORTH BEND

Mayor Wetherell read ORS 260.432 regarding the council procedure and rights on Political Campaigning. Mayor Wetherell stated Resolution No. 3004 would be read and the council would address public comments before taking action. Mayor Wetherell stated that public comment would be limited to five minutes and only pertaining to the resolution. Councilor Janet Rubin read Resolution No. 3004 in its entirety.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Norman Leeling 1905 Wall St., North Bend, thanked the council for the opportunity to comment, and he appreciated the commitment to the citizens by the council.

Dick Wagner, 2465 Troy Lane, North Bend, stated he was in support of the resolution by the council.

Hugh Griffith, 2508 Ash St., North Bend, thanked the council for the support of the resolution.

Jean McNamar, 955 Exchange St., North Bend, stated she appreciated the council for meeting and informing the citizens of their support for the resolution.

Wanda Willford, 2348 Marion St., North Bend, stated she was a lifelong resident of North Bend and she did not want to see Coos Bay steal North Bend.

Bill Dahl, 2531 Troy Lane, North Bend, stated he had been a resident for thirty-eight years and he has never worked with a nicer, and well organized government. Mr. Dahl stated the council should be able to express their views on opposition to the consolidation vote.

Sargent Webster, 1990 Lewis St. North Bend, stated the council would be making a definite statement against the consolidation vote by passing the resolution. Mr. Webster encouraged all citizens to exercise their right to vote.

James Rose, 2058 Cedar Court, North Bend, stated he was in favor of consolidation, and he asked the citizens to take a look at the economic impact on the future of the community if the vote passed. Mr. Rose stated he felt it was improper influence to the citizens for the council to pass the resolution.

Ray Penny, 1970 Hayes, North Bend, stated he felt it was inappropriate for the council to encourage the citizens to vote against consolidation.

Brady Scott, 2166 Meade, North Bend, stated he was proud to be a North Bend citizen, and wanted the best for the community. Mr. Scott stated he was in support of consolidation for the future of both cities.

Jack Goll, 1637 Meade, North Bend, stated the council was experienced in operating the city, and he felt they would only be doing their jobs by passing the resolution.

Deanna Scott, 2166 Meade, North Bend, stated she would like to see one stronger community, and she urged the council to not pass the resolution.

Barbara Griffin, 1691 Grant, North Bend, stated she was very happy with the council for supporting the resolution, and on behalf of Louis Simpson, she encouraged the passing of the resolution.

Bill Arbus, 2094 Meade, North Bend, stated that the savings would be minimal, and large businesses would relocate to the area regardless of the area being two separate cities. Mr. Arbus stated research has proven that these businesses focus on tax rates, infrastructure, and employable employees.

Jeff Bishop, 1620 Wall, North Bend, stated he felt it would not hurt to consolidate the cities, and the entire community would gain by consolidating.

Beth Scott, 2900 14th St. North Bend, stated the economy of the area has decreased, and the youth is leaving the area for employment. Mrs. Scott stated the community needs to do something to encourage economic growth, and she urged the council to not pass the resolution.

Peggy Janson, 2108 Broadway Ave., North Bend, encouraged the citizens to vote no on the consolidation measure. Mrs. Janson stated the taxes paid by North Bend citizens should stay in North Bend to provide service to those residents.

Bill Smith, 1641 Hayes, North Bend, stated he was proud of the council for the impending decision to vote on the resolution.

John Briggs, 2035 Cedar Court, North Bend, stated the consolidation vote was an effort to improve the economy of the area, and not about separate cities. Mr. Briggs addressed the issues of property tax increase being minimal, and he would like to see the cities combined to form a good partnership and working relations.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilor Susan Ottemiller stated the consolidation vote should not be personal, and she was elected to serve on the council to represent all North Bend citizens no matter what their views on the measure were. Mrs. Ottemiller stated she would have liked the special meeting to be held at a later time to allow for working citizens to attend.

Mayor Wetherell thanked everyone for his or her public comments.

Councilor Janet Rubin stated she stands by the resolution and it was unfortunate that the council had to take a strong position.

Howard Graham had no comment.

Larry Garboden had no comment.

Councilor Janet Rubin read Resolution No. 3004 in its entirety.

Larry Garboden moved and Janet Rubin seconded to approve Resolution No. 3004. Motion carried by a 4-1 vote with Councilor Susan Ottemiller opposing the motion.

Mayor Wetherell adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Mayor Rick Wetherell

ATTEST:

City Recorder Angie Kellar