

Officials say they were dissatisfied with the pace of progress under Scott McClure

Coos Bay council fires city manager

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COOS BAY - The City Council fired its city manager on Tuesday night, two years after Scott McClure took the job.

Mayor Joe Benetti said the council had evaluated McClure six times in the past 22 months, largely to try to iron out differences between the manager and the council.

In the end, the two sides weren't able to come to terms, Benetti said.

"We were unable to resolve it, and felt it was time to terminate the situation," Benetti said. "It's a very progressive city right now, and we want the manager to move in that direction. There are a lot of subdivisions and developers coming in, and we have to have someone willing to keep pace with that. That didn't seem to be the case (with McClure)."

City Councilor Jeff McKeown said he didn't want to "beat up on" McClure, but said that he "wasn't a good fit for what we need here in Coos Bay."

"We just needed a more aggressive manager who could get the types of things done we need to get done," McKeown said.

Two of the council's seven members, John Muenchrath and Roger Gould, voted against terminating McClure.

City recorder Joyce Jansen will become interim city manager until the council can find a permanent replacement.

McClure did not return phone calls to The Register-Guard.

According to Coos Bay's government Web site, the city hired McClure in November 2004. Before that, he was the city administrator in Brush, Colo., where he had worked since May 1996. He also had worked in various positions for the city of Gresham from July 1989 through April 1996.

He has a master's of public administration and a bachelor's in political science at Portland State University.

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