



City of Fort Bragg

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Meeting Minutes Public Safety Committee

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

3:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N. Main Street and
Via Video Conference

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting Chair Peters opened the meeting at 3:16 PM

ROLL CALL

Present: 2 - Lindy Peters and Jason Godeke

Absent: 1 - Bernie Norvell

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1A. [23-151](#) Approve Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting December 21, 2022.

Moved by Chair Peters and seconded by Council Member Godeke that the minutes be approved as presented.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

3. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

3A. [23-152](#) Proposed Ordinance for Vacant Property Registration

Code Enforcement Officer Leinen presented the proposed ordinance that was put together based off his research from other California cities. Leinen stated the benefits of the proposed ordinance to the City. Code Enforcement staff is developing the fee schedule and he would supply this information at a future meeting.

Captain O'Neal provided examples of how the proposed ordinance works and the benefits to the City.

Chair Peters reiterated the procedures Code Enforcement Officers go through with any complaints made and the issues regarding commercial properties.

The Committee agreed to bring back the proposed ordinance once a fee schedule is completed and the City Attorney reviews the proposed ordinance.

Public comment made by Jacob Patterson.

3B. [23-153](#) Discuss FBMC Chapter 15.06 Automatic Fire Sprinkler And Alarm Systems

Fire Chief Orsi explained that several years ago there was specific wording taken out the FBMC Chapter 15.06 that caused confusion regarding fire sprinklers. He plans to amend the wording on the current code to reflect explanatory information on the permit amounts so that there is equality among the community and all comply with the requirements.

Chairman Peters made the recommendation to bring the topic forward to City Council as an agenda item.

3C. [23-192](#) Discuss Skunk Train Whistle after Hours

Captain O'Neal provided background information on the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) mandates regarding sounding train whistles at all intersections. The City does not have the ability to override the FRA mandates but does have the ability to enact a "Quiet Zone". Captain O'Neal goes into depth regarding the safety measures that need to be in place in order to enact a "Quiet Zone" and the application process.

Public comments were made by:

Malia Elsner
Roger Paul
Jacob Patterson
Lari Shea
Tammy Bray

Chairman Peters communicated to the public he is aware and understands their concerns regarding the after hour whistle sounding but he reminds the public that for now we have to respect the outdated law that the Federal Railroad Administration has in place.

Council Member Godeke agreed that this topic has become acute mainly due to the afterhours train whistle. He would like more research done on the potential cost if the City is responsible for all the changes involved.

Chairman Peters recommended that a member from the Skunk Train attend a committee meeting to have input on the discussion. He suggested continuing the discussion until the next committee meeting.

4A. [23-154](#) Receive Oral Update from Staff on Departmental Activities

Chairman Peters recommended that in the next committee meeting we discuss electric bicycles going too fast on the Coastal Trail. He has had numerous complaints from the community and would like to hold a discussion on speeders.

Chief Orsi gave his update on a new engine that is going to be delivered in July.

4. MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE / STAFF

Captain O'Neal commented on numerous changes within the Police Department and mentioned the Pudding Creek Bridge "hard shut down nights" and what is planned for those nights when no through traffic can access the bridge.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Peters adjourned the meeting at 4:17 PM

