



# City of Fort Bragg

416 N Franklin Street  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437  
Phone: (707) 961-2823  
Fax: (707) 961-2802

## Meeting Minutes City Council

*THE FORT BRAGG CITY COUNCIL MEETS CONCURRENTLY  
AS THE FORT BRAGG MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
NO. 1 AND THE FORT BRAGG REDEVELOPMENT  
SUCCESSOR AGENCY*

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Monday, June 26, 2017

6:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N. Main Street

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### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Peters called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Lindy Peters, Vice Mayor Will Lee, Councilmember Michael Cimolino, Councilmember Bernie Norvell and Councilmember Dave Turner

### AGENDA REVIEW

#### 1. MAYOR'S RECOGNITIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1A. [17-203](#)** Introduction of Police Department Cadets: Jose Acosta, Isaac Arnold, Nancy Gonzalez, Lissett Hurtado, Analiese Keaton, Hope Keaton, Matt Lizarraga, Raul Medina, Maria Ramirez and America Suarez

Chief Lizarraga introduced the Police Cadets. Officer O'Neal said the cadets receive instruction in the classroom and in the field and volunteer in the community for parades and special events.

#### 2A. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA, CONSENT CALENDAR & CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (30 Minutes)

- Ann Rennacker spoke about community events at the Hare Creek property, saying she hopes it is not turned into a mall.
- Jay McMartin Rosenquist requested an update on the hours of the Fort Bragg Post Office.

#### 3. STAFF COMMENTS

City Manager Ruffing reported on the Public Safety Committee meeting last week, stating that representatives from 15 different agencies that interact with the homeless attended. She mentioned that City offices will be closed next Tuesday, July 4, for the Independence Day holiday. Chief Lizarraga talked about the Fourth of July event, reminding the public that no alcohol or fireworks are allowed on Noyo Beach. City Clerk Lemos introduced Hector Toscano, her summer intern who will be working on an archiving project.

#### 4. MATTERS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS

Mayor Peters noted that the Council is working on guidelines and an Action Plan regarding the local homeless population. He said the City is beginning the process of codifying changes

regarding retail cannabis use. The Mayor said he has been selected from three Northern California counties to serve on the League of California Cities' Coastal Cities Committee and will attend his first meeting in Monterey on Thursday. Vice Mayor Lee noted that he visited the City of San Francisco recently and that they spend over \$305 million in one year regarding homeless, stating that even though Fort Bragg has a problem here, it is a lot worse in the City. He listed the issues the Council will be working on in the coming months based on concerns of community members, including affordable housing and water security. Councilmember Turner said the Community Development Committee will be hearing about the Blue Zones project at its meeting tomorrow. He also commented on a Street Medicine program which delivers health care to folks on the street who are not able to access the healthcare system. Councilmember Turner said that Mayor Peters has appointed him and Vice Mayor Lee to serve on the Technology Ad Hoc Committee.

## **5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **Approval of the Consent Calendar**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Norvell, seconded by Councilmember Cimolino, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Peters, Vice Mayor Lee, Councilmember Cimolino, Councilmember Norvell and Councilmember Turner

- 5A. [17-326](#)** Adopt City Council Resolution Approving Contract with Mendocino Coast Chamber of Commerce for Specified Administrative, Marketing and Promotion Tasks (Amount Not to Exceed \$36,225; Account No. 110-4321-0319)

**This Resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

Enactment No: RES 4010-2017

- 5B. [17-318](#)** Adopt City Council Resolution Approving (1) FY 2017/18 C.V. Starr Community Center Operating and Capital Improvement Budget and (2) FY 2017/18 Facility Fee Schedule

**This Resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

Enactment No: RES 4011-2017

- 5C. [17-319](#)** Adopt City Council Resolution Approving Operating Agreement Between the City of Fort Bragg and the Mendocino Coast Recreation and Park District for Operation of the C.V. Starr Community Center and Authorizing City Manager to Execute Same

**This Resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

Enactment No: RES 4012-2017

- 5D. [17-307](#)** Adopt City Council Resolution Authorizing City Manager to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Fort Bragg and the County of Mendocino Regarding Collaboration for Development of a Storm Water Resource Plan for the Greater Fort Bragg Area Watersheds

**This Resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

Enactment No: RES 4013-2017

- 5E.** [17-305](#) Adopt Joint City Council/Municipal Improvement District Board Resolution Approving First Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement with Noyo Center for Marine Science and Authorizing City/District Manager to Execute Same

**This Resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

Enactment No: RES 4014-2017 / RES ID 390-2017

- 5F.** [17-331](#) Receive and File Minutes of the April 12, 2017 Public Works and Facilities Committee Meeting

**These Committee Minutes were received and filed on the Consent Calendar.**

- 5G.** [17-330](#) Receive and File Minutes of the April 25, 2017 Community Development Committee Meeting

**These Committee Minutes were received and filed on the Consent Calendar.**

- 5H.** [17-329](#) Receive and File Minutes of the May 17, 2017 Public Safety Committee Meeting

**These Committee Minutes were received and filed on the Consent Calendar.**

- 5I.** [17-324](#) Approve Minutes of Special Closed Session of June 12, 2017

**These Minutes were approved on the Consent Calendar.**

- 5J.** [17-328](#) Approve Minutes of June 12, 2017

**These Minutes were approved on the Consent Calendar.**

## **6. PUBLIC HEARING**

## **7. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

- 7A.** [17-340](#) Receive Report from Chief Lizarraga Regarding Decision to Decline Request by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigation Unit (HSI) for Police Department Assistance in "Gang Surge" Operation

Police Chief Lizarraga presented the staff report on this agenda item and explained his rationale for declining participation in an HSI gang surge operation. The Chief answered questions from Councilmembers regarding preparation of and information contained in the staff report, the composition of local gangs, efforts undertaken by the Fort Bragg PD to curb gang activity, and the increase in gang-related crime in the last year.

Public Comment was received from:

- Joanna Wigginton spoke about fear and stated that the FBPD has to maintain autonomy to allow

them to be trusted in the community.

- Miranda Ramos commended and thanked the Chief for standing up in support of the Community and stated that Fort Bragg's uniformed officers assisting HSI or ICE will create more fear in the community.
- District Attorney David Eyster said that HSI did not intend to conduct a surge or sweep but rather to offer manpower to a local agency. He spoke about gang activity, the relationship between drugs and gangs, and the number of people detained by Homeland Security in Mendocino County in gang-related incidents over the past six years. Mr. Eyster also said that he trusts the Chief to make good decisions and considers him a partner in the law enforcement purpose of protecting the public safety.
- Linda Jupiter thanked the Council for its Resolution and the Chief for maintaining clear communication and protecting all residents of Fort Bragg. She said the Chief does a good job on gang patrol.
- Andy Wellspring, Mendocino High School teacher, said he works with the teen peer court and if the Chief would like their help with gang issues, he can make that a part of the program. He stated that the Fort Bragg Police Department seems to have a good feel for what is going on in the community and they care about the people.
- Rex Gressett said the Chief has earned his confidence and that people should rely on the Chief.
- Jim Blanton thanked the Council and the Chief for a wise decision, saying that if the police are identified with ICE, then folks in the community would be afraid to report crimes.
- Simon Smith supports the Chief in his decision. She said that when people feel comfortable approaching the police, communities are safer.
- Judy Valadao asked how many of the 16 arrested had been arrested more than once. She said she believes that Hispanic people are a very important part of the community.

**This agenda item was not acted on.**

**7B. [17-320](#) Receive Fort Bragg Police Department's 2016 Annual Report**

Chief Lizarraga presented the 2016 Annual Fort Bragg Police Department Report. He noted that the PD has its work cut out for it regarding gang activity, but that officers have a good handle on who the players are and what can be done to take them off the streets. He answered questions from Councilmembers regarding the dispatch log, the resources needed to fully staff the PD, officer training, calls for service. The Chief was asked to provide Council with a breakdown by category of the dispatch log. Chief Lizarraga said he will prepare the report and can post it on the Police Department's Facebook page as well as giving a copy to the Public Safety Committee and the City Council.

Public Comment: None.

**Mayor Peters recessed the meeting at 8:04 PM; the meeting reconvened at 8:10 PM.**

**This Staff Report was received and filed.**

**7C. [17-327](#) Receive Report and Consider Taking Action in Support of the Paris Climate Accord**

Mayor Peters gave the report on this matter, noting that the evidence of climate change makes it important to reduce the carbon footprint and lead by example by riding bikes and reducing emissions whenever possible. He said it is a good idea to sign onto the Climate Mayors letter to show that Fort Bragg will abide by the Paris Climate Accord even if the United States has withdrawn from the Agreement.

Public Comment was received from:

- Rex Gressett suggested an ad hoc committee be appointed to explore carbon sequestration on

the coast.

- Mayor Peters read a statement from Miranda Ramos saying she supports the City of Fort Bragg in resolving to commit to reducing GHG emissions and joining the Climate Mayors Network.
- George Reinhardt supports the Mayor for initiating this action and is in favor of a special committee to look into carbon sequestration in Mendocino County. He recommends reinstating the Climate Action Plan.
- John Gallo said that carbon sequestration has a big potential for the community in helping the greater cause and thinks it is a good idea to explore further.
- Simon Smith said that to avoid this being an empty gesture, the Climate Action Plan needs to be updated and the Council needs to look into carbon sequestration.

Discussion: The consensus of the Councilmembers was that they support the Mayor joining Climate Mayors and approve a resolution supporting the Paris Climate Accord. The Council is interested in receiving a presentation on carbon sequestration. City Manager Ruffing said she would reach out to the Redwood Forest Association and have their executive director come to a future City Council meeting to give a presentation to the Council. Mayor Peters directed the City Clerk to prepare the Resolution for the next Consent Calendar and to take the steps for the Mayor to join the Climate Mayors network.

**This agenda item was referred to staff.**

**7D. [17-336](#)** Receive Report and Consider Adoption of Resolutions Approving FY 2017/18 City of Fort Bragg and Fort Bragg Municipal Improvement District No. 1 Budgets, Establishing FY 2017/18 Appropriations Limit, and Approving FY 2017/18 Capital Projects Budget

Finance Director Damiani summarized the staff report on the FY 2017/18 budget, noting that a Budget in Brief brochure is available to the public. He answered questions from the Council regarding the \$415K deficit, revenues and operating costs.

Public Comment was received from:

- Rex Gressett spoke of his unqualified support for the Council with regard to the budget, saying it is good to see the Council getting down to doing the real work of government.

Discussion: The majority of the Councilmembers were in favor of adopting the resolution as it currently is, with the provision that staff will report back to the Finance and Administration Committee within 60 days regarding a budget amendment that would incorporate ways of bringing the deficit figure down.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Turner, seconded by Vice Mayor Lee, that the City Council Resolution (RES 4015-2017) approving the FY 2017/18 City of Fort Bragg budget be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Mayor Peters, Vice Mayor Lee and Councilmember Turner

**No:** 2 - Councilmember Cimolino and Councilmember Norvell

Enactment No: RES 4015-2017 / RES 4016-2017 / ID 391-2017 / RES 4017-2017 / ID 392-2017

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Lee, seconded by Councilmember Turner, that the Resolution (RES 4016-2017) approving and adopting the Annual Appropriation Limit for FY 2017/18 be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Mayor Peters, Vice Mayor Lee and Councilmember Turner

**No:** 2 - Councilmember Cimolino and Councilmember Norvell

Enactment No: RES 4015-2017 / RES 4016-2017 / ID 391-2017 / RES 4017-2017 / ID 392-2017

**A motion was made by Councilmember Turner, seconded by Vice Mayor Lee, that the Improvement District Resolution (RES ID 391-2017) approving the FY 2017/18 Municipal Improvement District No. 1 budget be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Mayor Peters, Vice Mayor Lee and Councilmember Turner

**No:** 2 - Councilmember Cimolino and Councilmember Norvell

Enactment No: RES 4015-2017 / RES 4016-2017 / ID 391-2017 / RES 4017-2017 / ID 392-2017

**A motion was made by Councilmember Turner, seconded by Vice Mayor Lee, that the Resolution (RES 4017-2017 and RES ID 392-2017) approving the FY 2017/18 Capital Projects budget be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Mayor Peters, Vice Mayor Lee and Councilmember Turner

**No:** 2 - Councilmember Cimolino and Councilmember Norvell

Enactment No: RES 4015-2017 / RES 4016-2017 / ID 391-2017 / RES 4017-2017 / ID 392-2017

#### **7E. [17-338](#)**

Receive Report and Consider Adoption of Resolution Approving Resumption of Approved Utility Rate Increases Effective July 1, 2017

Finance Director Damiani presented the staff report on this agenda item and responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Public Comment was received from Kathy Silva.

Discussion: It was suggested that staff put out a press release or a message with the next water bill explaining that rate increases were not implemented last year, but they will begin this year, stretched out over more time.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Cimolino, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Mayor Peters, Vice Mayor Lee, Councilmember Cimolino, Councilmember Norvell and Councilmember Turner

Enactment No: RES 4014-2017 / ID 393-2017

### **2B. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA, CONSENT CALENDAR & CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (30 Minutes, If Necessary)**

#### **8. CLOSED SESSION**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Peters adjourned the meeting at 9:45 PM.

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LINDY PETERS, MAYOR

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June Lemos, CMC, City Clerk

IMAGED (\_\_\_\_\_)