



City of Fort Bragg

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Meeting Minutes Special 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*

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

6:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N Main Street

Special Meeting - Otsuchi Farewell Event

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Peters called the meeting to order at 6:16 PM.

ROLL CALL

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

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THIS SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

None.

2. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

2A. [17-160](#) Conduct Special City Council Meeting to Say Farewell to Visitors from Otsuchi, Japan- Fort Bragg's Sister City

Mayor Peters introduced the president of the Otsuchi Exchange, Sharon Davis of the Fort Bragg Chamber of Commerce. She said "Jamata," which means "See you later" in Japanese, to the Otsuchi students who came to visit. Ms. Davis thanked the host families for hosting the students and introduced Will Thomson, translator, who has lived in Otsuchi for the last nine months teaching English to Japanese students. Mr. Thomson said the group has had an incredible eight days here, making sweet connections with their host families. The Council received a video message from the Mayor of Otsuchi, Kouzo Hirano. Mr. Thomson introduced Fumiaki Matsuhashi, of Otsuchi's board of education, who was one of the chaperones on the trip. Mr. Matsuhashi presented a gift to Mayor Peters. The Mayor read a letter from Otsuchi that accompanied the gift, an antique measuring instrument. Mr. Matsuhashi also presented a gift to the entire City, which City Manager Ruffing accepted on behalf of the City of Fort Bragg. Veronica Bazor, Angela Harney and Sharon Davis were acknowledged for their work with the Otsuchi Exchange program. Ms. Bazor gave the history of the organization and of their involvement in the organization. The students narrated a slide show depicting photographs of their town, the reconstruction efforts, scenic views, fishing events, festivals, and ceremonial celebrations. All the students -- Akinori Okaya, Kanae Kurawasa, Yuma Murakami, Yuma Ota, Nozomi Sasa, Chinatsu Sato, Nanako Seki and Emiri Tanaka -- gave their remarks in English. Two students performed a ceremonial dance. Mayor Peters said he is looking forward to visiting Otsuchi this fall, 20 years after his visit there. Councilmember Turner welcomed the group to Fort Bragg, spoke of his trips to Japan, and the rebuilding efforts of Otsuchi following the tsunami. He remarked that he is looking forward to returning to Otsuchi to see the rebirth of Fort Bragg's Sister City (and maybe get in some surfing).

Mayor Peters presented a gift to Mr. Matsuhashi from the City of Fort Bragg, a large photograph of glass from Glass Beach. Vice Mayor Lee noted that this is one of the most beautiful presentations he has seen since joining the Council. He said this program enriches Fort Bragg, thanked the students, and said he hopes they come back to Fort Bragg soon.

This item was ceremonial only; no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Peters adjourned the meeting at 7:04 PM.

LINDY PETERS, MAYOR

June Lemos, CMC, City Clerk

IMAGED (_____)