



# City of Fort Bragg

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## 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, May 11, 2015

6:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N. Main Street

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### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 - Vice Mayor Lindy Peters, Councilmember Michael Cimolino, Councilmember Scott Deitz, Councilmember Doug Hammerstrom and Mayor Dave Turner

### AGENDA REVIEW

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

- 1A. [15-114](#)** Introduction of New Employees: Community Service Officer John Heldstab; Engineering Technician Sergio Fuentes; and Police Chief Fabian Lizarraga

Community Services Officer John Heldstab was unable to attend the meeting tonight so Chief Lizarraga will introduce him at a future Council meeting.

Public Works Director Varga introduced new Engineering Technician Sergio Fuentes, who currently lives in Ukiah and has a civil engineering degree from UC Davis. Fuentes said he is glad to be here and thankful for the opportunity to work with the City.

City Manager Ruffing introduced new Police Chief Fabian Lizarraga, recounting his extensive background and credentials in law enforcement over the last 36 years. Chief Lizarraga said he is happy to be part of the community and to work with such an outstanding and dedicated group of officers. He is getting to know the people of Fort Bragg by attending various events and functions and looks forward to working with community organizations and individuals.

- 1B. [15-153](#)** Presentation of Proclamation Recognizing National Bike Month - May 2015

Mayor Turner read a proclamation declaring May as National Bike Month. Representatives from Mendocino Coast Cyclists and Seniors on Bikes were present to accept the proclamation and thanked the City Council for making Fort Bragg a wonderful place to ride bikes.

- 1C. [15-154](#)** Presentation of Proclamation Declaring May 10 - 16, 2015 as National Police Week

Vice Mayor Peters read a proclamation declaring May 10 through May 16, 2015 as National Police Week. Chief Lizarraga accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Fort Bragg Police Department and thanked the citizens of Fort Bragg for their continued support of the police.

**1D. [15-148](#)** Receive Update from Petra Schulte, Nutrition Educator at Fort Bragg High School, Regarding the CX3 Program (Communities of Excellence in Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Prevention)

Petra Schulte, Nutrition Educator at Fort Bragg High School, gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Council, accompanied by four CX3 Youth Advocates, Josepha Sugrue, Yamilet Garcia, Zulaimy Garcia, and Ruth Trujillo. The presentation emphasized working together as a community to make the city healthier by requesting that local grocery stores stock healthy food options at checkout counters instead of candy.

## **2. STAFF COMMENTS**

City Manager Ruffing noted that the mayors' photos are back up at Town Hall and thanked Assistant City Manager Feth-Michel and Administrative Assistant Jourdain for organizing the reframing project and Public Works Department for mounting the photos. She announced that the City's new Facebook site was launched last week. The Budget Workshop will be held Tuesday, May 19 at 3:30 PM at Town Hall. Ruffing spoke to Senator Mike McGuire last Friday and offered to draft a letter supporting his legislation regarding online vacation rentals.

Public Works Director Varga reported that he has been corresponding with Caltrans regarding the accidents that have occurred at Highway 1 and Redwood Avenue. Caltrans will be working on signal timing coordination and other safety improvements at that intersection in the next few months.

## **3. MATTERS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

Mayor Turner reported that the County and Lodging Association met on April 29 to discuss Business Improvement District (BID) governance, increased marketing efforts, and additional 1% transient occupancy tax. The Technology Committee met on April 30 regarding free wireless internet services in the downtown district. In response to letters of concern, the Committee is considering turning off Wi-Fi at night while people are sleeping. Turner said he received a call from the Floor Store who expressed interest in moving the building at 136 North Franklin, which is scheduled to be demolished by Mendo Lake Credit Union in preparation for their new parking lot, from its present location to the Floor Store property just to the north. A house moving company is providing bids to the Floor Store. On May 6 the Finance and Admin Committee met with the Promotions Committee and decided to recommend leaving administrative services with the Chamber of Commerce for now. The mayor met with Senator McGuire to discuss the development of the Mill Site. He also attended the Cinco de Mayo event at Bainbridge Park and thanked Vice Mayor Peters for helping put on the event.

Vice Mayor Peters summarized his visit with Senator McGuire, who he indicated listened attentively to both sides of the Old Coast Hotel issue. Peters thanked the people on the Cinco de Mayo committee who helped put on the first annual event and thinks there will be a bigger turnout in the future. He mentioned the Junior Giants, a free program involving baseball that also teaches kids how to live better, eat healthier, and prevent bullying.

Councilmember Hammerstrom said that the Mendocino Council of Governments met to discuss the budget for MTA, the local public transportation service. Although MTA is doing well, it would do better with more riders. Hammerstrom encouraged people to consider the bus when going to work,

shopping, the doctor, Mendocino College classes, and other local places.

## **6A. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA, CONSENT CALENDAR & CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

1. Judy Valadao read a statement concerning the City Council's decision on the homeless services facility at the Old Coast Hotel (OCH). She read an exchange of emails between City staff regarding the Hospitality Center and the purchase of the OCH.
2. Marissa Colombi continued reading the statement for Judy Valadao.
3. Charles Brandenburg spoke about fraud and conspiracy regarding the sale of the OCH by the Carines. He is in favor of a recall vote.
4. Rex Gressett talked about the political machine betraying public interest.
5. Danielle Castle, a new resident of Fort Bragg, spoke about the Mendocino Coast Cyclists and said how impressed she is with the Bicycle Transportation Plan and that biking events can pull a community together.
6. Scott Menzies supports the Council making informed decisions and said he respects the Council and expects them to vote based on their values. He does not support a recall election over a single issue, as he believes that is an abuse of a serious tool. He is in support of the OCH project.
7. Jim Hooper supports a recall vote and opposes the OCH project.
8. Gabriel Quinn-Moroni spoke in opposition to a recall vote. He is also opposed to the homeless services facility at the OCH and thinks the Council should facilitate making local business thrive.
9. Pilar Gonzales is not in favor of a recall and spoke in support of the City Councilmembers.
10. Alice Chouteau stated it is unfair to cut speakers off after three minutes when they are opposed to a project but to let them continue speaking if they are in support.
11. Malcolm McDonald said he agreed with Scott Menzies' remarks and is not for or against the OCH project and can see both sides of the argument. He thinks the recall movement is based in fear born of ignorance.
12. Douglas Chouteau said speakers should say what they want without insulting other people.

Mayor Turner read some remarks about what he has done during his last term of office and stated that he supports the right of the people to call for a recall between elections, but he believes that the people will support his continuing to serve. He will address the specifics in the recall document he was given after he has a chance to read it.

## **4. PUBLIC HEARING**

## **5. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

### **5A. [15-155](#) Receive Report Regarding the City's Water Supply**

Public Works Director Varga gave a report on the water situation in Fort Bragg, the projected challenges, and the actions the City can take. He summarized where the City's water comes from, how much is used, and how Fort Bragg residents have steadily reduced their water usage over the last four years. In citing statistics on water usage, Varga noted an error on page 1 of the agenda report, stating the three City sources of water produce an average of 15 million gallons of water per month, not 150 million gallons. He acknowledged Fort Bragg for being number four in the state in low water consumption, after Arcata, San Francisco and Santa Cruz. Varga gave an update on the Summers Lane Reservoir, Governor Brown's executive order regarding water conservation, Municipal Code updates on water conservation, and programs to assist low-income residents with paying their water bills.

Discussion: The following was noted during discussion on this item:

- In response to a question from Vice Mayor Peters regarding the capture of stormwater runoff, Varga said that concept works best when there is year-round stormwater. Because Fort Bragg only gets stormwater a couple months out of the year, the City has to use more clever ways to stretch the water.
- Councilmember Hammerstrom said he expects there will be innovative ways to save water in the future, and recommended staffers in the water bills to pass along water conservation ideas to the customers.
- Vice Mayor Peters suggested researching programs that help water intensive industries, such as fisheries, which provide a lot of jobs in the community. He said Caito Fisheries related to him that their water bill has tripled recently.

Public Comment on this agenda item was received from: Rex Gressett, Charles Brandenburg, George Reinhardt, and Eric Dwyer. Items noted by the public included:

- Concerns about taking water out of Noyo River illegally and pesticides and herbicides running into the river.
- Concerns about the possibility of the City cutting off water sales to Mendocino and other areas outside City limits.
- Incentivizing improvements such as water catchment systems when buildings are remodeled.
- Implementing grey water reuse programs.
- Off-road recreation at Summers Lane Reservoir.
- What problems will result from adding more water meters to properties in town.

Mayor Turner responded that the City is taking water legally out of Noyo River and the money received from water bills is used to maintain the infrastructure. Director Varga said there is no waste of water, but the City must cover the needs of this community first.

**No action was taken on this agenda item.**

## **6B. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA, CONSENT CALENDAR & CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (Continued, If Needed)**

### **7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Vice Mayor Peters requested that Items 7A. and 7H. be removed from the Consent Calendar.

- 7B. [15-141](#)** Adopt City Council Resolution Approving Second Addendum to Professional Services Agreement with Pacific Legacy, Inc. for Implementation of Extended Phase I Archaeological Survey for the Fort Bragg Coastal Restoration and Trail Project (Amount not to Exceed \$30,816.38; Account No. 407-3150-0319)

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

Enactment No: RES 3807-2015

- 7C. [15-152](#)** Adopt City Council Resolution Approving the Replacement of Exercise Equipment and Amending the FY 2014-15 C.V. Starr Community Center Budget in the Amount Not to Exceed \$10,400 (Account No. 812-4812-0351)

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

Enactment No: RES 3808-2015

- 7D. [15-156](#)** Approve Minutes from February 19, 2015 Public Works and Facilities Meeting

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

- 7E. [15-157](#)** Approve Minutes from February 23, 2015 Finance and Administration Committee Special Meeting

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

- 7F. [15-158](#)** Approve Minutes from March 4, 2015 Finance and Administration Committee Meeting

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

- 7G. [15-146](#)** Approve Minutes from Special Meeting April 27, 2015

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

#### **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 7A. [15-126](#)** Approve Scope of Work for Timber Harvesting Operations at City-Owned Property at 19701 Summers Lane

Vice Mayor Peters asked what happens to the marketable timber on the subject property. Director Varga responded that the City will recover the value for the timber.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Peters, seconded by Councilmember Hammerstrom, that the Scope of Work for Timber Harvesting Operations at 19701 Summers Lane be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Vice Mayor Peters, Councilmember Cimolino, Councilmember Deitz, Councilmember Hammerstrom and Mayor Turner

- 7H. [15-147](#)** Approve Minutes of April 27, 2015

Vice Mayor Peters requested a change to language in the third sentence of the second paragraph on Page 12 of the Minutes. He requested that the word "corrected" be replaced with "took issue with."

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Peters, seconded by Councilmember Hammerstrom, that the Minutes be approved as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Vice Mayor Peters, Councilmember Cimolino, Councilmember Deitz, Councilmember Hammerstrom and Mayor Turner

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

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:01 PM.

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DAVE TURNER, MAYOR

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June Lemos, Administrative Assistant

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