



**CITY OF FORT BRAGG**

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**COUNCIL COMMITTEE ITEM SUMMARY REPORT**

**MEETING DATE:** January 11, 2017  
**TO:** Public Works & Facilities Committee  
**FROM:** Tom Z. Varga, Public Works Director  
**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** **Receive Report on Operability of Clock in Front of Guest House and Possible Corrective Actions**

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**ISSUE:**

The Town Clock is located in front of the Guest House museum. It is a valued part of the museum's setting and a publicly appreciated timepiece. In recent years, the clock has shown signs of aging and the adverse effects of our marine climate. It has not been keeping time very well and is ready for restoration or replacement.

**SUMMARY:**

Sometime in the late 1990s, the Town Clock went through a major restoration. The box was repainted, the clock mechanism cleaned, adjusted and replaced. Since 2005, the clock has been regularly adjusted. The mechanism appears to be strongly affected by ambient weather conditions. In 2007, the clock mechanism was removed and fully refurbished. The box was also repainted at that time. In about 2012, the electric motors in the clock mechanism were replaced. Over the past two or three years, the time has been adjusted more and more frequently. Adjustments seldom lasted more than two months at a time.

Since it was restored in the late 1990s, about \$1,000 has been spent on replacement parts plus a roughly equivalent amount of labor cost. The Town Clock is again ready for a major refurbishment or replacement. Replacement of the entire clock is estimated to be about \$17,000. Replacing the failing internal mechanism and a thorough cleaning is estimated to be about \$4,000. These estimates were provided by Randy at Electric Time.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff is seeking the Committee's input regarding whether the entire clock should be replaced or just the internal mechanism. Alternatively, it could be left as is. If the recommended remedy requires a budget appropriation, it will be included in the FY 2017/18 Budget for consideration and action by the full Council.