



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*

Monday, July 14, 2014

6:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N. Main Street

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor Dave Turner, Vice Mayor Meg Courtney, Councilmember Scott Deitz, Councilmember Doug Hammerstrom and Councilmember Heidi Kraut

AGENDA REVIEW

Mayor Turner noted that he would be adding two items under Mayor's Recognitions and Announcements.

1. MAYOR'S RECOGNITIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Turner welcomed Interim Chief Willis back to the City of Fort Bragg and explained that Chief Mayberry is on extended medical leave.

Mayor Turner thanked everyone who helped with the Fort Bragg fireworks celebration after the Salmon Barbecue on July 5th.

2. STAFF COMMENTS

City Clerk VanWormer noted that the nomination period for the November election opened today and will close on August 8th for incumbents; should an incumbent not file for reelection the nomination period will be extended to August 13th for everyone except incumbents. She encouraged anyone interested in running for City Council to come see her to get a nomination packet.

City Manager Ruffing reported on the following:

1. The signed State Budget includes \$100 million to begin repayment to cities, counties, and special districts for state mandated costs. The City of Fort Bragg will receive \$12,624.
2. The Harrison Street House, 331 N. Harrison Street, will have a reception tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. to show off their improvements.
3. The C.V. Starr Community Center is now participating in the Silver Sneakers program.
4. Volunteers will be recognized at the next City Council meeting and there will be a cake & coffee reception prior to the meeting.

3. MATTERS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS

Mayor Turner recognized Bill Townsend who is 98 years and comes over every year to cook at the World's Largest Salmon Barbecue. He noted that Congressman Jared Huffman, Sheriff Tom Allman and a lot of lowly dignitaries like the City Council were also there cooking and a good time had by all. Turner reported that he, the Noyo Center's Executive Director Sheila Seimans, Councilmember Hammerstrom, and Don Armstrong visited the Marine Mammal Center and they were very helpful. He noted that the Center built an impressive facility that cost approximately \$32 million. After that meeting he and Councilmember Hammerstrom stopped by the Mendocino College and attended the Board of Trustees' meeting where they voted to ratify the Memorandum of Understanding with the College of the Redwoods. Mendocino College will have classes here on the coast in the fall and the schedule will come out shortly. This is good news for local residents.

Councilmember Courtney stated that is great news about the college but there is another issue she isn't too happy about and that is the homeless situation and what will happen with the Buddy Ellers facility being closed in Ukiah. She expressed concern about the Ortnier Management Group that is under contract to take care of mental health issues in the County. Courtney reported that there will be a meeting of Love in Action to discuss this crisis at St. Michaels Larsen Hall at the corner of Fir & Franklin Streets on Thursday at 10:00 a.m.; she urged people to attend and provide input.

Councilmember Deitz stated that he enjoyed the Salmon Barbecue. He was told that over 3,000 meals were served which means that this event brought a lot of people into town for the weekend. Deitz then suggested that everyone take a class or two this fall at the college.

Councilmember Hammerstrom informed the Council that the Marine Mammal Center takes care of sick animals from San Luis Obispo County through Mendocino County but cautioned people that some animals go through cycles throughout the year when they molt their hair or skin and may look sick but aren't. He suggested calling the Marine Mammal Center before intervening. Hammerstrom noted that the Mendocino College Board was very welcoming at their meeting and went out of their way to say nice things about their association with Fort Bragg. This agreement offers an opportunity for students to get started on their college education locally and stay at home. He encourages people to check out the campus in Ukiah; it is just north of town.

Councilmember Kraut thanked everyone that worked on the college issue noting that it is really exciting that the community will have classes here in Fort Bragg in the fall. Kraut reported on the Redwood Empire Division meeting of the League of California Cities in Blue Lake on Friday where attendees received a presentation from the Redwood Coast Energy Authority. They are focusing on what the State is doing to get more electric vehicles on the road and more electric charging stations set up. She stated that it would be nice to have more charging stations in Fort Bragg. Attendees also received information about the Civic Spark Program which is an Americorp initiative that places interns in public agencies to work on climate action plans and similar projects.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

- 4A. [14-217](#) Receive Report and Conduct Public Hearing Regarding: Annual Grantee Performance Reports on Activities Funded by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program: 1) 12-CDBG-8388 Homeless Mental Health Intervention Program, Harrison Street House Transitional Housing Rehabilitation Project, and Microenterprise Assistance Program; and 2) CDBG Program Income Fund

Housing & Economic Development Coordinator Owen reviewed the Agenda Item Summary prepared for this item with the City Council.

Mayor Turner opened the public hearing at 6:24 p.m.

1. Judy Valadao stated that the house on Harrison Street is absolutely beautiful. She stated her concern was with the proposed mental health facility at 300 N. Harrison for which the Council voted to seek a grant. She noted that she and others have gathered hundreds of signatures on a petition asking that a mental health facility not be located at this address. She stated that since that time she has been asked a number of times if the City Council knew when they were voting to apply for the grant that mentally ill sex offenders could be housed at that facility, which is next to the Wiggly Giggly Park. If the Council wasn't informed of that they should not have voted on something that they were uninformed about. Sometimes making decisions without the facts is worse than making no decision at all.
2. Dan Gelpa stated that he didn't see very many locals or families at the Salmon Barbecue; all he saw were tourists. He suggested that the City try to bring in the local population to enjoy the barbecue. He then addressed the issue of homelessness becoming criminalized. He stated that he was at the clinic yesterday and there was a homeless lady with mental issues crying for help and all they did was call the police. He asked where the City and Council stand in dealing with mentally ill patients.
3. Anna Shaw, Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center, noted that she submitted a report to the Council and offered to answer any questions they might have about the subject of the public hearing. At the request of Mayor Turner, Shaw explained the transitional housing program. She noted that they are allowed to live in the transitional housing for up to two years and during that time the Hospitality Center saves 10% of the client's rent for when they move on to other housing. Shaw stated that there isn't an exact count of homeless mentally ill individuals but expressed concern that the situation with the Ellers Center closing needs to be managed carefully. Shaw concluded by thanking the Council for supporting the Hospitality Center and invited the Council, staff and public to a reception at 11:30 tomorrow.
4. Natalie Gregory explained the work she has done with the grant for the Homeless Mental Health Intervention Program. She stated that she has found that a lot of clients who received the help they needed then referred other clients which was a great outreach piece. Historically, the outreach portion is not possible because of the regulations the grant has on it. Building the connection with the clinic is also great because she can advocate for the client who may not understand what happens at their appointment. She has been able to create case management services that can be flexible especially for those clients who are resistant and persistently homeless and mentally ill. Gregory stated that she hopes they can do a lot more work in the next year and a half.
5. Elaine Ball stated that many people aren't mentally ill they are just mentally abusing their mind. She asked if a non-profit is held responsible if something happens at their mental health clinic or to a neighbor, child, or member of the public. She then relayed an incident on the Skunk Train tracks where a homeless person was laying in the middle of the tracks and was almost hit by the train; he was taken to the hospital but was released because he was so disruptive. Ball stated that there needs to be housing for the mentally ill but it needs to be with integrity; she stated she does not believe 300 N. Harrison Street would have that integrity. It needs to be a facility with doctors and counselors. Ball then went on to read a statement about a recent visit she made to City Hall to request a

financial report on the Hospitality House and was told it wasn't the City's responsibility to provide that information. She then met with the Hospitality House staff the next day and it was obvious that someone at City Hall told the Hospitality House that she had asked for that information. She then called City Hall and asked who informed the Hospitality House of her request and no one would confess to it. She suggested some changes be made if it is the practice of the City staff to do this.

6. Kathy Silva noted that there is the Mental Health Intervention Program helping people now but she has concerns about the Ortner Management Group and felt there are other agencies that might be better. She suggested that if there is a new grant perhaps someone else should be contracted with to complete the work. She ended by stating that 331 N. Harrison does look beautiful.

Mayor Turner closed the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.

Discussion: The following was noted during continued discussion of this item:

* Mayor Turner clarified that the action the Council took previously was to authorize a grant application and that they were aware that if this type of facility were to be considered at the location discussed by earlier speakers it would need to go through the Planning Commission for approval. The Council was not determining that the services would be provided at that location; at no time was the Council deciding to put something in one place or another when they took that action. Turner noted that the Hospitality Center is now looking at several different locations. He reported that there was an article in today's paper about criminalization of the mentally ill and it noted that since hospitals for the mentally ill closed, communities have used jails and law enforcement to house them. The article estimated that up to 25% of people in jail are mentally ill; this is a nationwide situation.

* Vice Mayor Courtney reminded people about the Love in Action meeting on Thursday as mentioned previously.

This Staff Report was received and filed.

4B. [14-221](#) Receive Report, Conduct Public Hearing, and Consider Adopting City Council Resolution Approving City of Fort Bragg Five-Year Capital Improvement Program for FY 2014/15 through FY 2018/19

Director of Public Works Varga reviewed the Agenda Item Summary prepared for this item with the City Council.

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

* The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes repair and maintenance projects that are not recurring expenses; recurring expenses and some small non-recurring expenses are included in the general budget.

* Staff clarified that the continuation of the street maintenance tax that was adopted by the voters in August does not go into effect until January. The original ordinance did not include alley rehabilitation; the new ordinance does.

* Staff is proposing issuing water bonds in FY 2016/17 to fund some of the water projects such as the reservoir and water line improvements. Staff first wants to pursue any grant funding available.

* The plan is to have the Town Hall upgrade completed by January 2015 when the City will be hosting the Redwood Empire Municipal Insurance Fund (REMIF) annual meeting.

* Staff anticipates putting the Main Street Merge project out to bid in January.

Mayor Turner opened the public hearing at 7:12 p.m.

1. Kathy Silva, resident of Fort Bragg, referred to her letter about Bainbridge Park and her disappointment it wasn't in the Capital Improvement Program. She urged the City Council to look around at the park when they attend the City's 125 anniversary barbecue there in August. She stated that she is really excited about the Coastal Trail project and can't wait to show it off to visitors.

Mayor Turner closed the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Discussion: The following was noted during continued discussion of this item:

* Staff will look at the improvements suggested in Silva's letter and see what can be done now as maintenance projects and will bring back the bigger items for discussion at the mid-year budget review.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hammerstrom, seconded by Vice Mayor Courtney, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Mayor Turner, Vice Mayor Courtney, Councilmember Deitz, Councilmember Hammerstrom and Councilmember Kraut

Enactment No: RES 3722-2014

5. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

- 5A. [14-185](#)** Receive Report on Implementation of Economic Development Strategy and Provide Direction to Staff Regarding Adoption of Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Program

Housing & Economic Development Coordinator Owen and Community Development Director Jones reviewed the Agenda Item Summary prepared for this item with the City Council.

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

* Council suggested tracking the number of business licenses each year in order to see what affect the Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Program has on local businesses.

Council concurred with bringing the BRE back to the City Council for approval on the Consent Calendar.

* The customer satisfaction survey shows a high level of satisfaction with services provided by the Community Development Department.

Council concurrence on the other Economic Development Strategy Implementation activities was as follows:

- 1. Short-Term, Low-Cost Business License/Sign Permit Application - the problems/cost of implementing the program probably outweigh the benefits.**
- 2. Move the Business License Application Process - supported.**
- 3. Accept Payments at the Community Development Department Counter - supported as long as there are sufficient internal controls to satisfy the auditors.**
- 4. Administrative Design Review Process for Public Art - supported adding that to the Inland Land Use & Development Code.**

* The responsibility statement is intended to prevent someone from compensating the property owner for placing the art as this is generally pseudo advertising.

* Someone would only need to come back for approval to change the art, not to remove it.

Staff will remove the first part of that sentence.

This Staff Report was referred to staff for further editing and will come back to Council for final action at a later date.

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

1. Kathy Silva commented on the new website saying she likes it and it is easy to get around and search for items. She noted that Dave Turner's e-mail address only has one "g". Silva then commented on the Consent Calendar item authorizing the contract with Stephen Willis by stating that she hopes that both Chief Mayberry and Lieutenant Naulty come back soon. She noted that Chief Mayberry was very good at being proactive in keeping things calm.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Turner noted that Items 7G, H, I and J will be pulled and brought back at a later date for approval.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Councilmember Kraut, seconded by Councilmember Deitz, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Mayor Turner, Vice Mayor Courtney, Councilmember Deitz, Councilmember Hammerstrom and Councilmember Kraut

7A. [14-232](#) Adopt City Council Resolution Approving an At-Will Employment Agreement with Stephen Willis for Interim Police Chief Services for the Police Department and Authorizing City Manager to Execute Same (Amount Not to Exceed \$61,756.80; Account 110-4200-0100)

This Resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.

Enactment No: RES 3723-2014

7B. [14-216](#) Adopt City Council Resolution Declaring Surplus Property (Spin Bikes)

This Resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.

Enactment No: RES 3724-2014

7C. [14-215](#) Approve Minutes from Special Meeting of June 23, 2014

The Minutes were approved on the Consent Calendar.

7D. [14-219](#) Approve Minutes of June 23, 2014

The Minutes were approved on the Consent Calendar.

7E. [14-220](#) Approve Minutes from Special Meeting of June 27, 2014

The Minutes were approved on the Consent Calendar.

7F. [14-237](#) Approve Minutes from Special Meeting of June 30, 2014

The Minutes were approved on the Consent Calendar.

8. CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Turner recessed the meeting at 7:55 p.m.; the meeting was reconvened to closed session at 8:02 p.m.

8A. [14-246](#) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS; pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6
City Negotiators: Linda Ruffing, City Manager and Ginny Feth-Michel, Assistant City Manager
Unrepresented Employees: Police Lieutenant, Operations Manager, Noyo Center Executive Director, Associate City Engineer, Senior Government Accountant

Mayor Turner reconvened the meeting to open session at 8:33 p.m. and reported that direction was given to labor negotiators.

This Staff Report was referred to staff

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

DAVE TURNER, MAYOR

Cynthia M. VanWormer, MMC, City Clerk

IMAGED (_____)