



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, February 8, 2016

6:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N. Main Street

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order at 6:00 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

2. STAFF COMMENTS

Administrative Services Director Schneider provided an update on the local downtown Wi-Fi which is currently being tested and scheduled to go live next week. He asked the public to complete a Public Education and Government (PEG) survey from Comcast. Chief Lizarraga reported on the January 2 homicide investigation and spoke about the Police Department's new K-9 dog, "Jerry." Public Works Director Varga briefed the Council on the tree removal work at the north end of North Harrison Street. Vice Mayor Peters asked if a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review of the project had been performed. Community Development Director Jones replied that it was not necessary, as the project did not involve rare plants or nesting birds, so it was not considered a CEQA project. Director Schneider invited the public to visit the City's official website and social media sites online and the Coastal Trail in person.

3. MATTERS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS

Mayor Turner reported on recent meetings of the Fire Board and the Mendocino Solid Waste Authority. Food waste can be put into the green bins which will help reduce the amount of waste that is buried in landfills. Vice Mayor Peters reported on the status of AB 21 regarding medicinal marijuana dispensaries. He noted that a special Public Safety Committee meeting will be held at the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center (MCHC) facility at 101 N. Franklin Street on February 17 at 3:00 PM to focus on the emergency shelter situation. Peters noted that Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA) is offering free rides to students enrolled at Mendocino College, not just locally but on any MTA route. Councilmember Cimolino reported on his attendance at a Coalition for Gang Awareness and Prevention (CGAP) meeting last week and informed the Council of upcoming events planned by CGAP. He said local fishermen are worried there will not be a crab season this year; persons wishing to donate should contact the Salmon Trollers Association. Councilmember

Hammerstrom reported on the Local Agency Formation Commission and Mendocino Council of Government meetings he recently attended.

4A. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA, CONSENT CALENDAR & CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (30 Minutes)

- Mark Taylor requested that the Council reconsider the recent direction to staff regarding installation of Green Alleys in Fort Bragg, stating that Green Alley projects take more time to complete than resurfacing projects and block access for businesses and residents located on those alleys for significant amounts of time.
- Evan Dick said the Taco Bell was sneaked in, the City has not been transparent or clear with the public about the Mill Site, dishonesty surrounds the Hospitality Center, the City should quit covering for Ortnier, and the Mayor needs to be recalled.
- Judy Valadao reported that a member of the community has donated a lot to plant a garden for homeless people. She stated that the cleanup of human waste in front of local businesses is a problem. She asked if MCHC posts rules for their clients in the facility.
- Jay Rosenquist asked if cancellation of a Council meeting reduces the Councilmembers' salary for that month. She spoke about the cost of green bins and questioned who pays for inserts in the monthly water bills.
- James Harriott related his recent experiences as a resident of the Hospitality House.
- Ann Rennacker wants to see Fort Bragg focused on salmon restoration and ocean protection to attract tourists who want to see beauty, wildlife and whales.

At the conclusion of public comments, Councilmember Deitz asked that staff give an update on Green Alleys at the next Council meeting. Mayor Turner asked Public Works Director Varga to communicate with Mark Taylor regarding his alley rehabilitation concerns.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

6. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

6A. [16-065](#) Receive Oral Update from Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center Regarding Status of Homeless Services

Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center (MCHC) board member Gary Johnson made a presentation to the City Council on the current status of the Hospitality Center, Hospitality House and Emergency Winter Shelter program. In response to their Request for Proposals to remodel the 101 North Franklin Street site, MCHC selected local architects Schlosser Newberger for the design and Fort Bragg Electric as the contractor. The project is currently through the permit process and construction is expected to begin soon. Mr. Johnson provided statistics on the number of people housed and fed through the various programs offered by MCHC and answered questions from Councilmembers. MCHC Treasurer Jerry Thompson provided financial information.

Mayor Turner recessed the meeting at 7:34 PM; the meeting was reconvened at 7:46 PM.

Public Comment on this agenda item was received from: Jay Rosenquist, Jim Britt, Annette Reynolds, Ann Rennacker, Douglas Chouteau, Julia Winklemeyer, Patricia Tutics, Ron Britt and Eric Dwyer.

Discussion: Councilmember Hammerstrom observed that the treatment of people with mental health issues is a much bigger problem in society than this discussion could embrace. He noted that society in general does not think that mental health is something that needs to be dealt with and does not fund it. Vice Mayor Peters invited interested persons to attend the special meeting of the Public Safety Committee next Wednesday, February 17 at 3:00 PM at the Old Coast Hotel to discuss the Emergency Winter Shelter program and other concerns. Councilmembers Deitz and Hammerstrom both noted that the 101 North Franklin Street site was not a homeless shelter but

will become transitional housing when the remodel project is completed. Mayor Turner said it is good to see that the community cares about this matter and he hopes that by working together, some solutions can be found to help improve the mental health and homeless situation in Fort Bragg.

This agenda item was informational only; no action was taken.

Mayor Turner recessed the meeting at 8:35 PM; the meeting reconvened at 8:39 PM.

6B. [16-056](#) Receive Recommendation from Community Development Committee Regarding Three Bids for a New Fort Bragg Welcome Sign Design and Provide Direction to Staff

Community Development Director Jones summarized her staff report on the project to replace the Fort Bragg Welcome Sign. Proposals were received from local sign makers The Sign Shop, Artstruct, and Braggadoon Signs & Graphics. Jones reviewed the cost estimates and options, noting that the City Council set aside funding for this sign in the Capital Improvement Program for the Wayfinding project. Once a sign contractor is selected, the work can begin right away. Yorgen Kvinsland of Artstruct, Rick Sacks of The Sign Shop, and Kiersten Hanna of Braggadoon spoke about their designs and the features of their various signs.

Discussion: Councilmembers discussed the coloring of the letters, stability of the materials, overall visibility and aesthetics of the different designs.

Public Comment on this agenda item was received from: Eric Dwyer.

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

- The Sign Shop's design is the most easily readable of the three.
- Artstruct's design is a real work of art that would be better suited to the Coastal Trail where pedestrians could admire the three dimensionality of it more than the motorists on Highway 1 would be able to.
- If CalTrans approves relocating the current Welcome Sign to the north end of town, the Council would like to look into making a service organization type sign that says "Otsuchi's Sister City."

The Council directed staff to use The Sign Shop's design for the Fort Bragg Welcome Sign.

6C. [16-063](#) Receive Recommendation from Finance & Administration Committee and Consider Establishing Ad Hoc Council Committee to Explore Possibility of Increasing Fort Bragg's Transient Occupancy Tax (i.e., Hotel Tax)

Administrative Services Director Schneider informed the Council that the Finance and Administration Committee recommended the Council form an ad hoc committee to explore a November ballot initiative to increase Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) to raise revenue for marketing/promotion of Fort Bragg and maintenance of the Coastal Trail. The committee would need to report on its investigations so the Council could take action by June in order to put an initiative on the November 8, 2016 ballot.

Discussion: Vice Mayor Peters noted that the City Council cannot raise taxes but can vote to include an initiative on the ballot so the community can vote whether or not they wish to increase the TOT.

Public Comment on this agenda item was received from: Eric Dwyer, Jay Rosenquist, and Simon Smith.

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

- The Mayor and Vice Mayor expressed interest in serving on an ad hoc committee to gauge the level of interest from local residents and hotel/lodging establishment owners in increasing the TOT.

- The feedback on the Coastal Trail has been very positive and additional maintenance and security is needed to keep it clean and safe.
- The City pays the expenses for some of the local attractions that tourists use, so this is one method of getting the visitors to pay for some of the ongoing costs.

An Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Mayor Turner and Vice Mayor Peters was formed to investigate the possibility of putting a Transient Occupancy Tax initiative on the November ballot. The Committee is directed to report back to the Council before June of 2016.

6D. [16-040](#) Receive Report and Consider Approval of C.V. Starr Community Center Phase 3 Master Plan

Special Projects Manager Owen summarized her staff report on the C.V. Starr Community Center Phase 3 Master Plan and introduced Architects Eric Glass and Paul Douglas who presented a slide show on the Master Plan outlining the design features of the new multi-purpose gymnasium, potential funding sources, and probable construction costs for Option D2. The cost range for CMU/Standard construction was projected to be between \$12.1M and \$12.9M; the range for pre-fab metal construction, \$11.3M to \$12.1M.

Discussion: The cost of heating and conditioning of the space was briefly discussed. It was generally agreed that even though there are no funds to construct this phase of the Master Plan at this time, it is important to have a plan to begin with, and this one was very well done.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Peters, seconded by Councilmember Cimolino, to continue the meeting past 10:00 PM. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Public comment on this agenda item was received from: Eric Dwyer.

Discussion: Floor surfaces and the possibility of roller skating in the gym were briefly discussed. Mr. Douglas asked the Council if the next logical step would be to get started on looking for funding. Mayor Turner responded that the Council would have to take time to consider that. All Councilmembers complimented the architects on the excellent plan.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hammerstrom, seconded by Vice Mayor Peters, that the C. V. Starr Community Center Phase 3 Master Plan be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

4B. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA, CONSENT CALENDAR & CLOSED SESSION ITEMS (30 Minutes, If Necessary)

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of the Consent Calendar

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

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

7A. [16-053](#) Adopt Resolution Confirming the Continued Existence of a Local Drought Emergency in the City of Fort Bragg

Enactment No: RES 3887-2016

7B. [16-057](#) Adopt Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of the August 8, 2016 City

Council Meeting to Accommodate Summer Vacation Schedules

This Resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.

Enactment No: RES 3888-2016

- 7C. [16-059](#) Receive and File Minutes from the September 17, 2015 Special Oversight Board to the Fort Bragg Redevelopment Successor Agency Meeting

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

- 7D. [16-058](#) Receive and File Minutes from the October 27, 2015 Community Development Committee Meeting

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

- 7E. [16-062](#) Receive and File Minutes from the November 19, 2015 Public Works and Facilities Committee Meeting

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

- 7F. [16-060](#) Receive and File Minutes from the January 28, 2016 Special Oversight Board to the Fort Bragg Redevelopment Successor Agency Meeting

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

- 7G. [16-055](#) Approve Minutes of January 25, 2016

These Minutes were approved on the Consent Calendar.

8. CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Turner adjourned the meeting at 10:13 PM.

DAVE TURNER, MAYOR

June Lemos, City Clerk

IMAGED (_____)