



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*

Monday, October 16, 2017

5:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N Main Street

Special Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Peters called the meeting to order at 5:03 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

2.A. [17-540](#) Receive Oral Report Regarding City Manager Recruitment from Phil McKenney, Executive Recruiter, and Provide Direction

Phil McKenney of Peckham and McKenney gave an oral report on the process of recruiting a new City Manager for the City of Fort Bragg. He gave a background on his firm and described the project organization phase. He stated he will be learning about the community, the agency, and the people involved so he can create a candidate profile for a marketing campaign. He will talk to key stakeholders in the community about what they would like to see in a new City Manager. Mr. McKenney stated he will use a direct mail campaign with a filing deadline sometime in December. The screening process will begin in December and move into January, with hopes of hiring someone by January 22. Peckham and McKenney offer a guarantee on placement; if the person hired leaves within the first year, they will conduct another search for free.

Discussion: Mr. McKenney answered questions from Councilmembers regarding his experience in hiring City Managers, the structure of finalist interviews, and working with community panels.

Public Comment:

- Rex Gressett expressed doubt that a head hunter could find someone with experience and knowledge of Fort Bragg and its complex political issues. He would like to see the position filled by a local person.
- Carole White would like to see a person from the outside fill the job, with the kind of skills needed to understand the difficulties of a rural community where there are volatile factions.
- David Gurney said the City Manager is the most powerful position in the city and it is not an elected position. He recommends giving the City Council and Mayor more power than the City Manager.

- Linda Jupiter stated that Linda Ruffing has done a fabulous job during her time as City Manager. She hopes the Council will seriously consider a woman or Latino for the position to more accurately represent the demographics of the City.
- Ann Rennacker said the new City Manager will face tough issues, such as the mill site cleanup and rezoning, management of the CV Starr Community Center, and water issues.
- Lynn Baumgartner would like to see some growth and industry that could bring jobs to Fort Bragg. She recommends hiring a City Manager who can look at something besides tourism.

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

- Fort Bragg is a general law city. The community elects the City Councilmembers who choose the City Manager.
- Mr. McKenney commended the Council for asking him to meet with local key stakeholders and allowing an open and transparent process.
- It was suggested that a website or social media page be created so the public can leave comments on what they want in a City Manager.
- A candidate profile and job description will be created by the recruiter.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Peters adjourned the meeting at 5:45 PM.

LINDY PETERS, MAYOR

June Lemos, CMC, City Clerk

IMAGED (_____)