

City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California USA

City Council Minutes for May 3, 2012

Mayor Jeffrey Farley called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:02p.m. Present were Councilmen Stuart Titus, Niels Lorenzen, Ken Mierzwa, and John Maxwell, along with staff City Manager Jay Parrish, Deputy City Clerk Brianna Smith, Police Chief Bret Smith, and City Planner George Williamson. Those present pledged allegiance to the flag. Deputy City Clerk Brianna Smith called roll call. Modifications to the agenda: City Manager Parrish asked that item 11d be moved to the front.

Ceremonial: City Manager Parrish read the Older American Proclamation. Mayor Farley presented Mary Ann Bansen with the Older American Proclamation and she gave a brief update on the Senior Resource Agency. City Manager Parrish also read the National Bike Month Proclamation.

Consent Calendar: MOTION: (Mierzwa/Maxwell) Accept Accounts Payable and Approve the minutes from April 5, 2012 meeting. Motion passed unanimously with an (uncounted) abstention from Lorenzen.

Update on Francis Creek: Tom Stephens gave an update on the Francis Creek slide. He discussed wanting to develop a monitoring system as an early indicator. He also explained that they're doing a good job at collecting information that will be important for future restoration of the channel.

PUBLIC HEARING: Historical and Cultural Resources Element (H&CRE)- City Planner George Williamson gave an update of the H&CRE. Chairman of the Planning Commission Jorgen Von Frausing Borch commended Plan West on their work on the H&CRE. He explained that it was the best document that's been produced and he asked that the City Council approve this document. Councilman Maxwell also gave his appreciation to Plan West for their thoroughness. MOTION: (Maxwell/Titus). Approve Resolution 2012-14, approving the Historical and Cultural Resources Element. Unanimous.

General Plan Update: City Planner George Williamson gave an update on the General Plan. He went over the different elements that still need to be updated. He explained that he brought 2 elements to the Planning Commission; the Safety Element and the Conservation and Open Space Element. The PC chose the Safety Element. It was explained that if the Council chose the Safety Element as the Planning Commission recommended that Plan West would bring a detailed scope of work to the Planning Commission at their May meeting, and then would be brought back to the City Council in June and if it is accepted a budget will be worked out and work will begin on July 1, 2012. Member of the public Mike Warner had a question as to why the Safety Element was chosen over the Conservation and Open Space Element. City Planner George Williamson explained that the Safety Element has not been updated since 1975 and given the vintage and issues facing Ferndale the Planning Commission felt that the Safety Element should be next. All of the Councilmen agreed that the Safety Element was an appropriate element to begin working on next. MOTION: (Maxwell/Titus). Approve updating the Safety Element of the City of Ferndale. Unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING: Unmet Transit Needs- City Manager Parrish gave an update. Councilman Maxwell had a comment about the getting a shuttle bus to Fernbridge to match with one or more buses. Councilman Mierzwa had a comment about getting a kiosk with a light at the bus stop in Fernbridge, as it is hard for the drivers to see at that location. City Manager Parrish explained that the comments would be forwarded to HCAOG. MOTION: (Maxwell/Titus). No Unmet Transit Needs are reasonable to meet. Unanimous.

Resolution 2012-15 Accepting the 3rd Pay Request for the Pedestrian Improvement Project- City Manager Parrish gave a brief update on the PED project. MOTION: (Farley/Mierzwa). Accept Resolution 2012-15, approving the 3rd partial payment for the Pedestrian Improvement Project. Unanimous.

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Letter to Del Oro Water Company- City Manager Parrish gave an update on the a letter the City received from Del Oro Water Company in response to a letter they had received from a Ferndale resident asking for a rate reduction. City Manager Parrish explained that the rates were raised when the Navy Housing was abandoned and that right now Del Oro does not have the sufficient data to perform the necessary income/expense and rate analysis, but that in 6 months the information they need will be available.

Correspondence – City Manger gave an update about the new fridge the City was able to buy with a grant from the Lytel Foundation.

Council Reports: Ken Mierzwa gave an update on the American Airlines situation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22PM. The next regular Council Meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2012 at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Kaytis-Slocum, City Clerk signing for
Brianna Smith, Deputy City Clerk