

**City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California, U.S.A.**  
Approved Minutes for City Council Meeting of August 19, 2022

Mayor Hindley called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm via Zoom Video Conference. Those present did the flag salute. Present were Council Members Leonard Lund, Phillip Ostler, and Robin Smith, along with staff: City Manager Jay Parrish, Police Chief Ron Sligh, and City Clerk Kristene Hall.

Report out of Closed Session: Mayor Hindley reported that the Council had a Closed Session regarding litigation from California River Watch and California Regional Water Board. Hindley explained that the settlement agreement to California River Watch was in the amount of \$25,000 and the city manager was directed to sign the agreement. Hindley added that the Stipulated Administrative Civil Liability Order from California Water Quality Board ordered the city to pay up to \$18,000 that can be paid or can be submitted in the form of an improvement project.

Ceremonial: None

Modifications to the Agenda: None

Report out of Study Session: None

Public Comment: Cleo DeOrio, new artistic director of the Ferndale Repertory Theater was present and explained she was looking for a letter of support for the new SB116 which is a fund that will pay small non-profit theater payroll for up to three years. Cleo added that she had already been in contact with the City Manager and City Clerk regarding this and the City Manager had already agreed to write a letter of support.

Consent Calendar: There were three items on the Consent Calendar for approval. There were no questions or comments from the Council or Public.

**MOTION**: to approve the consent calendar. **(Lund/Ostler) Unanimous**

Call Items Removed from Consent Calendar: None

Presentation: None

Public Hearing: None

Business:

Resolution 2022-18 Reconfirming the Russ Park Committee and Updating Guidelines: Mayor Hindley asked for any comments from the public or council regarding the Committee Guidelines. There were no comments or questions. Mayor Hindley then explained the council needed to appoint members to the Russ Pak Committee. Hindley explained there was four applicants and three openings but one of the applicants was not really wanting to go to meetings but would rather just work on the committee helping with specific projects. Hindley also explained that the appointed members would also need to be appointed to specific terms of either 2-, 3-, or 4-year terms to allow staggered terms. City Manager Parrish explained that also after the initial terms were completed, the next appointment would all be for 4-year terms. The council determined

existing members Jim Stretch and Emily Silver be appointed for 2-yr terms. The council discussed and determined Sammanntha Melton and Patt Sweeney be appointed to a 4-yr term and John Miller be appointed to the 3-yr term. Councilman Lund thanked the applicants for their involvement. The council agreed with Lund and thanked them all for their time.

**MOTION:** to approve Resolution 2022-18 Reconfirming the Russ Park Committee and Guidelines **(Ostler/Lund) Unanimous**

**MOTION:** to appoint members to the Russ Park Committee as follows: Jim Stretch and Emily Silver to a 2yr term; John Miller to a 3yr term; and Patt Sweeney and Sammantha Melton to a 4yr term. **(Lund/Ostler) Unanimous**

Tri Counties Bank Loan: Mayor Hindley explained that the city had received a grant for over 2 million dollars to repair the creek. Hindley added that the city's share of this cost was \$250,000 and a loan was taken out for this amount. Hindley stated that this item was just an informational item to let the council know that this loan had been satisfied in full.

COVID 19 Update and Discussion: City Manager Parrish stated that it seems Covid had diminished a little, however, people are still getting COVID. Parrish added that it had been 2 ½ years now and people are ready to move on. Councilman Smith stated his continued concern on the virus. Smith stated that the virus is still out there and the predictions on fall and winter deaths from the virus are not good. Smith added that people are forgetting about the virus and becoming more relaxed. Smith stated the importance of continuing to wear masks and social distance. Smith also stated the importance of the vaccines, boosters, and new medications that can be taken when diagnosed early.

**MOTION:** to reconfirm the existence of the local emergency **(Ostler/Lund) Unanimous**

The Council discussed the issue of returning to in-person meetings. Smith stated there was too much missing information and we need more data before jumping back into normal. Smith added that Zoom was working great and no reason to jump into regular meetings. Councilman Lund and Ostler agreed, and stated zoom is working well and can be easily reevaluated at next month's meeting.

**MOTION:** reconfirm the findings of Resolution 2021-21 to continue the use of virtual meetings. **(Ostler/Smith) 3-1 (Hindley)**

Correspondence: No Comments

Council Comments: Councilman Ostler asked public speaker Cleo DeOrio to repeat what she had stated during Public Comment.

Reports:

City Managers Report: Councilman Lund stated the City Staff reports are very thorough. Councilman Smith stated that the City Managers reports have become fuller and more detailed and informative and thanked Parrish for that.

Other Reports: None

Mayor Hindley Adjourned the Meeting at 7:34 pm

Respectfully submitted

Kristene Hall  
City Clerk