

**City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California, U.S.A.**  
Approved Minutes for City Council Meeting of November 16, 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, Stephen Avis, Phillip Ostler, and Robin Smith, along with staff: City Manager Jay Parrish, Police Chief Ron Sligh, City Planner Michelle Nielsen, City Clerk Kristene Hall and Finance/Deputy City Clerk Lauren Boop.

Report out of Closed Session: None

Ceremonial: None

Modifications to the Agenda: None

Report out of Study Session: None

Public Comment: None

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 2022-26 Authorizing a 1-yr Extension of the Recology Franchise Agreement:

Recology representative Linda Wise was present to update the council. Wise stated the extension would allow the opportunity to negotiate a new agreement with improved provisions and updated collection services. Wise also added that the timing would also be in tandem with Fortuna and Rio Dell which would allow Ferndale to realize significant cost savings which could include attorney's fees for contracts and equipment costs being offset by Fortuna and Rio Dell. Wise also went over some of the new laws that the city will need to comply with and the additional benefits of by implementation of universal collection in tandem with Fortuna and Rio Dell. Wise also added that the extension also includes extra city can pickups during Ferndale festivities.

**MOTION:** to approve Resolution 2022-26 Authorizing a 1-yr Extension of the Recology Franchise Agreement **(Lund/Ostler) Unanimous**

Letter of Interest to Participate in a Regional Capacity with HWMA for Purpose of Organic Processing: City Manager Jay Parrish stated that this item is in regard to the new SB1383

regulations and trying to regionally, cities and county, to add a sorting facility at the HWMA instead of trucking it elsewhere. Parrish explained by regionally working together, it will save money and effort and place one organization in charge of this program. Councilman Avis asked

staff to explain Organics. Parrish explained the organics is food and greenery waste. Parrish added that the state is now mandating that be reduced. Parrish also stated that this letter was acknowledging the City's interest in joining regionally. Avis questioned how green waste and food waste would be handles separately. Recology. Inc representative Linda Wise stated that it will depend on the sorting facility and added that food waste and green waste are deposited in one can in many other cities. Wise added that this collection would also include soiled napkins, paper plates, etc. Councilman Ostler questioned Wise on if there were other communities or cities that were already implementing this. Wise stated that yes there are many communities that have implemented SB1383 and they are looking to them for direction and help. Avis questioned if this is implemented regionally, will any noncompliance fines be regional or assessed to individual jurisdictions. Eric Keller-Heckman from HWMA stated that fines could be given to individual jurisdictions for noncompliance. Keller-Heckman also added that this agenda item is for a letter from the council stating the City's willingness to work regionally and to allow a JPA agreement to be drawn up and altered to allow HWMA flow control over the city's material. MOTION: to approve Letter of Interest to Participate Regionally with HWMA for Purposes of Organic Processing. **(Smith/Avis) Unanimous**

Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) Grants Program: City Planner Michelle Nielsen gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the PLHA Program. Nielsen explained the grant program and went over the two housing assistance programs that the city could look into which include: 1. ADU rehabilitation and development, and 2. Accessibility modifications in lower income owner occupied homes. Nielsen also commented on the two biggest concerns for these programs which would be the cost to develop the housing programs and the new responsibilities the city would have to commit to. Nielsen also went over the 5-year allocation funds starting from 2019. Nielsen explained that the funds we would be applying for at this time would be the 2019 allocation. Nielsen also went over in detail the city responsibilities and which responsibilities that funds could be used for. Councilman Smith stated more information is needed before a decision could be made and suggested a study session. Smith questioned the City Manager if he had any information to include from other cities. City Manager Parrish stated he had reached out to other municipalities but is having trouble getting information. Parrish added that this could but a strain on city staff and more due diligence needs to be assessed. Parrish also explained that the focus on expanding the community is to focus on families with school age children. Parrish stated that this grant will assist with ADU development, but ADU's do not usually house families with children. Councilman Lund questioned if staff would be able to handle all the extra responsibilities this grant would entail. Parrish stated that our staff would not be able to take on this and we would have to hire someone. Councilman Avis commented that more information was needed and recommended a study session as well. A member of the public questioned if this was the first 5yr cycle or was there a previous grant cycle. Nielsen sated that this is the first 5-year cycle. Nielsen also stated this is a permanent program so there will be more 5-yr cycle but the way it is distributed could be changed. Nielsen also stated that some cities are delegating their funding to another city or county.

**MOTION:** to elect not to apply for the City's 2019 allocation, and to wait and apply in 2023 for the City's 2020 PLHA allocation and direct staff to rescind Resolution 2022-25 **(Smith/Ostler) Unanimous**

Review Expenditures List Submitted by Russ Park Committee and Amend the Per Capita Grant:

City Manager Parrish explained that we had been over this a few times. Parrish explained that the Russ Park Committee would like the council to reconsider the Vault Restroom as well as look over the list of expenditures to use against the Russ Park donation fund. Mayor Hindley questioned what was being reduced to add funding for the vault restroom. Councilman Avis stated that the amount allocated for signage would be reduced. The council and Russ Park Committee chair discussed the list of expenditures submitted by the Russ Park Committee. Councilman Smith stated his support for the addition of the vault restroom and using any excess money toward it. Councilman Lund was in agreeance of using the \$12,500 requested to use for the vault restroom and not changing anything on the per capita grant other than that amount. Hindley expressed his concerns on spending the donation quickly, and council approval of specific items. Hindley expressed he did not want to approve every item at this time and would like it to be taken to the council when the item comes up. Parrish stated all items should be vetted by staff before approval is given. Parrish recommend that large items be brought forth as soon as possible so staff has time to do its due diligence on items to properly vet each item.

**MOTION:** to modify the Russ Park Per Capita Grant Application only by reducing the requested amount for Russ Park signage from \$31,000 to \$18,500 and add a Vault Restroom in the amount of \$12,500 with the provision that if any excess monies are left over after the Russ Park Per Capita Grant approved projects are completed, it be applied to any remaining balance of the Vault Restroom, with the final balance of the Vault Restroom to be paid by the Russ Park Donation Fund. **(Smith/Avis) 4-0-1** (Lund lost connection)

**MOTION:** to direct staff to establish the necessary expenditure and revenue accounts in the budget as required; authorize the Russ Park Committee to spend against the accounts for the items approved by the Council in accordance with established City policies; and direct staff to assist the Committee with the implementation of the anonymous donation expenditures for Russ Park when required and as appropriate.

**(Avis/Smith) 4-1-0** (Hindley)

COVID 19 Update and Discussion: City Manager Parrish stated that it seems Covid will be here for a while and recommends we continue as we have been until the Governor or County rescinds the emergency. Councilman Smith went over some statistics. Smith also stated the importance of protecting yourself in an indoor setting. Councilman Avis stated he would like to continue the way it has been and give staff time to get the room ready and safe.

**MOTION:** to reconfirm the existence of the local emergency **and** reconfirm the findings of Resolution 2021-21 to continue the use of virtual meetings. **(Avis/Smith) Unanimous**

Correspondence: None

Council Comments: Councilman Avis thanked the individuals who ran for the office of City Council and Mayor. Avis also congratulated the incoming Mayor. Avis also thanked all the members he has served with over the last 4 years. Avis added that he has learned a lot and they have accomplished a lot as a council.

Councilman Smith thanked Lund and Ostler for being a diligent part of the Council and adding to his experience of being on the council. Smith also thanked City Manager Parrish for hanging in here especially during Covid. Smith also thanked the City Clerk Kristene Hall.

Councilman Lund stated it was a pleasure to work with Councilman Avis and Smith. Lund also thanked Mayor Hindley for all his work and knowledge.

Councilman Ostler stated it has been a pleasure to serve with everyone. Mayor Hindley stated it has been a pleasure to work with everyone and though we may not agree all the time, that is the way it should be. Hindley also added thanked staff and all their work to make the job easier.

City Manager Parrish stated it was an honor to work with all of you and staff tries to assist in all ways to make the councils job easier.

Reports:

City Managers Report: Parrish added that California Street Sewer Replacement had begun, and they had already done 500ft.

Other Reports: None

Mayor Hindley Adjourned the Meeting at 9:18 pm

Respectfully submitted

Kristene Hall  
City Clerk