

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California, U.S.A.</b> Approved Action Minutes for City Council Meeting of March 20, 2024</p>
--

Mayor Randy Cady called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Those present did the flag salute. Present were Council Members Leonard Lund, Skip Jorgensen, and Phillip Ostler, along with City staff: City Manager Jay Parrish, City Planner Vanessa Blodgett, Police Chief Ron Sligh and City Clerk Kristene Hall.

Report out of Closed Session: Mayor Cady stated a closed session was held on February 26, 2024, at 2:00pm. There was no reportable action. Cady added another closed session was held prior to the City Council Meeting and there was no reportable action.

Ceremonial: None

Modifications to the Agenda: None

Report out of Study Session: None

Public Comment: There was one public comment regarding a grant opportunity.

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

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

Call Items Removed from Consent Calendar: None

Presentation: Jill Demers was present from Humboldt County Resource Conservation District (HCRCD) to give an update on the Salt River and Williams Creek Projects.

Public Hearing: None

Business:

Resolution 2024-05 Authorizing the Filing of Grant Application for the State Transportation Development Act Article 3 Funds: City Planner Vanessa Blodgett was present. Blodgett stated the HCOAG Bike and Pedestrian Grant was a specialized funding initiative aimed at supporting the development and upkeep of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure within the county. Blodgett added the grant supported activities including planning, construction, and maintenance of bicycle lanes and pedestrian paths. Blodgett gave a PowerPoint presentation on the grant and the proposed projects in Ferndale. Projects identified were a Walking Corridor between Main Street and Russ Park; 5<sup>th</sup> St & A Intersection Improvements; 5<sup>th</sup> & Fairview ADA Pedestrian Curb Improvements; and a Citywide Pedestrian Accessibility Study Update. The Council discussed the options. Councilman Ostler questioned if one of the options is more capable of obtaining the grant. Blodgett stated all the projects met the eligibility. Ostler added he like the idea of having a corridor to Russ Park. City Manager Parrish stated that the sidewalk would only go to across the street from the park and pedestrians would still need to get across the street on a blind corner. Parrish added that the 5<sup>th</sup> & A project was listed as a priority project on the streets and roads maintenance list. Councilman Lund agreed that the curbs have to be done and this grant could

help accomplish some of these. Councilman Jorgensen questioned the time frame. Blodgett stated that the applications were due tomorrow (March 21, 2024). Blodgett added the city can put in applications for multiple projects, but would need to prioritize since it would be possible for getting funding for only one. Councilman Lund questioned the cost of the corridor to Russ Park. Blodgett stated the cost proposed in the grant is for a feasibility study only and does not include any construction. Blodgett stated that the city would also need to consider what match funds it would like to allocate. Blodgett stated if it was the council's desire staff can work on this to come up with an amount. Councilman Jorgensen questioned on if it was wise to submit one project instead of multiple projects. Blodgett stated that it was fine to submit multiple projects with a priority. Councilman Jorgensen added that for any future funding projects, he would like to see 5<sup>th</sup> Street from the High School to the Elementary School to have bicycle and pedestrian enhancement.

**MOTION:** to Approve Resolution 2024-05 Authorizing the Filing of a Grant Application for the TDA Article 3 Funds for Russ Park Corridor Feasibility Study and 5<sup>th</sup> & A Street Curb Improvements. **(Ostler/Lund) Unanimous**

Resolution 2024-04 Approving Partial Closure of Hwy 211 for the Sacred Liturgy Conference Procession: There were no comments from the Council or public.

**MOTION:** to approve Resolution 2024-04 authorizing the partial closure of Highway 211 for the Sacred Liturgy Conference Processions. **(Jorgensen/Ostler) Unanimous**

Appointment of Members to Drainage Committee: City Manager Parrish went over the drainage committee terms and the expiration of the terms of the two drainage members. Parrish explained that both members would like to continue for another term of 4 years. Councilman Jorgensen expressed his concern about applicants with vested interests being on committees, but also expressed his appreciation for the committee members applying.

**MOTION:** to reappoint Tom Stephens and Jim Bass to the Drainage Committee. **(Ostler/Lund) Unanimous**

Appointment of Members to the Russ Park Committee: Councilman Jorgensen thanked Jim Stretch for his tenure on the Russ Park Committee. Councilman Lund also thanked Jim Stretch.

**MOTION:** to appoint Ken Mierzwa and Laura Wright Glenn to the Russ Park Committee for a 4-yr term. **(Jorgensen/Ostler) Unanimous**

Council Comments: Councilman Jorgensen questioned the status of the Land Use Element. City Planner Blodgett stated an update was brought to the Planning Commission at their March meeting. Blodgett added that staff plans on releasing the EIR in early April in which there is a 45-day comment period. Blodgett also added that staff would like to possibly do a joint City Council/Planning Commission study session at the end of May or early June. Jorgensen also questioned the progress with the addition of members to the streets and road committee. Parrish stated staff is planning to bring two applicants for the Council to vote on at the next City Council Meeting. Jorgensen questioned the status of the Berding St bidding process. Parrish stated he would talk to the City Engineer to see if he could start moving that project forward.

.

Reports:

City Managers Report: City Manager Parrish stated the City had received a grant for \$75,000 to assist in AB1383.

Other Reports: None

Mayor Cady thanked the staff, public, and fellow councilmembers, and Adjourned the Meeting at 7:11 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kristene Hall  
City Clerk