

**City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California, U.S.A.**  
APPROVED Action Minutes for City Council Meeting of April 17, 2024

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 Jennifer Fisk-Becker, Skip Jorgensen, and Phillip Ostler, along with City staff: City Manager Jay Parrish, City Planner Michelle Nielsen, Police Chief Ron Sligh and City Clerk Kristene Hall.

Report out of Closed Session: None

Ceremonial: A certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Jim Stretch for his service to Russ Park and the community.

Modifications to the Agenda: Item b was moved to the first discussion topic in the business section.

Report out of Study Session: None

Public Comment: None

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. **(Ostler/Jorgensen) Unanimous**

Call Items Removed from Consent Calendar: None

Presentation: None.

Public Hearing: None

Business:

Appoint Two Members to the Street & Road Committee: City Manager Jay Parrish stated that the Street & Road Committee was a technical advisory committee that prioritizes street and road improvements throughout the city. Parrish added the committee currently consists of two appointed Council members, the City Engineer, Public Works, and the City Manager. Parrish also added that due to a drastic reduction in state and federal funding opportunities, the roads have become more degraded. Parrish also stated that staff feel that adding two members of the public to the committee to assist in the process would be extremely valuable to the community. Councilman Jorgensen questioned if these members could write grants for the city. Parrish stated that they could assist but would not be able to personally write the grants. Councilwoman Fisk-Becker questioned the process of placing the members on the committee. Parrish stated that the selection of the community members could be something to look at in the future if the council would like. Parrish added that Stuart Titus and Cameron Renner both showed interest in the committee. Parrish also added the committee is a technical advisory committee, not a brown act committee.

**MOTION:** to appoint Stuart Titus and Cameron Renner to the streets and Roads Committee. **(Ostler/Fisk-Becker) Unanimous**

General Plan and Housing Element Annual Progress Reports for Calendar Year 2023: City Planner Michelle Nielsen was present. Nielsen explained that mandates that all cities and counties submit an annual report on the General Plan status and progress on its implementation

to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) by April 1 of each year. Nielsen stated that the Annual Progress Report was filed with both entities on March 30, 2024. Nielsen went over the elements of the general plan and when each section was updated. Nielsen stated that significant progress has been made on the Land Use Element. Nielsen stated that the EIR report should be completed and ready the public review period at the end of April or beginning of May. Nielsen also added that a joint study session with the Planning Commission could be a consideration possibly in June.

**MOTION:** to Accept the General Plan Annual Progress Reports as filed. **(Jorgensen/Ostler)**  
**Unanimous**

Correspondence: Councilwoman Fisk-Becker stated her appreciation for the Scaratoriums donation.

Council Comments: Councilman Jorgensen questioned the status of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant. Jorgensen stated that the construction project on 5<sup>th</sup> & A St was more favorable than the Russ Park walkway feasibility study. Jorgensen also questioned the status of the Arlington Drainage Project. Parrish stated the city has received approval. Parrish added that staff will try to have Brett Vivyan from GHD do a presentation at the May Council Meeting. Jorgensen also asked for an update on the Fireman's Park Projects. Parrish stated the Ballfield lights are currently being replaced. Parrish added that the BBQ is still pending but is close to being released for an RFP. Parrish also stated the Musical Instruments for Harmony Park were delivered. Parrish added that an RFP will be put together for installation. Jorgensen also questioned the status of the Berding Street project. Parrish stated that the project was currently out to bid until April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Fisk-Becker went over meetings she had attended including: Fortuna State of the City meeting, Redwood Region League of Cities Meeting in Willits, League of Cities Community Response in Burbank, and Town Hall with Senator McQuire.

Fisk-Becker also stated that the city should look into a marquee or sign specifically for emergencies.

Reports:

City Managers Report: No Comments.

Other Reports: No Comments.

Mayor Cady thanked the staff, public, and fellow councilmembers, and Adjourned the Meeting at 7:13 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kristene Hall  
City Clerk