

City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California, U.S.A.
DRAFT Action Minutes for City Council Meeting of June 19, 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 Leonard Lund, Jennifer Fisk-Becker, and Skip Jorgensen, along with City staff: City Manager Jay Parrish, Police Chief Ron Sligh and City Clerk Kristene Hall.

Report out of Closed Session: Mayor Cady stated there was a Closed Session held prior to tonight's meeting. Cady stated there was no reportable action.

Ceremonial: None

Modifications to the Agenda: None

Report out of Study Session: Mayor Cady stated there was a Study Session held prior to tonight's meeting to review the 24-25FY Budget.

Public Comment: There was one member of the public that spoke.

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

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

Call Items Removed from Consent Calendar: None

Presentation: None

Public Hearing: None

Business:

Update on Ferndale Community Center Utilization Plan: City Attorney Ryan Plotz gave the background and staff report to the Council regarding the current utilization of the Community Center and the Ferndale Senior Resource Agency (FSRA). Plotz added that with the contract expiring, the City's overarching goal is to negotiate a mutually beneficial arrangement with the FSRA to continue to provide meals and offer classes to seniors while the City directly manages the Center essentially giving the City more control over the means and method by which the Community Center is made available to the public for events and to other community groups. Plotz stated that the city and FSRA have been in discussions and those discussions have been productive. Plotz added a meeting had taken place the previous day and for several hours discussions were held for material terms that will continue to allow use by the FSRA to continue meal service and classes. Plotz stated that a lease is being drafted. There were no questions or comments from the Council or Public.

Recology Annual Rate Review & Adjustment: Linda Wise, General Manager of Recology, was present. Wise stated that a rate increase was needed due to the rising CPI Disposal fees, and recycling processing costs. Wise added that the increase on a Residential 30-gallon weekly service will be increased by a \$1.30. Wise also added that on a commercial 1-yard weekly service, the price increase would be \$9.80.

There were no comments from the Council or Public.

MOTION: to Approve Rate Changes for Recology Curbside Collection (**Lund/Ostler**)
Unanimous

Resolution 2024-09 Adopting a Projects List for FY24-25 funded by SB 1: City Manager Parrish gave the background on SB 1- the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. Parrish stated the city's anticipated portion of the funding for FY24-25 is approximately \$35,650. Parrish added that to be eligible for the funding, the city must adopt a proposed list of projects. Parrish added that five of the previous proposed and adopted projects have been carried over from prior years. Parrish also added that the improvement to the intersection of A Street at the 5th Street intersection was added as a new proposed project. Parrish went over the list of proposed projects.

MOTION: to Approve Resolution 2024-09 Adopting a Projects List for FY24-25 funded by SB 1. (**Ostler/Jorgensen**) **Unanimous**

Resolution 2024-10 Adopting the FY24-25 Budget and Approving a Sewer Rate Increase: City Manager Parrish stated that annually the city is required to adopt an operating budget. Parrish added that the finance committee had met, and a study session was held to discuss the budget. Parrish also stated that the city had been working with Engineer Paul Gregson, who had helped us with the sewer rate increase in 2020 by looking at rates. Parrish stated that there have been some major increases in expenses at the Wastewater Plant including utility costs, internet upgrades, and liability insurance. Parrish added that the increase in rates is limited to the CPI adjustment, which was calculated at 3.4%. Parrish stated that the annual increase would be \$29.70 and bring the annual amount per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) to \$906.03. Councilwoman Fisk-Becker questioned what a house with an Additional Dwelling Unit (ADU) pays. City Clerk Kristene Hall stated that the city adopted a table that assigns additional EDU's. Hall stated a Single-Family Residence with an ADU would pay 1.5 EDU's. Hall stated the EDU table is always available for anyone to review. Councilman Lund stated that it looks like the increase doesn't really get the city out of the hole but will help. A member of the public suggested raising the septic dump fees for the businesses that dump septage. Parrish stated the city was looking into that, however, the city also needs to be competitive, or we could potentially lose the revenue all together.

MOTION: to Approve Resolution 2024-10 Adopting the FY24-25 Budget. (**Lund/Ostler**)
Unanimous

Resolution 2024-11 Adopting of the Gann Appropriations Spending Limitation for FY24-25: City Manager Parrish stated the Gann is a process that proves the city is not over taxing its citizens. There were no comments.

MOTION: to Approve Resolution 2024-11 Adopting the Gann Appropriations Spending Limitation for FY24-25. (**Jorgensen/Lund**) **Unanimous**

Correspondence: None

Council Comments: Councilman Jorgensen asked for an update on the Land Use Element Update. Councilman Jorgensen also questioned the Streets & Roads Committee Meeting to be scheduled.

Councilwoman Fisk Becker thanked the Police Chief for quickly apprehending some thieves that were taking things out of vehicles. Fisk-Becker also questioned the Russ Park Committee Minutes.

Councilman Lund questioned the progress on the Musical Instruments and BBQ in Fireman's Park. Lund also stated the new ballpark lights are very nice.

Reports:

City Managers Report: None

Other Reports: Councilman Jorgensen stated that HCOAG will be voting on the funding for the 5th & A project tomorrow (Thursday, June 20th). Councilman Lund stated there was no RREDC meeting due to no quorum. Mayor Cady stated there was no HWMA meeting due to no quorum. Councilman Ostler stated he was unable to attend the Drainage Meeting. Councilwoman Fisk-Becker stated that at the Emergency Response Meeting, Matt Knowles was the guest speaker and he gave an update on fire inspections. Fisk-Becker stated that the city is grateful to Matt for performing these inspections.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kristene Hall
City Clerk