

City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California, U.S.A.
APPROVED Action Minutes for City Council Meeting of April 16, 2025

Vice Mayor Leonard Lund called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Those present did the flag salute. Present were Council Members Jennifer Fisk-Becker, Skip Jorgensen and Phillip Ostler, along with City staff: Police Chief Ron Sligh, City Planner Michelle Nielsen, and City Clerk Kristene Hall.

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

Ceremonial: None

Modifications to the Agenda: Item 13.a was pulled from the agenda. Mayor Cady stated there would be a special meeting held in the near future to further discuss the item.

Report out of Study Session: None

Public Comment: The new director for the Ferndale Senior Resource Agency was present, Leira Satlof. Satlof stated she was present just to introduce herself. The Council welcomed her to her new position.

Consent Calendar: There were two 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:

Fireman's Park Bathroom Replacement Project Proposal: Michael Warner and Dennis DelBiaggio were present representing the Spirit of Ferndale. Warner & DelBiaggio made a proposal from the group to replace the restrooms at Fireman's Park. Warner stated the project would include the demolition of the old restrooms and rebuilding a new structure that would include 2 ADA and 2 regular restrooms that would be individually accessed as well as two storage rooms for supplies. The group added that construction and demolition costs would be covered, however the city would be responsible for the new sewer line and connection. City Manager Jay Parrish stated at this time the cost is unknown; however, an estimate has been requested from the City Engineer. The Council unanimously thanked the Spirit of Ferndale Group and were all in favor of the project moving forward.

Status Report on the 2025 Update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP): City Planner Michelle Nielsen provided a PowerPoint and gave the Council and Public an overview of the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) development process and why an HMP is necessary. Nielsen stated that an HMP is prepared and adopted by a jurisdiction to identify, assess, and reduce the long-term risks to life and property based on natural and human-cause hazards and is a federally required document. Nielsen added that the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) of 2000 mandates that communities update their HMP every five years to remain eligible for FEMA funding and disaster assistance and a FEMA-approved and adopted plan is required to receive funding

through state and federal grant programs. Nielsen added that the initial plan developed in 2007 identified resources, information, and strategies to reduce risks from natural hazards and called for regular updates, and was last updated in 2019, but expired in March 2025. Nielsen added the 2025 HMP update fulfills the requirement for the HMP to be updated every five years.

In which the HMP consultant plans to have the draft plan ready to submit to CalOES in late May 2025, followed by submittal and approval by FEMA scheduled to occur in July 2025. Nielsen explained 14 high priority draft actions. Nielsen also compared the mitigation actions from the 2019 HMP and the status of the implementation. Nielsen also added there are no penalties or consequences to the city if it does not complete mitigation actions listed on its HMP.

Councilwoman Fisk-Becker questioned one of the actions which includes the installation of an electronic emergency sign. Fisk-Becker questioned what funding was available for the project. Nielsen stated she would send the information. Fisk-Becker also asked Nielsen to send other funding availability. Councilman Ostler questioned the use of metal roofs and if there was other options as they can be unattractive. Nielsen stated there are other options and these will likely be addressed in the Zoning Amendment updates. Nielsen recommended a study session with the Planning Commission.

Town Hall Garden Proposal: City Manager Jay Parrish explained that there have been several individuals and organizations that have expressed interest in revitalizing the garden area around City Hall with new, low maintenance design to give City Hall a dressing up and to better welcome people to the city. Parrish stated he will be working with representatives of the Village Club and Garden Club to start as soon as possible in the landscaping, plant selection, and location. Councilwoman Fisk-Becker questioned who will maintain the new garden area. Parrish stated that he is hoping volunteers will help maintain and Public Works will still be in charge of cutting the grass. Councilman Jorgensen questioned if there is a team currently working on this. Parrish stated that there were several individuals that are assisting. Councilman Lund questioned the timeline. Parrish stated they are looking to start right away. The Council unanimously stated that this was a great and welcoming project.

Correspondence: None

Council Comments: Councilwoman Fisk-Becker stated the need to thank our community volunteers and groups for taking on these projects. Councilman Jorgensen commented on the status of the solid waste ordinance. Parrish stated the city attorney is working on determining if a 218 process will be necessary. Jorgensen also asked if there was a process or policy regarding placing a plaque on a building or landmark. Staff stated they would investigate this. Mayor Cady thanked the community and added that Ferndale was a great community to be a part of.

Reports:

City Managers Report: None

Other Reports: Councilman Jorgensen stated that RCEA was hosting forums on wind energy next month at Bear River Casino.

Vice Mayor thanked the staff, public, and fellow councilmembers, and Adjourned the Meeting at 6:52 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Kristene Hall
City Clerk