

City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California, U.S.A.
APPROVED Action Minutes for City Council Meeting of May 21, 2025

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, Skip Jorgensen and Phillip Ostler, along with City staff: Police Chief Ron Sligh and City Clerk Kristene Hall.

Report out of Closed Session: None.

Ceremonial: A proclamation was read declaring May, Older American's Month. Leira Satlof from the Ferndale Senior Resource Agency was present and spoke on the importance of the Senior Resource Agency in Ferndale. Area 1 Agency on Aging (a1aa) was also present and spoke on the many changes to federal and state funding affecting programs.

Modifications to the Agenda: Item 13.d was moved up to 13.b.

Report out of Study Session: None

Public Comment: A member of the public spoke on the condition of the roads in Ferndale and would like to see this on a future agenda.

Consent Calendar: There were five 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: A presentation was given by OurEnergy for a grant funded Microgrid Incentive Program. Dustin Jolley, CEO of OurEnergy was present and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the program. Jolley explained the process and the eligibility requirements for receiving the grant. Jolley also explained the grant goals which included providing back up energy resources for critical services and infrastructure.

Public Hearing: None

Business:

Approve City Manager to Sign Letter of Engagement to PGE for Microgrid Study: City Manager Jay Parrish explained that this was in conjunction with the presentation the Council had just heard for the Microgrid Study Grant. There were no comments or questions from the Council or Public.

MOTION: to approve the City Manager to sign the letter of engagement with PGE for the Microgrid Study. **(Jorgensen/Lund) Unanimous**

Discuss Placement Schedule of American Flags on the Downtown Lampposts on Main Street from Memorial Day to Labor Day: Councilman Ostler presented this agenda item. Ostler stated this item was brought to his attention some time ago and stated many of the downtown merchants would like to see the downtown flags displayed from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Ostler added that many business owners have expressed concerns over business being slow and would like to dress up the downtown area in hopes of attracting more business. Councilwoman Fisk-Becker stated she did not feel this was a council decision. Fisk-Becker also stated she would like to get a poll on what the downtown businesses want. Fisk-Becker also stated that previously

public works was given a schedule from the Chamber on when different flags were put up and taken down. Councilman Jorgensen stated his agreeance with Councilwoman Fisk-Becker. Jorgensen added his concerns that flying the flag consistently may take away from the significance of flying the flag during Memorial Day and Independence Day. Councilman Lund stated the city does have a stake in the game since we own the lampposts. Lund also stated that this should have been worked out by the Chamber and Merchants Association. Mayor Cady stated his appreciation for the American Flag. Cady added that he flies his flag constantly and if another flag is to be flown, it should have a second bracket and be set below the American Flag. Councilman Ostler stated he had spoken with a majority of the downtown business owners who were in favor of keeping the flags up. Mayor Cady opened public comment. Several members of the public spoke opposing the consistent flying of the flag while a few spoke in favor of flying them.

MOTION: to approve the flags to be flown on the downtown lampposts from Memorial Day to Labor Day. **(Ostler/Cady) 3-2 (Jorgensen, Fisk-Becker)**

Resolution 2025-05 Adopting a List of Projects for FY25-26 Funded by SB-1: City Manager Jay Parrish explained that every year the City must send their list of streets that is a priority for repairs. Parrish went over each project on the list and explained the progress. Councilman Lund questioned who makes the list. Parrish stated the list is determined by staff and the streets and roads committee. Parrish also added that a few of these are rolled over from previous years. Lund questioned 5th & A project. Parrish stated the city received a grant for this project and it is currently in the works. Councilman Jorgensen also questioned the progress of the 5th & A project. Parrish stated he will inquire with the engineer on the progress and when it can be expected to go out to bid. Councilwoman Fisk-Becker questioned the Streets & Roads Committee involvement.

MOTION: to Approve Resolution 2025-05 Adopting the List of Projects for the FY2025-26 funded by SB-1. **(Ostler/Fisk-Becker) Unanimous**

Status Report on the 2025 Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) Map for the City of Ferndale: City Manager explained the recent updates to the FHSZ maps. Parrish explained the FHSZ map for Ferndale is new because before the enactment of Senate Bill 63 only LRA with Very High Severity Zones were required to adopt FHSZ maps which Ferndale did not have. Parrish explained that earlier this year, OSFM issued the 2025 Recommended LRA FHSZ map for City of Ferndale along with FHSZ maps for the other LRA in Humboldt county, and although Ferndale does not have High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, there are Moderate FHSZ areas within the City, the City must adopt the LRA map to be consistent with the new requirements. Parrish added that at the next Council meeting, the council will be presented with an Ordinance adopting the LRA map.

Schedule Meeting to Establish Council Goals/Priorities for Staff: Council and staff discussed the different times and dates potentially available. Council and Staff agreed to June 9, 2025, at 3:45pm.

Correspondence: Councilman Jorgensen stated he was glad to see the letter regarding the vacation rentals.

Council Comments: Councilwoman Jorgensen discussed the Arlington Drainage project and would still like to request that a bicycle and pedestrian lane be looked into as a possibility.

Councilwoman Fisk-Becker inquired if there was an update on the Fireman's Park bathroom. Parrish stated it is moving ahead and that the city is looking at the sewer line replacement. Fisk-

Becker also questioned if port-a-potties will be available during the transition. Parrish stated they would be provided.

Reports:

City Managers Report: None

Other Reports: None

Mayor Cady thanked the staff, public, and fellow councilmembers, and Adjourned the Meeting at 8:21 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Kristene Hall
City Clerk