

SUMMARY MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Lin called the meeting to order at 7:32pm. Present were Councilmembers Marlow, Heyenga, and Cuthbertson. Councilmember Bowman was absent.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - the Mayor led the Pledge.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Cuthbertson asked that item #7 (financial statement) be moved up to ensure adequate discussion. Lin felt that we would have time to deal with all items.

*Motion (Heyenga/Lin) to approve the agenda as listed. **Passed:** Yes - Marlow, Lin, Heyenga; No - Cuthbertson*

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 14, 2005 cc: *Motion (Marlow/Lin) to approve the minutes as corrected.*

Passed: Yes - Marlow, Lin, Cuthbertson; Abstain - Heyenga (absent from that meeting)

January 04, 2006 scc: *Motion (Heyenga/Cuthbertson) to approve the minutes as corrected. **Passed unanimously.***

January 06, 2006 scc: Due to the many and complicated changes, Council agreed to bring these minutes back for approval when corrected.

January 11, 2006 cc: *Motion (Heyenga/Cuthbertson) to approve the minutes as corrected. **Passed unanimously.***

January 24, 2006 scc: *Motion (Heyenga/Cuthbertson) to approve the minutes as amended. **Passed unanimously.***

V. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR - there were no items from the floor.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA - there were no Consent Agenda items.

VII. AGENDA ITEM(S)

1. Continued Discussion/Decision on Resolution 2006-04: Participating in the California Coastal National Monument Gateway Program, and Memorandum of Understanding with the Bureau of Land Management. (Heyenga)
Heyenga reviewed the prior discussions and gave an overview of the proposal. He introduced Lynda Rausch, Manager of the BLM Field Office in Arcata, and Bob Wick, BLM staff, who elaborated on the Gateway program and answered questions. Rausch noted that the Gateway program applied only to rocks above the mean high tide line.

Public comment:

Stan Binnie: is Trinidad a "premier" Gateway city and will there be any signs for public education? Raush said that the BLM is working on four coastal cities this year and Trinidad is the first city in this area to be contacted; BLM has two signs in the area now and more are possible.

Richard Johnson: should fishermen be concerned? Raush said that the Sportfishing Alliance has supports the Gateway program and there will be no attempt to manage commercial fisheries.

*Motion (Heyenga/Cuthbertson) to approve Resolution 2006-04 and the Memorandum of Understand with the Bureau of Land Management designating Trinidad as a California Coastal National Monument Gateway City, and to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. **Passed unanimously.***

2. Continued Discussion/Decision regarding Resolution 2006-06: Approving a Capitalization Policy for the City of Trinidad. (CPA/Auditor/Cuthbertson)

Cuthbertson introduced the item, noting that it was carried over from a prior meeting due to Marlow's concerns about the wording of the Resolution.

Public comment: R. Johnson asked about the dollar thresholds for different categories; Heyenga read the amounts from the proposed policy.

*Council agreed to delete the second "Resolved" in the Resolution. Motion (Cuthbertson/Heyenga) to adopt the Capitalization Policy and to approve Resolution 2006-06 as amended. **Passed unanimously.***

3. Continued Discussion/Decision regarding Ordinance 2006-01: Saunders/HNCLT property Rezone Ordinance and amending the Zoning and Land Use maps - first reading. (Heyenga/Planning Dept.)

Heyenga introduced the item. Lin asked about SB18 issues raised at the prior meeting. Heyenga referred to the recent memo from the Planning Department which explained that the 2002 rezoning decision was prior to SB18 being written, and that the planners said that no applications that would trigger SB18 consultations had been submitted in Trinidad since the law went into effect.

Public comment: none

Motion (Heyenga/Lin) to approve Ordinance 2006-01 passed unanimously. Council directed Heyenga to check on the adoption date listed on the ordinance.

4. Discussion/Decision regarding the Axel Lindgren Memorial Trail. (Marlow)

Marlow introduced the item and reviewed possibilities of Federal funds to reconstruct the trail. There will be a "kick-off" meeting with FEMA officials, Chief Thraikill, Lin, and Marlow Thursday March 2. He noted that at the special Council meeting February 23 that all parties participating agreed on the importance of repairing the trail.

Heyenga raised the issue of whether the top of the ALMT had been adequately closed as per Council motion January 06, 2006. The Council debated definitions of "closure" and "temporary." Chief Thraikill said that he was not the one who had put up the one barricade, but that he considered the present closure "not a reasonable effort" to prevent public access and protect public safety.

Public comment:

S. Binnie: He has repositioned the barricade twice - it should be better secured.

Carol Rowe: We need a timeline for the work to be done.

Motion (Heyenga/Cuthbertson) to authorize the Police Chief to direct public works employees to temporarily close the upper part of the ALMT to the Chief's satisfaction by Friday, March 3. Passed 3-1: Yes - Lin, Heyenga, Cuthbertson; No - Marlow.

Heyenga complimented Marlow on the sign directing people to the Parker Creek trail and suggested the same type of sign be placed on all secondary trails. Council discussed the meaning and intent of the January 06, 2006 motion directing the posting of all secondary trails.

Public comment:

Glenn Saunders: the Council needs to follow the motion in the minutes and all three [secondary] trails should have the same sign.

Motion (Marlow/Lin) that while the ALMT is temporarily closed we designate the Parker Creek Trail as the primary access to the beach failed 2-2: Yes - Lin, Marlow; No - Heyenga, Cuthbertson.

5. Discussion/Decision to provide funding for construction of a new police station. (Cuthbertson)

Cuthbertson introduced the item noting that a resident had brought the issue to him to place on the agenda, and that the resident had written the background letter.

Chief Thraikill said that he has an idea of the Police Department's needs but wants to know that the Council supports constructing a police facility and also wants Council direction. The Council agreed on the need for specific plans. Cuthbertson agreed that although the agenda item focused on funding, he wanted to get started on planning the facility as well.

Public comment:

R. Johnson: explained the purpose and work of the Trinidad Police Trust Fund. Stated that building a police facility will take private and public participation.

Tom Odom: we need a plan but not too ambitious a plan; suggested around 600 sq. ft.

G. Saunders: it's a good idea to start planning now.

*Motion (Heyenga/Marlow) to declare the Council's support for a permanent police facility for the City of Trinidad, and to authorize the Police Commissioner and Police Chief to develop, with community input, a plan to bring to the City Council. **Passed unanimously.***

6. Discussion/Decision regarding underpass lighting for Gateway Project. (Marlow)

Marlow introduced the item and noted that PG&E had called this morning to say that the undergrounding of the line across the highway will not happen for 2-3 years. When undergrounding does happen we will have to make a decision about lighting. His item was an update, not requiring a decision.

Public comment:

T. Odom: why can't we use underground wiring that is already in the vicinity, e.g. market area and gas station?

Council took no action on this item.

7. Discussion/Questions regarding July 1 - December 31, 2005 Financial Statement. (Cuthbertson/CPA)

Cuthbertson took the Council and audience through the 6-month financial statement, pointing out areas of concern - line items that were significantly over or under budget. While the overall percentages are where they should be, Cuthbertson pointed out that internal line items which deviate significantly from 50% need to be understood and in some cases adjusted.

Cuthbertson said that financial planner Haider Ajina would be willing to discuss investment strategies with the Council if there is interest. All Councilmembers indicated an interest in hearing about investment strategies.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Lin adjourned the meeting at 11:18 pm.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Dean Heyenga
Councilmember
3/1/06

Chi-Wei Lin
Mayor