

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- Mayor Pro-Tem Lin called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Council members in attendance: Marlow, Bowman, Cuthbertson. **Heyenga – absent.**
- City Staff in attendance: City Clerk, Gabriel Adams; Police Chief, Ken Thrailkill; City Attorney, Jeff Guttero.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion (Cuthbertson/Bowman) to approve the agenda. Passed 4-0. Absent – Heyenga.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 01, 2006 scc:

Motion (Marlow/Bowman) to approve the minutes as written. Passed 4-0. Absent – Heyenga.

September 13, 2006 cc:

Motion (Cuthbertson/Bowman) to approve the minutes as corrected. Passed 4-0. Absent - Heyenga.

September 14, 2006 scc:

Motion (Cuthbertson/Marlow) to approve the minutes as written. Passed 4-0. Absent – Heyenga.

September 17, 2006 scc:

Motion (Cuthbertson/Lin) to approve the minutes as corrected. Passed 3-0-1. Not voting – Marlow.

Absent – Heyenga.

September 26, 2006 cc2:

Motion (Cuthbertson/Lin) to approve the minutes as corrected. Passed 4-0. Absent – Heyenga.

VII. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Marlow – Parks and Recreation, Streets

Streets: Miller Farms Nursery sent a letter to the Patrick's Point Garden Club regarding the Cherry Trees located on Main & Ocean Ave. The letter was forwarded to the City, noting that the trees posed no threat to the Trinidad Bay Trailer Park or the underground utilities. The Garden Club plans to have the trees pruned in the near future.

Gateway: The Committee met with 2 artists and plan to meet with them again in at a future meeting.

Bowman – Police, Harbor

Police: Deferred to Police Chief report.

Heyenga – Fire, Planning (Read by Councilmember Cuthbertson)

Planning: There will be a Planning Commission meeting October 18. Items on the agenda include:

- a. Addition to a house east of the freeway.
- b. Request to remove two dangerous cypress trees on an Underwood property.

The City Attorney has received ordinances on fires and fireworks researched from other coastal cities. He will begin developing Trinidad's ordinance(s) about no fires or fireworks on Trinidad beaches and will submit the draft ordinance(s) at a future meeting.

Fire: Repairs to the window and back wall of the fire station were started this week. Repairs are estimated to be about \$500, which was budgeted in the 06-07 budget.

Town Hall: An alternative to building a room onto the south side of Town Hall is to create a curtained area in the northwest corner of the Hall, along with moving the cabinets there now. A complete proposal will be submitted at a later meeting.

Police facility:

As per Council consensus, I am working with Richard Johnson to help plan the new police facility. We inspected the location of Town Hall's leachfield and calculated the footprint of a building allowing for required setbacks. Richard and I will meet with Bob Brown to review design review procedures, permits, and requirements.

HMRA: Trinidad is one of seventeen "Planning Partners" in a County-wide effort to reduce the effects of hazards and disasters. Chief Thrailkill and I (as an alternate) represent the City.

Soon residents will be asked to fill out a survey describing their opinions about hazards that could affect them. We encourage all residents to complete the survey. More information will follow and public meetings on hazard mitigation will be held in the coming months.

Lin – Water, Town Hall

Water: Two events took place this week at the Water Plant. 1) A minor repair was made to the main line on Edwards Street. 2) The Public Works crew spent 11 hours on Monday emptying the media out of the main filters and replacing them with new material. This task was last done 10 years ago.

Cuthbertson – Finance

Finance: Deferred to agenda item no. 2.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

City Clerk/IWMC – Adams

Cemetery: Work is underway on bringing power to the cemetery shed. Hoyt Electric just completed the upgrade to the meter box, adding a test-bypass switch as required by PG&E. The improvements cost the City approximately \$850.00.

City Attorney – Guttero: **Nothing to report.**

Police Chief – Thrailkill – Announced arrests, service calls, and statistics.

Officer Joe Silva introduced 4 Trinidad youth and recognized them for their completion of a juvenile diversion program. The program required they perform community service, sign a contract to agree to respect and obey personal property and contribute to the community as retribution for their minor crimes.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

(Three (3) minute limit per Speaker unless Council approves request for extended time.)

Richard Johnson – Trinidad

Read the 9-unresolved action items the Council committed to completing during adoption of the 2006-2007 budget. Urged the Council to follow through with their commitment.

X. CONSENT AGENDA - NONE

XI. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion/Decision on submitting a grant to the California EPA Tire Derived Products Program for the installation of a rubberized walking path in Saunders Park. (Lin)
 - a. Approve Resolution 2006-12; Submission of grant to CIWMB.
 - b. Adopt a Recycled Content Purchasing Policy for the City of Trinidad.

Councilmember Lin explained that one of the components of the Saunders Park is a walking path to provide uses, particularly seniors, for gentle walking exercise. We have been searching for a material that is comfortable to walk on, durable, requires no maintenance, and is attractive. The rubber sidewalk pavers fit these requirements. They are made from recycled tire rubber, last about 20 years, need no maintenance, comes in different colors (other tire-derived products are usually black), and is easy on the feet and easy to install.

The pavers are in 2'x2', 2'x2.5' and 2'x5'. They are 1.875" thick and weigh about 10 lbs per square foot. The cost of Rubber side walk pavers are somewhat higher, about \$10 per sq ft compared to \$6 for concrete and \$2 for asphalt. However, CA-EPA Tire-Derived-Products Grant Program may pay for the extra cost for the use of used tires. For every tire material used, the grant will pay up to \$7. However, applications with cost-per-tire less than \$5 will receive a higher priority.

Lin noted that the Park plans to have 600 feet of 5' wide walking path for a total surface of 3,000 sq ft of surface area to be cover by the rubber pavers. This material will be derived from 2,700 used tires. The cost of material is about \$30,000. We previously budgeted \$18,000. With a request of \$4.95 per tire used, we will qualify for a \$13,365 grant ($4.95 \times 2700 = 13,365$).

The grant also requires the approval of a resolution and a Recycled-Content Purchasing Policy to be submitted with the grant

Council comments:

Bowman: Asked whether the walkway was a new concept for the park, or if it had always been part of the plan. He also asked Lin if the grant required any extra money from the City. **Lin** assured Bowman that the walkway has always been part of the plan, but the surface material had not been selected. He also noted that the grant would not require the City to provide supplemental funding.

Cuthbertson: If it's low maintenance and won't cost the City extra money, I can support the proposal.

Public comment included:

Richard Johnson – Trinidad

Asked Lin if the surface was permeable or not, and if the material was composed of toxic materials that could leach into the groundwater.

*Motion (Marlow/Bowman) to approve the submission of a grant to CA EPA TDP Program, Resolution 2006-12, the Recycled-Content Purchasing Policy, and authorize Councilmember Lin to sign documents on behalf of the City. **Passed 4-0. Absent – Heyenga.***

2. Discussion/Decision regarding Financial Review. (Cuthbertson)

- a. Statement of Revenues, Expenses & Changes in Net Assets and Year End Statement (if available).
- b. Public Works 2006-2007 "Equipment Request" received during budget workshop

Councilmember Cuthbertson reported the following information:

- Year Ending Financial Statement was received Wednesday afternoon.
- Identified revenue highlights in 2005-2006.
- Invited the incoming Finance Commissioner to meet with him and discuss his job duties and responsibilities.
- Employee reimbursements should be avoided whenever possible. The purchase order system is in place to avoid employees having to pay for City items with their personal credit cards.
- Public Works has devised a plan to balance their budget after under-estimating the cost of a new trailer.
- All Commissioners should pay close attention to individual bills and expenditures taking place each day.

Marlow: Disagreed with Cuthbertson regarding the micro-management of Department Heads. Instead, Marlow explained that the Commissioner's responsibility is to watch budget line-items, not individual purchases.

No public comment. *No Council action taken.*

3. Discussion/Decision to establish a committee on traffic control. (Marlow)

Marlow explained that in the Safe Routes to School grant application, the City Engineer will apply for a lump sum amount to be designated for "traffic calming". Different and sometimes conflicting ideas have been suggested. A study group can make recommendations to the Council.

Marlow proposed that the committee be formed, and consist of the following members: Geoff Proust, Ken Thrailkill, Mike Morgan, and Shirley Laos.

Public comment included:

Pat Kish – Patrick's Point

Obviously there must be enough complaints on file to warrant this discussion. I support the proposal.

Stan Binnie – Trinidad

Speeding is a serious problem on Main, Trinity, and Edwards Streets. It's ridiculous how fast some people drive. I also support this committee.

Glenn Saunders – Trinidad

Sunny Brae School has recently installed speed humps on Old Arcata Road that work very well. That may be a good solution.

Richard Johnson – Trinidad

The Gateway Committee is also looking to the Safe Routes to School for funding assistance for sidewalk improvements under the 101 under-pass and intersection. I support the committee.

Pastor Michael Blaine – Big Lagoon Community Church

We should be looking out for the best interest of our children. What difference would a 3-2 or 2-2 vote mean when a child winds up dead or injured as a result of a speeding motorist? I encourage and support the formation of this committee no matter how many members it consists of.

Council comments:

Cuthbertson: The committee should consist of an odd number of members – one being a member of the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) from Trinidad School.

Bowman: Are you (Marlow) against having a PTO member on the committee?

Marlow: I don't agree that an odd number committee is necessary. There is an incredible amount of disagreement on this issue, and I hope and encourage the community to participate in the committee discussions. If, by consensus the Council insists that a PTO member is on the committee, I'll support that. However, I wouldn't be persuaded by a 3-2 recommendation to the Council by the committee. In fact, if that occurred I'd suggest we send them back to the drawing board for more deliberation. My goal in forming this committee is that they reach a strong consensus, and bring forward well thought-out list of recommendations to the Council. **Lin agreed.**

Motion (Marlow/Lin) that a traffic control committee be formed and bring back recommendations to the Council for traffic calming in the Trinidad School area. The committee shall be comprised of the following members: Geoff Proust, Ken Thrailkill, Mike Morgan, & Shirley Laos.

Passed 3-1. No – Cuthbertson. Absent – Heyenga.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

- Council meeting ended at 9:45 pm!

Submitted by:

Gabriel Adams
City Clerk

Approved by:

Dean Heyenga
Mayor