

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- Mayor Lin called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Council members in attendance: Binnie, Bhardwaj, Miller, Fulkerson.
- 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

1. Pursuant to Government Code, Section 54957(b)
 - a. Potential Litigation

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Lin reported that based on relevant information, the Council decided to take no action.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion (Binnie/Miller) to approve the agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 19, 2007 cc2

Motion (Miller/Fulkerson) to approve the minutes as amended. Passed unanimously.

March 14, 2007 cc

Motion (Miller/Bhardwaj) to approve the minutes as amended. Passed unanimously

VII. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Binnie - Parks and Recreation, Streets

Parks: As authorized by the Council at the regular meeting in March, the owners of a N. Westhaven Dr. property were contacted. Their land is adjacent to City limits, and includes a grove of large redwood trees. The City received a reply essentially indicating that the property is not for sale.

Trails: Hopeful that the ALMT handrail project and repairs at the foot of the trail will be underway as soon as possible. The Yurok Tribe is interested in doing the work.

T. Hall: Still making progress. Stage extension is complete. New lights should be installed within a week or so. Hope to be done by early May.

Bhardwaj – Health & Human Services, Planning

Health: Nothing to report.

Planning: March PC meeting highlights: Chevron image refresh application was continued to the April meeting. Feedback from the Gateway Committee was appreciated.

Lin – Water, Town Hall

HCAOG: STIP money has been allocated to the City for paving Pacific & Azalea Streets. The City will not have access to this money until early 2008.

Water: Surveyed the City in search of lots with two or more dwelling units. The list will be compared with the water department records, and properties not paying multiple base rates will be charged accordingly.

Miller – Finance

Exploring the Finance Commissionership and getting to know the community “advisors” has led him to the conclusion that the duties of the position include, but are not limited to:

- Analyze each department's expenses
- Review auditor's reports and recommendations
- Analyze the clarity of financial statements
- Respond to individual citizen requests
- Predict future financial problems
- Lead in preparation of the annual budget

Miller highlighted the City's current revenue and expenses as compared to last year at this time, and explained that the City was on budget overall. He also explained that in order to curb the volume of employee reimbursements, the City should look into obtaining a municipal credit card.

Miller concluded his report with an emphasis on long-term budget concerns. He noted, for example, that the COPS grant may not always be available to the City, that the City should be putting money away for infrastructure improvements, and that the 1% sales tax increase is set to sunset at the end of 2008. The City should ensure that policies are in place that effectively adapt to changing budget climates, and will sustain the city's long-term financial health.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

City Clerk/IWMC – Adams: Commended the new City Councilmembers for doing a great job so far.

Waste Management: Battery Roundup scheduled from April 16-22. Batteries will be collected at the Trinidad Recycling Facility.

City Attorney – Guttero: Nothing to report.

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

IX. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

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

Jim Cuthbertson – Trinidad

The City's trail system signage should be installed.

Glenn Saunders – Trinidad

Town Hall is looking fabulous. Thanks to Mike Morgan, Stan Binne, and everyone involved in the remodel.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Proclamation #2007-02; April 24, 2007 as General Federation of Women's Club's Federation Day.
2. Letter of support for the purchase of a fire truck from the Arcata Fire Protection District Board of Directors. (Fulkerson/Fire Chief)
3. Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Trinidad and the Humboldt County Fire Chief's Association regarding mutual aid. (Fulkerson/Fire Chief)

Motion (Fulkerson/Miller) to approve the consent agenda. Passed unanimously.

XI. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Public comment on Unmet Transit Needs for Trinidad. (Lin)
In order to receive transportation funding administered through HCAOG, all jurisdictions must conduct an annual public hearing on unmet transit needs for their area.

Public comment included:

Kim Binnie - Trinidad

The bus schedule isn't convenient enough to encourage ridership. *Mrs. Binnie noted that a detailed statement would be submitted to the City after the meeting, and requested that it be forwarded to HCOAG.*

Public hearing item only. No decision was made.

2. Discussion/Decision on confirmation of a nominee to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission. (Lin)

Mayor Lin nominated Carol Rowe to fill the Planning Commission vacancy left by the recruitment of Julie Fulkerson to the City Council.

Motion (Miller/Binnie) to appoint Carol Rowe as member of the Planning Commission for the unexpired term of Julie Fulkerson until the end of 2008. Passed unanimously.

XII. COUNCIL REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Miller announced that budget workshops are scheduled for May 14 & 21.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Council meeting ended at 8:15pm.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Gabriel Adams
City Clerk

Chi-Wei Lin
Mayor