

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Fulkerson called the open session meeting to order at 7:00PM. Council members in attendance: West, Fulkerson, Baker, Davies. **Miller attended via teleconference.**
- City Staff in attendance: City Manager Karen Suiker, City Clerk Gabriel Adams, City Attorney Andy Stunich

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

1. Government Code section 54956.9(b)(3): Existing Litigation

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

City Attorney Stunich reported that the Council agreed to continue the trial, but would not agree to continue the summary judgment motion. The Council further agreed to mediate and try to further the goals of the Tsurai Management Plan, but only if the Yurok Tribe also agrees to come to the mediation.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Motion (Davies/West) to approve the agenda as written. **Passed 4-0.***

VI. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Josh Kieselhorst – Trinidad

Questions about break-in's and the dramatic increase in criminal activity that has been occurring in Trinidad recently. Asked the Council if they were aware of this, and if Deputy Hicks hours could be adjusted to evening or late-night shifts when crimes are being committed. He suggested that law enforcement increase patrol in Hidden Creek RV Park, and the properties surrounding his residence. He also suggested that Occupancy Tax money be used to supplement the law enforcement budget immediately to increase law enforcement presence in town. On the 25th of April, someone broke into my house, took my keys and other personal belongings while I was sleeping, and stole my girlfriends car. There have been no leads, and no follow-up that I'm aware of. About 4 hours ago, my stolen car drove by my house. I followed it to McKinleyville and abandoned the chase. This is an emergency. There has been an incredible amount of traffic through the trailer park through the night. A trailer exploded in the park this week, and no one has any information about what's going on over there.

Councilmember Baker: Thanked Josh for bringing this to the Council's attention.

Jonna Kitchen – Trinidad

I am a resident of Trinidad, President of the Trinidad School Board, and a business owner. I have to look at junk vehicles and trailers at the Park N Ride when I come and go from my home on Berry Road. I drove through Hidden Creek RV Park the other day. It's sad and frightening. I've called the CHP twice about the abandoned trailers. The revenue that Vacation Rentals bring to the City is huge. The City has done great work improving the look of town and the streets, but we're starting to receive poor reviews on our websites about the vagrants, drugs, and crime in town. We want to be a safe and welcoming place for tourists to visit.

Richard Kieselhorst – Trinidad

I'm a 42 year resident of Trinidad, business owner, and property owner. I've owned the 101 N Townhouse for 20 years. It hasn't been vacant for more than 3 days in between tenants for all this time – until now. It's been vacant now for almost 3 months, because of Hidden Creek RV Park.

Mayor Fulkerson explained that she was unaware of this crime problem, but thanked everyone for bringing it to the Council's attention.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Humboldt for Library Services.

*Motion (West/Miller) to approve the consent agenda as submitted. **Passed 5-0.***

X. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Presentation of Proposed 2013-2014 FY Budget.

City Manager Suiker presented slides explaining details of the new budget, including:

- Organizational Chart.
- General Fund Revenue Highlights
 - ¾ % Sales Tax Impact
 - Transferring in \$30,000 in Gas Tax Revenues to balance the budget.
- General Fund Expense detail
- General Fund Admin highlights
 - Employee Salaries, Health Insurance Projections, Etc.
- Public Safety
 - 1.5 FTE Deputies allocated to the City by contract with Humboldt County Sheriff
 - Animal Shelter agreement
- Public Works Highlights
- General Fund Overview
- Non-General Funds
- Water Fund
 - Balanced budget due to increased rates.
- Cemetery
- Grants
- Next Steps – Adopt Budget Resolution on June 12, 2013.

Council comments included:

Davies: Is there more money for additional law enforcement? **Suiker** explained that there is, but it would be taken from the reserves.

Miller: I agree that we need more police protection, but where's the money going to come from? We need the Van Wycke Trail fixed. We should be thinking very seriously about that.

Suiker explained that she asked GHD to look into a bridge option for Van Wycke. I'd like a geo-tech to look at it first. As far as funding the project, a loan isn't feasible.

Public comment included:

Patti Fleschner – Museum, Library, Etc.

Thanked the Council for the \$2000 contribution last year, and explained that if the funding continues, more exciting projects will be possible.

Dennis Koutouzous – Trinidad Chamber of Commerce.

Giving the T.O.T. allocation a structure helps all of us make better funding plans for the year.

Fulkerson: Before asking for more money for law enforcement, we should be sure that the deputy's hours are optimized. I also would like to know what an appropriate reserve is for the Fire Department and the Town Hall, as well as if the Harbor Lease is bringing in enough revenue.

*Motion (West/Miller) to allocate 12% of T.O.T. to the Chamber, Museum, and Library. **Passed 4-0.***

No further changes or decisions made. Budget Resolution will be brought back to the Council at the June meeting for adoption.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting ended at 8:50pm.

Submitted by:

Gabriel Adams
City Clerk

Approved by:

Julie Fulkerson
Mayor