

CITY OF HUMBOLDT
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2010 - 7:00 P.M.

The Council met in regular session on Monday, April 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Humboldt Public Library meeting room. Mayor Sharp called the meeting to order with the following Councilmembers present: Aikins, Crawford, Griffith, Julich, Murrow and Walburn. Councilmember McReynolds was absent. Also present were City Attorney Fred Works, City Administrator Larry Tucker, Chief of Police Dan Onnen and City Clerk Jean Flores.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Crawford gave the invocation.

Motion by Aikins, second by Crawford to remove Item d-Approve pool manager for 2010 swimming season, from the Consent Agenda to 4a for further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Julich, second by Aikins that Item c-Approve job description for Police Department Office Manager/Court Clerk, be removed from the Consent Agenda to 4b for further discussion and clarification. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Murrow, second by Julich that Items a, b and e of the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- a. Approval of minutes of Regular Council Meeting March 8, 2010 and Special Council Meetings March 24, 2010 and March 31, 2010
- b. Warrant Ordinance No. 1696 dated March 31, 2010 in the amount of \$51,800.70 and Warrant Ordinance No. 1697 dated April 12, 2010 in the amount of \$192,238.73
- e. Approval of proclamation celebrating April 2010 as Fair Housing Month

Denise Schomaker, American Red Cross, was present to ask the Council's consideration in waiving the rental fee for the Community Center for the blood drive. Motion by Walburn, second by Aikins that the City waive the \$35 rental fee for the Community Center for the American Red Cross blood drive on April 20, 2010, due to the type of service it is and the lives saved. Motion carried unanimously.

City Administrator Larry Tucker said he had met with Otis Crawford, Pool Committee, and they would like to suggest to the Council that two swimming pool co-managers be hired, would like to offer one of the positions to Justin Lytle, and will come back to the regular council meeting in May to suggest one more applicant. Compensation will be split between the two. Larry Tucker said they will require one manager at the pool at all times and that pool hours may be from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. with no dinner break from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. as in years past, with the exception of when there are pool parties. Councilmember Walburn asked that pool managers stress to their lifeguards the importance of being alert to swimmers and not talking with friends or pool patrons.

Motion by Aikins, second by Walburn to approve Justin Lytle as co-manager for the 2010 swimming pool season. Motion carried unanimously.

A lengthy discussion was held concerning approval of the new job description for the Police Department Office Manager/Municipal Court Clerk. City Attorney Fred Works said this was done at his recommendation, the Chief of Police and Municipal Judge Call to free up duties of current Court Clerk Hunt to assist more in City Hall and also to combine the Municipal Court with the Police Department. Councilmembers Aikins and Walburn wanted assurance from Chief Onnen that, with the hiring of a Police Department Office Manager to relieve the officers of paperwork, they would spend their time patrolling the streets.

Motion by Murrow that the Governing Body recess to executive session as authorized by the Open Meetings Law for the exception of discussion of personnel issues for 20 minutes. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Motion by Crawford, second by Murrow that the Governing Body recess to executive session as authorized by the Open Meetings Law for the exception of discussion of non-elected personnel issues at the end of the agenda for 15 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Art Chapman, Allen County Animal Rescue Facility (ACARF) was on the agenda to give a presentation on the new facility to open soon in LaHarpe. In his absence, Sue Tucker gave the presentation. When animals are taken in, they will be given a full health check-up, neutered or spayed, and then adopted out. The City is currently paying \$47.50 per dog and \$37.50 per cat at a local veterinarian for disposal fees and is in hopes to come to an agreement with ACARF for lower fees. More information will be available at a later date.

Councilmember Julich requested that, in the future, if anyone asks to be put on the agenda and can not attend the meeting, the issue not be discussed until that person is present.

City Administrator Tucker asked Councilmembers to think about infrastructure improvements on Highway 224 for business development with either access roads being built or the City to take over the maintenance of Highway 224, which would eliminate state approval for access.

The Humboldt Recreation Commission and Joe Works asked the City to make parking improvements at the northwest corner of Sweatt/Manion baseball complex. With the addition of the new ballpark north of Manion Field, additional parking is needed. Jason Bauer, Humboldt Recreation Commission, was present and said the Commission would split the cost with the City. Motion by Murrow, second by Walburn to approve the parking lot improvements 110' x 195' area and allow the road that comes in from the south to be opened up to allow for two lane traffic, subject to the Humboldt Recreation Commission paying half the cost or \$5,000, whichever is less. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Aikins, second by Murrow to publish an official notice of application for councilmember to fill the vacancy of Jeremy Weilert, who moved from Ward 1 to Ward 2, with the Mayor to review the applicants and present a name to the Council for their

approval at the May meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Councilmember Walburn suggested the Mayor bring to the Council one main candidate and one reserve for their review.

Nuisance properties included: 202 Central, owner Mike Dillon, has requested 30 additional days; 319 Sycamore, Rita Shults, making progress and needs 30 additional days; 203 Neosho, Guy and Mitzi Ellsworth, have been cited in Humboldt Municipal Court; 914 Sycamore, owner Jerome McIntyre, demolition permit issued; 320 Sycamore, owner Phillip Gutierrez, demolition permit issued; and Roy Fritch is in the process of finishing cleanup of his property. Councilmember Walburn asked if Roy Fritch understood and was clear what needed to be cleaned up; City Administrator Tucker said the City could send him a picture if there was any question.

City Administrator Larry Tucker gave a brief report on the Business Mixer, in which approximately 30 people attended; Housing meeting to discuss the senior housing project, Bill Cation had four people sign a letter of intent and has a possible investor for the project; swimming pool to open May 23 (earlier opening date due to possibly closing earlier because of poor attendance later in the season), Carrothers Construction is currently repainting the new addition and the paint has been provided free of charge from the supplier for the old addition, the pool to be filled May 1; water line improvement project has started on the north end of town; City Hall improvement project continuing with the possibility of an upgrade to the heating and cooling system, architect Rick Zingre has some ideas that will be presented at the May meeting.

Motion by Murrow, second by Julich that the Governing Body recess to executive session as authorized by the Open Meetings Law for the exception of discussion of attorney/client matters for five minutes and discussion of personnel matters for 15 minutes. Meeting will be recessed for 20 minutes at 8:50 p.m. and will resume regular session at 9:10 p.m. in the Humboldt Public Library meeting room. Mayor Sharp, City Attorney Works and City Administrator Tucker were requested to be present in executive session for discussion of attorney/client matters with Chief Dan Onnen to be included in executive session for discussion of personnel matters. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting resumed regular session at 9:15 p.m.

Motion by Murrow, second by Crawford to accept the job description of Police Department Office Manager/Court Clerk.

Councilmember Walburn requested that in the job description for Police Department Office Manager/Court Clerk, under Position Requirements, Supervision, it should be changed to read: This employee shall report to the Chief of Police and Municipal Court Judge (striking "and may exercise occasional supervision over subordinate personnel").

Councilmember Murrow amended his motion and was seconded by Crawford that the job description for Police Department Office Manager/Court Clerk be accepted, striking the last sentence "and may exercise occasional supervision over subordinate personnel". Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Murrow, second by Crawford to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

/s/ Robert Sharp
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Jean M. Flores
City Clerk