

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 24, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Lin called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilmembers Marlow, Bowman, Cuthbertson, and Heyenga. City Accountant Deborah Brooks joined the meeting for the open session.

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

III. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

1. Pursuant to Government Code, Section 54957
 - a. Personnel Exemption
 1. Grant Administrator Position

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The Council reconvened to open session at 7:35pm. Mayor Lin reported that we had seven candidates for the position of Grant Administrator and that the Council had unanimously decided to offer the position to Rebecca Price-Hall.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Heyenga suggested that since items 6 and 9 were policy issues, they could be held over to the workshop on Council policies scheduled for Thursday, January 26. Cuthbertson asked that item 8 be moved up due to the large number of audience members interested in it. Heyenga also noted that a representative from the Bureau of Land Management was present for item 3. The Mayor proposed moving items 6 and 9 to the policy workshop and moving items 3 and 8 up. Motion (Heyenga/Bowman) to approve the agenda as revised passed unanimously.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Glenn Saunders asked about the status of the letter which was supposed to be sent to John Frame supporting the Humboldt North Coast Land Trust. Cuthbertson explained that it had not yet been sent because he needed to review the tapes of the meeting to determine the exact motion made. The tapes showed that the letter should be copied to the same organizations that received the Land Trust letter. The City letter can now be sent.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Lin described the consent agenda item. Motion (Bowman/Cuthbertson) to approve the consent agenda item as submitted passed unanimously.

VIII. AGENDA ITEM(S)

1. Discussion/Decision on Capitalization Policy for the City of Trinidad. (Cuthbertson/Auditor/Accountant)
Deborah Brooks explained the proposed policy, noting that many items in the Water and Cemetery departments are already being capitalized. Marlow and Cuthbertson asked if major trail improvements and repairs would be capitalized and Brooks said yes.

Motion (Cuthbertson/Bowman) to approve the concept of a capitalization policy, to approve the draft policy at the policy workshop, and to bring a final draft and Resolution back to the Council for approval; passed unanimously.

2. Discussion/Decision regarding California Coastal National Monument Gateway agreement with BLM. (Heyenga)

Heyenga introduced the item and Bob Wick from the BLM explained the CCNM program. He described Trinidad as an important Gateway city due to the number and proximity of coastal monuments. The Agreement would form a "handshake" partnership with general goals and no financial obligations. However, future projects such as interpretive programs might more easily qualify for grants if such an agreement is in place.

By consensus the Council agreed that Heyenga would bring back a formal proposal for action.

3. Discussion/Decision on request by Humboldt North Coast Land Trust (HNCLT) to appoint a City representative to the group developing the Saunders property. (Lin/HNCLT)

Mayor Lin introduced the item and offered to be the representative. HNCLT President Gail Kenny read her request and explained why City representatives are important to the planning effort. Heyenga also expressed interest in being a representative and proposed that both he and the Mayor be selected. Kenny had no objection to two representatives.

Motion (Cuthbertson/Heyenga) to appoint Mayor Lin and Councilmember Heyenga to represent the City on the joint committee, with the understanding that they would make no policy decisions without coming back to the Council; passed unanimously.

4. Discussion/Decision on submitting a grant proposal to the State Water Board Consolidated Grant Program. (Lin)

Mayor Lin introduced the item and explained the grant process. Cuthbertson asked if there were a local match and Lin said that 6% was the match on a similar grant. Heyenga asked if the Council would see the concept proposal before it was sent. Lin said that because the application would be submitted electronically there may not be time to have a meeting beforehand. Public comments all supported applying for the grant.

Motion (Heyenga/Cuthbertson) to approve the submission of a conceptual application for the 2005-2006 State Water Board Consolidated Program with the City as the applicant, and to authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City passed unanimously.

5. Discussion/Decision regarding proposal for Planning Commission to study and consider planning/zoning changes for Trinidad Head. (Heyenga)

Heyenga introduced the item and explained the need to update the General Plan with regards to Trinidad Head. The proposal was prompted by the Coastal Commission staff's comments about the need to develop a comprehensive plan for land uses and zoning.

Patti Fleschner reviewed the history of the transfer of property from the BLM to the City. Public comments focused on the uses allowed in the current open space zoning, the conditions of the original BLM agreement, and the concern that rezoning would be a way to facilitate more cellular communications development there. Fleschner noted that the City receives revenue from such facilities. Bob Wick from the BLM said that many agreements have been signed over the decades.

Council discussion focused on the need to understand all agreements and their conditions before considering a Planning Commission study.

Motion (Marlow/Cuthbertson) to direct the City Clerk to collect all historical documents relating to the transfer of the property, existing poles and towers, and other uses. Passed 4-1. Yes: Marlow, Bowman, Lin, Cuthbertson. No: Heyenga (Heyenga's vote was based on his support for a study).

6. Discussion/Decision regarding back-up generator service agreement with Cummin's West, Inc. (Cuthbertson)

Cuthbertson introduced the item and noted that Chief Thraikill is interested in getting a larger generator for Town Hall and perhaps using the current generator at the water plant. The Council, by consensus, agreed to wait a month or two until more is known about generator plans. Mayor Lin also agreed to oversee this project as it deals with Town Hall.

7. Discussion/Decision regarding expense for tree removal. (Marlow)

Marlow introduced the item noting that CDF, which was supposed to remove the trees as part of storm damage cleanup had decided that the trees did not qualify for removal. The \$600 request was suggested by the Public Works Director based on previous tree removal expenses.

Motion (Heyenga/Cuthbertson) to authorize the transfer of \$600 from the General Fund reserve to the Streets Account for tree removal passed unanimously.

8. Discussion/Decision regarding request from resident for update on City Park plans. (Heyenga)

Heyenga explained that Glenn Saunders had asked this item be on the agenda. Lin said that the park plans have been changing, making updates difficult. Heyenga noted that with the two Council representatives attending the joint meetings, everyone will be kept abreast of park planning. Saunders was satisfied with these explanations.

IX. COUNCIL REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Council agreed to post the policy workshop for Thursday, January 26 at 1:30pm.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Lin adjourned the meeting at 10:58pm

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Dean Heyenga
Councilmember
1/24/06

Chi-Wei Lin
Mayor