

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ETNA CITY COUNCIL
Monday January 6, 2020

Members of the Etna City Council met on this 6th day of January 2020, at the Etna City Council Chambers. Mayor Erik Ryberg called the meeting to order and led in the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call

Council members Lori Fleck, Erik Ryberg, Jaime Tarne, and Mitch Trost were present.

Oral Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Item

None.

Consent Calendar

- Check Register
- Income Statement
- Minutes of the Regular Meeting December 16, 2019
- Minutes of the Special Meetings December 18, and 21, 2019
- Resolution 2020-001 Update Signatories and remove Jill Beckmann from the General Account through Mechanics Bank

Mayor Erik Ryberg moved to approve the Consent Calendar, Tarne seconded and the motion passed 4-0 with Fleck, Ryberg, Tarne, and Trost voting yes.

Current Business

Swear in Council Member Cate Trost. Mayor Ryberg swore in Cate Trost.

Discuss/Approve discount water bill for Etna Cemetery. Terry Drager requested council approval to reduce the water bill rate for the Etna Cemetery. Drager and the council discussed the original proposal for utilizing untreated water at a discounted rate, but council is still not interested in considering something that could potentially set a precedence. Council member Fleck offered to help Drager with reaching out to the community in hopes raise/fundraise money for the cemetery similar to what Friends of the Pool does. The council took no action.

Introduce new CSO Officers. Police Chief Short introduced the most recent hires for the Police Department. Bonnie Mortenson is the new Community Service Officer for the City of Etna, and Kelly York is the new Community Service Officer for Fort Jones. Chief Short also introduced Branden Buell, the new police officer that will be ready to start as soon as his background is completed. Council member Fleck suggested that the City hire Branden Buell to fill in as another Community Service Officer for Etna to work the remaining 20 hours to make the position full time again.

Update on Fort Jones Police regarding community response, personnel, location, supplies, training, and contract. Chief Short gave a brief update since Etna Police Department took over Fort Jones providing law enforcement services.

Update on cat complaint. Chief Short explained to the council that they have been receiving multiple complaints regarding a large number of cats on Fredrick Street. The cat owners were present at the meeting, and commented that the cats are rescued and are well taken care of, and all are spayed and/or neutered. Chief Short provided the council with several examples of ordinances addressing cats from other cities. The council does not see a realistic way for city staff to enforce an ordinance against cats.

Discuss/Approve option for city employee provided Healthcare to Opt-Out to receive Health Insurance Allowance at 50% of annual cost. City Clerk Kris Hargrove requested council approval to allow employees to opt-out of the health insurance that the City provides to employees in an effort to save the City money, and benefit the employee. Hargrove provided the council with a breakdown of how much savings the City could potentially have based on half of the employees electing to opt-out. \$46,815.30 is approximately what the City will save. Council member Tarne moved to approve allowing the City employees the option to opt-out of health insurance provided by the City and allowing them to cash out 50% of what the cost is for that employee, and health insurance rates/costs will be provided to the council for review annually. Council member Fleck seconded and the motion passed 5-0 with Fleck, Ryberg, Tarne, C. Trost, and M. Trost voting yes.

Discuss/Approve creating a new CDBG/EDBG Loan Committee. Hargrove explained that each CDBG/EDBG loan contract through the City is required to have an annual review. The last time this committee met was three years ago. Council member Fleck, and C. Trost agreed to be members of the CDBG/EDBG Loan Committee along with any past members that would still be interested. Mayor Ryberg moved to approve Fleck, and C. Trost to participate on the CDBG/EDBG Loan Committee, Tarne seconded and the motion passed 5-0 with Fleck, Ryberg, Tarne, C. Trost, and M. Trost voting yes.

Discuss/Approve Cloud Storage Solution. Hargrove is requesting approval to look into a backup system that is not housed at City Hall. There is concern that if something happened as far as theft or damage to the building all of the data kept here could be destroyed. John McGonigal, Siskiyou Technical Services, has compared systems and recommends using BackBlaze. Council member Cate Trost has experience with IT and backup systems and commented that there is a better option for the City and will look into this item further, and bring back additional recommendations to consider.

Discuss/Approve 2020 Holiday Schedule. Hargrove provided the 2020 Holiday Schedule to the council for approval. Mayor Ryberg moved to approve the 2020 Holiday, Tarne seconded and the motion passed 5-0 with Fleck, Ryberg, Tarne, C. Trost, and M. Trost voting yes.

Discuss/Approve switching PT Public Works position to FT Public Works position. Council member Tarne would like to postpone this item for a later meeting. No action taken.

Discuss/Approve redistributing council member commissions.

- Council member Fleck: CDBG/EDBG Committee, Ambulance Department,
- Council member Tarne: Public Works, Pool, Fire Department
- Council member Cate Trost: IT, Alternate Fire Department, CDBG/EDBG Committee, Business liaison

- Council member Mitch Trost: Parks

Council Reports:

Council member Tarne reported that the Fire Department is continuing to work toward combining the Fire Departments in Scott Valley. Fire Chief Alan Kramer added that the primary concern is that some firefighters are members of multiple Fire Departments, and they are working on developing a policy to address this concern. Tarne also reported that she is waiting to hear back from the attorney regarding definition of employees and job classifications.

Council member Fleck asked Brooks O'Conner-Cone to give the Ambulance report. Cone reported that they recently had a long distance gurney transfer, and two applications have been submitted for the other full-time paramedic position. Fleck will be attending the LOLA meeting in Mt. Shasta and requested the Mayor designate her so that she can vote on behalf of the City. Mayor Ryberg designated council member Fleck.

Council member Trost reported that trash is being dumped at the park illegally, and would like it addressed.

Kris Hargrove reported that each member of the council needs to complete their form 700 ASAP.

Mayor Ryberg reported that January 21st will be his last council meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

SUMMARY:

- **Council took no action on reducing the water bill for Etna Cemetery**
- **Council took no action on the complaints regarding cats**
- **Council approved the option to opt-out of health insurance provided by the City**
- **Council members Fleck, and C. Trost agreed to be on the CDBG/EDBG Loan Committee**
- **Council approved 2020 Holiday Schedule**
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PENDING ITEMS:

- **Lot line adjustment behind museum**
- **Switching the part-time Public Works position to a full-time public works position**
- **Off-site Backup**

Jenny Bennett,

Asst. City Clerk