

**Tulelake City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**July 21, 2020**

Mayor Ebinger called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM. Mayor Ebinger, Mayor Pro Tem Marcillac and Council Members Velador and Fensler were all present. Also present were Finance Director, Will Sargent, City Hall Administrator, Jenny Coelho and Chief of Police, Tony Ross. Present on the conference call were Director of Public Works, Brett Nystrom and City Administrative Clerk, Heidi Cureton. City Treasurer, Sara Luscombe and City Clerk, Raul Figueroa were both absent.

**APPROVAL OF THE JULY 07, 2020 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Council Member Velador made a motion to approve the July 07, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Marcillac seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Motion 20-114)

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

Council Member Fensler made a motion to approve the bills presented. Council Member Velador seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Motion 20-115)

**PUBLIC HEARING: CONVERSATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX (TOT). RESOLUTION 20-04**

The City Hall Administrator explained the purpose of the proposed transient occupancy tax and how it would only apply to visitors staying at lodging facilities within the city and would not be a tax that would impact city residents. Mayor Ebinger asked if any public present or on the conference line had any questions regarding this proposed tax. No comments were made from the public. No action taken.

**POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AMENDED RESOLUTION 20-04 ESTABLISHING A TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX (TOT) WITHIN THE CITY OF TULELAKE AND ADDING IT TO THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT**

The City Hall Administrator explained to Council how Resolution 20-04 had been through many word changes in order to get it correct and ready for the ballot. It was suggested by the Siskiyou County Clerk that we should renumber it to avoid any confusion as to which resolution was passed. The title of the newly renumbered Resolution 20-04A was read to the Council along with the measure being proposed for the ballot. Mayor Ebinger made a motion to approve Resolution 20-04A and have it added to the 2020 General Election Ballot. Mayor Pro Tem Marcillac seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Motion 20-116)

**PUBLIC HEARING: CONVERSATION REGARDING RESOLUTION 20-07, THE PROPOSED TULELAKE PUBLIC SAFETY SPECIAL TAX RESOLUTION OF 2020**

The City Hall Administrator described how this tax would raise much needed funds for public safety, including trainings, equipment, animal control and supplies. Residents would pay \$60 per year for each tax parcel, subject to the annual increase of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This payment could be broken down into 12 monthly payments and added to their utility bill each month. This proposed tax would only affect land owners, not their tenants, and the tax would only be applied to parcels that were considered improved properties. Mayor Ebinger asked if any public present or on the conference line had any questions regarding the proposed public safety special tax. No comments were made. No action taken.

**POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AMENDED RESOLUTION 20-07 ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL TAX FOR POLICE OPERATIONS, TRAINING AND SUPPLIES, PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT, LAW ENFORCEMENT, DISPATCH, CODE ENFORCEMENT, AND ANIMAL CONTROL WITHIN THE CITY OF TULELAKE AND ADDING IT TO THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT**

The City Hall Administrator explained to Council how Resolution 20-07 had been through many word changes in order to get it correct and ready for the ballot. It was suggested by the Siskiyou County Clerk that we should renumber it to avoid any confusion as to which resolution was passed. The title of the newly renumbered Resolution 20-07A was read to the Council along with the measure being proposed for the ballot. Mayor Ebinger made a motion to approve Resolution 20-07A and have it added to the 2020 General Election Ballot. Council Member Velador seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Motion 20-117)

**PROPOSAL OF POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS FOR GETTING WATER RECONNECTED AT THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 635 FIFTH STREET BY THE CURRENT TENANT**

The owner of 635 Fifth Street has let the property go downhill and has not made a payment on the property since 2018. Donald Gellis, has been living there with no water for a few months and proposed to the City Council that he would be willing to do work in the City parks in exchange for having the water turned on at the house. The City Hall Administrator told him that the General Fund budget is so tight right now that the City was in no position to hire another employee. Chief Ross suggested that Council could make an exception in the City policy and allow Mr. Gellis to put the utility bill in his name. The City Hall Administrator recommended that the owner needs to sign an agreement with the City stating that he will begin making monthly payments on the delinquent account and then we would be able to open the water for his tenant. It was also noted that the City water meter had been turned on and off and water usage went through the meter. Mayor Ebinger explained to Mr. Gellis that he was not allowed to touch the City water meter and he



would need to contact the Public Works Department in the future for all water meter requests. More discussion took place and Mayor Ebinger agreed to contact the home owner and speak with him regarding his tenant and a possible agreement. No action was taken.

**REQUESTING COMP TIME PAYOUT FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE JUSTIN ANDERSON, REQUESTING 61.75 HOURS AND CHIEF TONY ROSS, REQUESTING 58 HOURS, TO BE EFFECTIVE ON THE JULY 24, 2020 PAYROLL**

Discussion took place regarding the lack of money in the General Fund and how the City has not received any sales tax money and may not receive any in until January 2021. Not trying to deny the Chief his comp time, the Finance Director suggested that it would be easier on the City if Chief Ross were to wait until fall to pay out his comp time. After discussion, Council Member Fensler made a motion for the comp time to be paid to both officers effective with the July 24<sup>th</sup> pay date. Council Member Velador seconded the motion. (Motion 20-118)

**ACCEPTANCE OF COUNCIL MEMBER NICHOLSON'S RESIGNATION LETTER, RESIGNED AS OF JULY 01, 2020**

Mayor Ebinger read Council Member Nicholson's resignation letter to the Council and said that he was very appreciative of having Council Member Nicholson serve on the City Council. Mayor Ebinger suggested that a certificate of appreciation should be prepared and presented to Council Member Nicholson for his service to our City. No action taken.

**APPROVAL TO PERFORM CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) ON CITY PROPERTY LOCATED AT AP# 050-201-010-000 USING SB 2 MONIES**

After discussion, Mayor Ebinger made a motion to approve having a CEQA done with SB 2 grant funding on the City property located at AP# 050-201-010-000 in order to start the process for a potential housing subdivision. Council Member Velador seconded. Motion carried. (Motion 20-119).

**APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 SALARY SCHEDULE FOR THE CITY OF TULELAKE**

The City Hall Administrator explained to Council that the salary schedule is updated each fiscal year as required by the State of California payroll laws and CalPERS requirements. The salary schedule reflects the minimum wage changes that go into effect as of January 1, 2021 as well as the exempt employee salaries increases as required by state law. Also stated was the financial condition of the city and due to lack of general funding due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the required minimum pay increases would not occur until January 1, 2021. Mayor Ebinger made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Salary Schedule. Council Member Fensler seconded. Motion carried. (Motion 20-120)

**APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DANIEL GRIEB AND THE CITY OF TULELAKE FOR SCULPTURE AND METAL ART SERVICES FOR THE VETERANS PARK EXPANSION PROJECT**

This item was tabled until the next meeting due to no information received from the artist.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**LEASE NEGOTIATIONS RE: CITY PROPERTY LOCATED AT AP# 050-201-010-000. GOVT CODE 54956.9**

Council went into closed session at 6:32 PM.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION**


Council went back into open session at 6:57 PM. A motion was made in closed session to have the City Attorney review the lease and come back with recommendations for the Council. Mayor Ebinger called for a roll call vote. All votes were Ayes. Motion carried. (Motion 20-121)

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:02 PM Council Member Fensler made a motion to adjourn the July 21, 2020 regular meeting. Council Member Velador seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Motion 20-122)

  
Henry A Ebinger, Mayor

Attest:

  
Raul Figueroa Tamayo, City Clerk