Logo

Description automatically generated**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE ETNA CITY COUNCIL**

**Monday November 15, 2021**

Members of the Etna City Council met on this 15th day of November, via TELECONFERENCE. Mayor Jaime Tarne called the meeting to order and dispensed with the flag salute.

**Roll Call**

Councilmembers Mitch Trost, Cliff Munson, Charnna Gilmore, Mayor Jaime Tarne were present. Councilmember Brandon Fawaz was absent.

**Oral Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Item**

None.

**Consent Calendar**

* Regular Minutes October 4, 2021, October 18, 2021
* Special Meeting Minutes October 4, 2021, October 7,2021
* Payroll Register October 2021
* Check Register October 2021
* Resolution 2021-015 Ambulance Rate Increase
* Staff Memo – Prop 68 Grant CEQA Exemption

Councilmember Gilmore moved to approve the minutes, payroll register, and check register. Councilmember Trost seconded and the motion passed.

**Ayes: Trost, Munson, Gilmore, Tarne**

Mayor Tarne read Resolution 2021-015 Ambulance Rate Increase. Councilmember Munson moved to accept Resolution 2021-015, Gilmore seconded, and the motion passed.

**Ayes: Trost, Munson, Gilmore, Tarne**

City Planner Richard Tinsman gave a background regarding the Prop 68 Grant CEQA Exemption Staff Memo. Councilmember Munson moved to make the findings that the project will not have a significant impact on the environment and that we make the determination that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301, 15303, 15304, 15332, and 15061(b)(3). Trost seconded and the motion passed.

**Ayes: Trost, Munson, Gilmore, Tarne**

**Council/Department Reports:**

Public Works Director Dan Burbank gave a brief report – the water turbidity is continuing to clear up. Burbank has been working with City Engineer Morgan Eastlick on a few grants and projects. The new vehicle has been great for the department.

Police Chief Josh Short gave a brief report – the department has been busy with DUI and traffic collision calls and reminded everyone to be careful. They have been participating in a lot of trainings. There is a property in town that may be donated to PAL for recreational purposes.

City Clerk Kris Hargrove gave a brief report – the financial meeting with Jill went great. They have been busy working with Jill compiling information for the meeting in December.

Mayor Tarne gave a brief report – Fort Jones will be giving Etna $25,000 from a grant that they received to help with the pool project.

Councilmember Gilmore gave a brief report – CDBG committee is close to being finished with auditing some of the loans that had not been looked at for quite some time.

**CURRENT BUSINESS:**

**Discuss/Approve allocating PLHA Funding to Youth Empowerment Siskiyou.** Sarah Springfield Executive Director for Youth Empowerment Siskiyou presented the Council with a funding opportunity to help fight against youth homelessness. When a house is sold in Siskiyou County there is a real estate transaction fee $75.00 that goes to the state. Each jurisdiction or city can apply for those funds which have to be used for housing and homelessness. Springfield provided the Council with the Notice of Funding Availability Grant information. Etna is eligible for $67,000 available for a 2019 allocation, and $105,000 for 2020 allocation. If the funds are not accessed by 2023 then the funds go back to the state and are no longer available. Springfield has been attending other City Council meetings with the hope to have these funds accessed and available for Youth Empowerment Siskiyou to renovate a building that is in Yreka. Fort Jones, and Montague have indicated that they are interested in pulling their funds to contribute to this program. Springfield would like Etna to join as well, and she is planning on approaching other cities with the same proposal.

Councilmember Munson mentioned that Rockside Ranch is similar to this assisting young men 18 to 25 in age and asked if they might have anything to add to this, perhaps Scott Valley being a location for the homeless youth. Springfield stated transportation would be an issue and most other resources are available in Yreka. It is important that this money doesn’t get wasted and the money needs to be used now. Springfield would like to use the money for operating expenses to renovate an existing building. The building is located on 4th street in Yreka and zoned for a group home. Mayor Tarne mentioned that the deadline is December 31st, and it would be impossible for the City of Etna to have a use for these funds.

Councilmember Gilmore asked if both years must have a commitment. Springfield explained that the commitment is five years per state requirements.

Chief Short added that they work with Rockside quite a bit the clients that are brought in for rehabilitation are they are not often local clients. Chief Short is in favor of having a youth homeless shelter available in Yreka, it is a better solution and the area provides more resources. Chief Short does not think the city has the staff time to administer the grant, and this is a great opportunity for the community.

Audience member Tara Shuttleworth commented that she can help Etna if they would be interested in the money.

Councilmember Trost recommends Etna’s allocation to Youth Empowerment Siskiyou.

Springfield added that the building is in Yreka, but they provide services throughout the county. They provide services to youth in Scott Valley.

Councilmember Munson requested more time to review this information. Springfield is available to answer any questions. Munson thanked Springfield for bringing this to the City Council’s attention. Springfield is still investigating the most appropriate uses for these funds. Munson agreed to coordinate with Springfield to tailor the resolution to best fit Scott Valley’s needs.

**Discuss/Approve PAL Holiday Party & Tree Lighting.** Chief Short requested approval for the event application for the 20th Annual PAL Party and described the event. Councilmember Gilmore asked about COVID protocols and if anything will be in place. Chief Short will be asking the community to follow current COVID protocols, they will be providing hand sanitizer and masks as well. Mayor Tarne requests that mask mandates be followed especially if Santa will be inside of a building. Councilmember Trost suggested using the outside stage at the Square for Santa. Mayor Tarne moved to approve the PAL Holiday Party & tree lighting, Trost seconded, and the motion passed.

**Ayes: Ayes: Trost, Munson, Gilmore, Tarne**

Mayor Tarne informed the Council and audience that Pacific Power reduced rates by 8.2% which started last Wednesday.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**CITY COUNCIL STATEMENTS AND REQUESTS:**

**CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:**

* **Discuss/Approve CDBG Loan**

Nothing to report.

* **Discuss legal matters.**

Clerk Hargrove updated the Council on current legal matters.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business Mayor Tarne ended the closed session and adjourned the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bennett

Asst. City Clerk