

MINUTES
PARADISE TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 PM – May 11, 2021

1. OPENING

The Regular meeting of the Paradise Town Council was called to order by Mayor Crowder at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chamber located at 5555 Skyway, Paradise, California who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. An invocation was offered by Greg Bolin.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Bolin, Steve “Woody” Culleton, Jody Jones, Rose Tryon and Steve Crowder, Mayor.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager Kevin Phillips, Assistant Town Attorney Dwight Moore, Town Clerk Dina Volenski, Assistant to the Town Manager Colette Curtis, Disaster Recovery Director Katie Simmons, Community Development Director Susan Hartman, Community Development Director Tony Lindsey, Public Works Director/Town Engineer Marc Mattox, Housing Program Manager Kate Anderson, Administrative Services Director Ross Gilb, Police Chief Eric Reinbold, Code Enforcement Supervisor Roy Wallis, and Fire Chief Sjolund via Teams.

Agenda item 6a was moved to the beginning of the agenda by Council consensus.

6a. Consider waiving the reading of entire Town of Paradise Urgency Ordinance No. 608, and adopting Town of Paradise Urgency Ordinance No. 608, an Urgency Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Paradise Amending Urgency Ordinance No. 600 and Adopting New Urgency Ordinance Relating to Interim Housing, Accessory Building(s) and Unoccupied Recreational Vehicle Inside the Camp Fire Area, which:

a. Requires all new temporary use permits issued to fall in line with the existing Temporary Use Regulations found within Paradise Municipal Code Chapter 17.32 in the zoning ordinance which requires the issuance of a building permit for a new residence in order to secure a temporary use permit to reside in an RV on-site;

b. Removes the alternatives thresholds requirement and allows all Temporary Use Permits issued to expire with the remainder of the ordinance on December 31, 2021;

c. Removes the allowance of dry camping;

d. Directs Town staff to Notice Temporary Use Permit holders no later than 90 days from expiration of urgency ordinance regarding the necessary steps

to maintain occupancy of temporary dwelling after the ordinance expiration on December 31, 2021.

Community Development Director Susan Hartman provided an overview of the proposed ordinance relating to Interim Housing, Accessory Buildings and Unoccupied Recreational Vehicles inside the Camp Fire area and potential options for Council to consider as residents rebuild.

1. Laurie Noble asked Council to give consideration to property owners and stated that people can't rebuild due to circumstance, not choice.
2. Loraine Dechter asked Council to be compassionate and flexible in setting policy and allowing staff to be compassionate and flexible, as well, when people are trying to do what they are supposed to do.
3. Ward Habriel thought that code enforcement should be able to act quicker when enforcing code violations, such as those who have unpermitted RV's without water, garbage, septic and electricity on their lots.
4. Randy Veemeyer asked that Council be more flexible and not kick people off their properties who are doing everything right and who don't have complaints against them. He said it takes time to get all the funding you need and a lot of people just don't have the funding secured yet.
5. Vicky Smith asked that Council consider the people in RV's who are doing what they are supposed to.
6. Joule Charney thought that those who are doing what they are supposed to, should not be penalized. People should not be rushed into making rash decisions about the most expensive thing they will ever own, their house, by being forced to expedite the building process.
7. Austin Chase is a social worker and therapist who has worked with many Camp Fire survivors and shared that individuals who have PTSD should not be forced off their properties and feels the letters received from the Town are threatening and degrading and asks the Town to work with these people.
8. Dean Manley doesn't feel like there is any compassion from the Mayor, while he is working on his property.
9. Diane Watts Awalt asked Council to let the people stay on their property until they can get their finances in order and to have some compassion for the people who have lost everything and are doing everything they've been asked to do.
10. Larry Graham asked Council to have some compassion until the government funding or Camp Fire Trust Fund comes through.

11. Michael Ranney asked that Council suspend the deadline until December to give folks and Council more time to go over what staff has recommended. He asked how many of the people staying in RV are actually violating public safety and health standards.

12. Town Clerk Dina Volenski read an email from Ed Schilling in favor of the June 30th deadline. He said that most individuals who have not submitted rebuild permits have no intention of doing so: asked Council to provide a place for marginalized people to stay and enforce the deadlines instead of moving the goalposts again.

13. Town Clerk Dina Volenski read a statement submitted via phone by Bob Nolan that asked Council to extend the deadline a few months to allow settlement money to come in; suggested a letter be written to the Governor and President of FEMA to allow FEMA housing to remain for a few more months; and, thinks the Town has done a great job of managing the disaster and being in touch with the residents.

14. Town Clerk Dina Volenski read a statement submitted via phone by Rona Coyle who lost her property in the fire and is living in an RV. Ms. Coyle stated if the ordinance is not extended the Town will be kicking people out of their homes and into the homeless population. She also stated that there are elderly clients in Paradise in trauma and can't find IHSS workers willing to come to Paradise or Magalia.

MOTION by Culleton, seconded by Tryon, to extend the ordinance to December 31, 2021 and extend the alternative thresholds deadline to June 1, 2022. AYES: Culleton, Tryon; NOES: Bolin, Jones. **At this point, no other votes were taken because the MOTION FAILED. An urgency ordinance requires a 4/5 vote to pass.**

MOTION by Bolin, seconded by Jones, to extend the ordinance to September 30, 2021 and extend the alternative thresholds deadline to December 31, 2021. AYES: Bolin, Jones, Tryon, Crowder; NOES: Culleton; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None **MOTION PASSED**
(540-16-177)

1a. The Town's financial advisor, Meeder Investments, provided a financial update on the PG&E investments.

1b. Cole Glenwright from CAL OES provided an update on the Hazard Tree Removal Program.

1. Ward Habriel commented that six allegedly healthy oak trees on his neighbor's properties, that were not marked as hazard trees, fell during the last several windstorms. He said a few crews from the government ROE program said they should have been marked but for some reason weren't. He would like to know how trees can be identified that are hazardous.

Disaster Recovery Director Katie Simmons provided an update on the Private Tree Removal Program, advocacy, recovery projects and emergency management.

Public Works Director/Town Engineer Marc Mattox provided an update on infrastructure and the sewer project.

Assistant to the Town Manager Colette Curtis provided a business update on the nonresidential market study, design standards and the Town seal.

Community Development Director Tony Lindsey provided an update on RV code enforcement issues.

1. Ward Habriel commented that the Town's website is mistaken about Northern Recycling and Waste Services as they does not accept hazardous materials or take recycling. He is also worried about weed abatement and says the Town has a lot of work to do.

At 9:02 p.m. Mayor Crowder recessed the meeting for a ten-minute break.

At 9:10 p.m. Mayor Crowder resumed the Council meeting.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION by Bolin, seconded by Jones, approved consent calendar items 2a through 2g with item 2i removed from the consent calendar. Roll call vote was unanimous.

- 2a. Approved minutes of the April 13, 2021 Regular and April 14, 2021 Special Town Council meetings.
- 2b. Approved April 2021 Cash Disbursements in the amount of \$2,345,206.07 (310-10-034)
- 2c. Adopted Resolution No. 21-19, a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Paradise Adopting a List of Projects for Fiscal Year 2021-22 Funded by SB 1: The Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. (950-10-034)
- 2d. Adopted an amendment to the existing Regulatory Agreement between the Town of Paradise and Paradise Community Village to allow preferences to Camp Fire survivors when leasing units; and, authorized the Town Manager, on behalf of the Town of Paradise, to execute said amendment. (510-20-031)
- 2e. Waived second reading of the entire Town Ordinance No. 607 and approved reading by title only; and, Adopted Town Ordinance No. 607, "An Ordinance Amending Text Regulations within Title 17 of the Paradise Municipal Code Relative to Sign Regulations Applicable to the No Longer Existent Paradise Redevelopment Agency and Area". (540-16-176)
- 2f. Approved the request by Aaron Singer of Paradise Stronger to adopt a portion of the Yellowstone Kelly Heritage Trail between Elliott Road and Bille Road; and 2. Approved the request by Love Paradise to adopt a portion of the Yellowstone Kelly Heritage Trail between Pearson Road and Elliott Road. (950-18-007)

- 2g. Adopted Resolution No.21-20, A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Paradise Authorizing Transfer of the Per Capita Grant Fund Allocation from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 to the Paradise Recreation and Park District. (710-40-012)
- 2g. 1. Approved the Pro Bono Contract with NHA Advisors; and 2. Authorized the Town Manager to sign the agreement. (510-20-301)

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

- 2i. Adopted Resolution No. 21-21, A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Paradise Approving an Agreement for Professional Legal Services between the Town of Paradise and the Law Firm of Cole Huber LLP, with partner Scott Huber assigned as Town Attorney for the Town of Paradise.

MOTION by Jones, seconded by Crowder, approved item 2i with changes to the agreement that Cole Huber LLP would begin May 12, 2021 on the hazardous tree abatement proceedings and nuisance abatement proceedings. All other services would begin July 1, 2021. Roll call vote was unanimous. (510-20-302)

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

- 1. Tanner Stauss shared his concept for Paradiseopoly and his plans to raise money for a non-profit through a crowd funding campaign. He requested endorsement from the Town of Paradise as the official game of the Town.

5. PUBLIC HEARING - None

6. COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- 6a. Item 6a was moved to the beginning of the agenda.
- 6b. Administrative Services Director Ross Gilb introduced Brad Bartells from MUN CPA's, who provided a review of the Fiscal Year 2019/20 financial statement audit report.

MOTION by Jones, seconded by Crowder, approved that the Town file the report as submitted. Roll call vote was unanimous. (385-10-040)

- 6c. Administrative Services Director Ross Gilb reviewed the Town's Investment Policy and recommended no changes be made at this time.

MOTION by Bolin, seconded by Crowder, approved Town of Paradise Administrative Investment Policy No. 140 as submitted. Roll call vote was unanimous. (360-30-002)

6d. Disaster Recovery Director Katie Simmons provided an overview of the Reseeding Project.

MOTION by Jones, seconded by Tryon, Awarded the contract for the Reseeding Design & Scoping Planto River Partners and authorized the Town Manager to sign the agreement upon approval of the Town Attorney. AYES: Bolin, Jones, Tryon, and Crowder; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: Culleton; ABSENT: None. (510-20-303, 420-25-008)

6e. Chief Sjolund provided an overview of the proposed ordinance relating to defensible space requirements.

MOTION by Jones, seconded by Bolin, 1. Waived the first reading of Town Ordinance No. 609 and read by title only; and, 2. Introduced Town Ordinance No. 609 "An Ordinance Amending Paradise Municipal Code Section 8.58.060 relating to "defensible space requirements". (540-16-178)

6f. Disaster Recovery Director Katie Simmons updated the Council on the hazardous tree removal status. The cost is double what was projected and staff recommends retaining an arborist throughout the remainder of the program.

MOTION by Bolin, seconded by Jones, approved Second Amendment to Agreement between the Town of Paradise and Tetra Tech. Roll call vote was unanimous. (510-20-269)

7. COUNCIL INITIATED ITEMS AND REPORTS

7a. Council initiated agenda items.

a. Council Member Tryon requested the Council discuss and consider options regarding a Green Waste Facility. Council provided staff with direction to ask for an RFI to learn about the options and costs that would be associated with opening a Green Waste Facility.

b. Council Member Culleton asked that his request to consider discussion regarding the implementation of additional committees or other ways to promote citizen involvement be tabled until a future Council meeting.

7b. Council reports on committee representation

Council Member Jones, Mayor Crowder and Town Manager Phillips participated in a phone call with DMV supporting the reopening of the office in Paradise. DMV plans to reduce their office space across the State in half.

7c. Future Agenda Items – None

8. STAFF COMMUNICATION

Town Manager Phillips reported that he, along with the Town's Business Advocate, Colette Curtis, would be initiating further community outreach and citizen involvement in the formation of standing committees.

9. CLOSED SESSION - None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Crowder adjourned the Council meeting at 10:34 p.m.

Date approved: June 8, 2021

By:

_____/s/_____
Steve Crowder, Mayor

Attest:

_____/s/_____
Dina Volenski, CMC, Town Clerk