



MINUTES OF  
EUREKA CITY COUNCIL

January 6, 2026

The City Council of the City of Eureka met in REGULAR Session on the above date, 5:00 P.M. Closed Session, 6:00 P.M. Open Session, at the Eureka City Hall, Council Chambers, 531 "K" Street, Eureka.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CLOSED SESSION - 5:00 P.M.

Conference with legal counsel - existing litigation  
City of Eureka, et al., v. Fusion Smoke & Glass LP, et al.  
Humboldt County Superior Court, Case No. CV2500926  
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54946.9 (d)(1)

Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation  
Ashley Nieman vs. City of Eureka - Humboldt Co. Superior Court Case  
CV2502427  
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54946.9 (d)(1)

Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation  
City of Eureka vs. Zephyr Hospitality LLC and Does 1-10- Humboldt Co. Superior  
Court Case CV2502596  
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54946.9 (d)(1)

Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation  
Brandy Wheeler vs. City of Eureka - Humboldt Co. Superior Court Case  
CV2501491 Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54946.9 (d)(1)

REGULAR SESSION - 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Kim Bergel  
Kati Moulton  
Leslie Castellano  
G. Mario Fernandez  
Scott Bauer  
Renee Contreras-DeLoach

ABSENT: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION: No Report

A) MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Bergel honored David McGinty, a former City of Eureka Community Services Director and offered condolences to his family.

Mayor Bergel met with Old Town Business owners, attended Builders Exchange dinner, Salty Boat Parade, attended Employee Recognition Dinner where she presented Kate Baldwin with Employee of Year award, attended CAPE Holiday Party and Betty Chinn Dinner. Did Christmas Carols at Bayview Village, went to St. Vincent for Christmas, attended PacOut Green Team Clean Up and Truckers Parade, Holiday Food Drive, attended Councilmember Mouton's Town Hall and Humboldt Bay Fire Badge Pinning.

B) PRESENTATIONS

B.1 Home for the Holidays Awards - Program Coordinator Madison Green provided a report.

B.2 Web Accessibility Presentation - Project Coordinator Suzanne Ross-Mantle provided a report.

C) BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS: None

D) PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Joanne McGarry  
Pat  
Rick  
David  
Anonymous  
Bradley

Andrew DeWitt  
Madeline  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Shannon Townsend  
Mark Adams  
Phoenix  
Lisa Hilliard

E) COUNCIL REPORTS / CITY-RELATED TRAVEL REPORTS:

Councilmember Fernandez, attended Employee Recognition Dinner and visited Hoopa modular factory.

Councilmember Contreras-DeLoach, attended Employee Recognition Dinner, Cram the Cruiser food drive, CAPE gift wrapping party, Eureka Theater fundraiser, Homeless Remembrance in Old Town and attended phone meeting with Supervisor Arroyo.

Councilmember Bauer, traveled to Palm Springs for League of California City meeting. Attended Library Gala where Julie Fulkerson was honored, attended Humboldt Bay Fire JPA, Employee Recognition Dinner. He also spoke about the recent fire in Arcata. Reminded public a walk in Cooper Gulch on Saturday will be held to discuss future plans.

Councilmember Moulton, attended OSPR meeting, Humboldt Bay Fire JPA, Employee Recognition Dinner, hosted Town Hall about Design Standards, acknowledged that today is January 6th and thanked those who participate in the public process.

Councilmember Castellano, attended Employee Recognition Dinner, traveled to Palm Springs for CalCities meeting. HCSD 2x2, rode bus to look at Christmas lights, attended Community Connections at Free Meal, served food on Christmas with Mayor Bergel.

F) PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

G) CONSENT CALENDAR - Kati Moulton moved, seconded by Renee Contreras-DeLoach, to approve the Consent Calendar, motion Carried.

Ayes: Kati Moulton, Leslie Castellano, G. Mario Fernandez, Scott Bauer, Renee Contreras-DeLoach

Noes: None

Absent: None

G.1 Council Minutes – Approve City Council minutes from December 2, 2025 as submitted.

- G.2 City Attorney Services Agreement - Consider and approve a new contract with City Attorney Robert N. Black to extend his term of office to December 31, 2026.
- G.3 Mayor's Appointments to Boards and Commissions – Approve the Mayor’s appointments to Boards and Commissions.
- G.4 Pavement Rehabilitation 2024 Bid No. 2024-17 - Accept Pavement Rehabilitation 2024 Project, Bid No. 2024-14 Authorize the filing of a ‘Notice of Completion’ at the Office of the County Recorder
- G.5 C.A.P.E. Division Allocations - Adopt Resolution No. 2026 - 01 to de-allocate one Social Services Coordinator classification and allocate one Program Coordinator classification to the City's Classification Plan.
- G.6 Authorize Phase 2 Architect for Eureka Operations Complex - Authorize task order as part of the 2025-2026 On-Call Professional Services Agreement with Nichols Melburg and Rossetto in the amount of \$585,000.00 (not-to-exceed) for Phase 2 design services for the Eureka Operations Complex Project; and Authorize City Engineer to negotiate and execute applicable contract documents; and Authorize corresponding budget allocation in the amount of \$585,000.00.

H) LEGISLATIVE ACTION CORRESPONDENCE: None

I) ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

- I.1 2025 California Building Standards Code – Chief Building Official Brendan Riley provided a report.

No members of the Public Addressed the Council on this Matter.

Kati Moulton moved, seconded by Leslie Castellano, Waive full reading, read by title only, and adopt Bill No. 1052-C.S., Ordinance No. 969 an ordinance of the City of Eureka amending Eureka Municipal Code Title 15, Chapter 150, Sections 150.015 through 150.026, pertaining to the adoption of codes, motion Carried

Ayes: Kati Moulton, Leslie Castellano, G. Mario Fernandez, Scott Bauer  
Noes: None  
Absent: Renee Contreras-DeLoach

- I.2 Amendment to Eureka Municipal Code 92.02 (California Fire Code Amendments) – Chief Building Official Brendan Riley provided a report.

No members of the Public addressed the Council on this Matter.

Leslie Castellano moved, seconded by Kati Moulton, Waive full reading, read by title only, and adopt Bill No. 1053-C.S., Ordinance No. 970 an ordinance of the City of Eureka amending Eureka Municipal Code Title 9, Chapter 90, Section 92.02, pertaining to California Fire Code amendments., motion Carried.

Ayes: Kati Moulton, Leslie Castellano, G. Mario Fernandez, Scott Bauer, Renee Contreras-DeLoach  
Noes: None  
Absent: None

#### J) REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

- J.1 Request to Begin Research of an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Program – Police Chief Brian Stephens provided a report.

The following members of the Public Addressed the Council on this matter;

Kendall Fence  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Blake Bachelor  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Larry Giventer  
Joanne McGarry  
David  
Phillip  
Jasmine Jolly  
Anonymous  
Andrew  
Fox  
Anonymous  
Rachel  
Hank Wicklund  
Heinrich Soltow

Scott Bauer moved, seconded by Kati Moulton, Authorization to Begin Research of an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Program as per Chapter 104, Military Equipment Use Ordinance; and Direct staff to present a full program proposal, including operational policies, training standards, and fiscal impact, to the Community Oversight on Police Practices (COPP) board and the Independent Police Auditor for review and input; and Upon completion of research and consideration of oversight feedback, staff would return to the City Council with a formal request to implement a UAS program if the findings support a demonstrated benefit to the City of Eureka residents and the Eureka Police Department, motion Carried.

Ayes: Kati Moulton, Leslie Castellano, G. Mario Fernandez, Scott Bauer, Renee Contreras-DeLoach  
Noes: None  
Absent: None

J.2 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Methodology -  
Development Services Director Cristin Kenyon provided a report.

No members of the Public addressed the Council on this Matter.  
By Consensus, Council moved to file Informal appeal.

Kati Moulton motioned, seconded by Scott Bauer to extend meeting to 10pm., motion Carried.

Ayes: Kati Moulton, Leslie Castellano, Scott Bauer, Renee Contreras-DeLoach  
Noes: None  
Absent: G. Mario Fernandez

J.3 2025-26 Strategic Visioning Document – Postponed to January 20<sup>th</sup>  
Council Meeting.

J.4 Mayor Pro-Tem- Assistant City Manager Pam Powell provided a  
report.

Katie Moulton nominated Councilmember Leslie Castellano as Mayor Pro-Tem,  
seconded by Scott Bauer, motion carried

Kati Moulton moved, seconded by Scott Bauer, Elect a Mayor Pro-Tem to serve for  
2026., motion Carried.

Ayes: Kati Moulton, Leslie Castellano, Scott Bauer, Renee Contreras-DeLoach  
Noes: None  
Absent: G. Mario Fernandez

K) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

By Consensus, Council approved Councilmember Contreras-DeLoach request for an update on Safe Streets.

By Consensus, Council approved Councilmember Moulton request on policy regarding data retention.

By Consensus, Council approved Councilmember Castellano request on current Vacancy Registration for both Commercial and Residential.

By Consensus, Council approved Councilmember Castellano request to look into possibility of kitchen takeover at Free Meal.

L) CITY MANAGER REPORTS: None

M) PUBLIC COMMENT CONTINUED

ADJOURNMENT: 9:42PM

APPROVED:

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Kim Bergel  
Mayor

Attest:

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Shannon Fazio  
Deputy City Clerk