



**City of Humboldt**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Regular Meeting of Council November 25, 2024 - 05:30 PM**

- PRESENT:
- Mayor Rob Muench
  - Councillor Larry Jorgenson
  - Councillor Roger Korte
  - Councillor Marilyn Scott
  - Councillor Dave Rowe
  - Councillor Sarah McInnis
  - Councillor Karen Siermachesky
  - City Manager Joe Day
  - City Controller/Interim City Clerk Jace Porten
  - Director of Protective Services Mike Kwasnica
  - Director of Public Works Peter Bergquist
  - Director of Leisure Services Mike Ulriksen
  - Director of Cultural Services Jennifer Fitzpatrick
  - Communications Coordinator Angie Rolheiser

**1 Call To Order**

Mayor Muench called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Resolution:**  
2024.256

**2 Adopt Agenda**

**Moved By:** Councillor Marilyn Scott  
**Seconded By:** Councillor Sarah McInnis

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.1 Conflict of Interest**

**3 Public Acknowledgement**

Councillor McInnis acknowledged the DBID and their board for the successful hosting of their Santa Clause Parade.

Councillor McInnis acknowledged Mark Doepker on the sale of Universal Sports after 41 years in business and wishes him all the best.

Councillor McInnis acknowledged the opening of two new businesses, Rae Clothing and Sweet Spot, in the City, recently.

Mayor Muench acknowledged the outgoing Council members and thanked them for their time on council.

Mayor Muench also acknowledged the new Council for the City of Humboldt.

**4 Approve Minutes**

**Resolution:** 4.1  
2024.257

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held October 28, 2024**

**Moved By:** Councillor Roger Korte

**Seconded By:** Councillor Larry Jorgenson

That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held October 28, 2024 be approved as recorded and circulated.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution:** 4.2  
2024.258

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held November 8th, 2024**

**Moved By:** Councillor Larry Jorgenson

**Seconded By:** Councillor Dave Rowe

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held November 8th, 2024 be approved as recorded and circulated.

**CARRIED**

**5 New Business**

**Resolution:** 5.1  
2024.259

**Recommendation - Interim City Clerk - Deputy Mayor Schedule**

**Moved By:** Councillor Marilyn Scott

**Seconded By:** Councillor Sarah McInnis

That the position of Deputy Mayor be filled according to the following schedule:

- Larry Jorgenson November 25, 2024 – July 31, 2025
- Roger Korte August 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026
- Marilyn Scott April 1, 2026 – November 30, 2026
- Dave Rowe December 1, 2026 – July 31, 2027
- Sarah McInnis August 1, 2027 – March 31, 2028
- Karen Siermachesky April 1, 2028 – approx. November 24, 2028

**CARRIED**

**6 Enquiries**

Councillor McInnis enquired with the Director of Public Works about the possibility of having contractors do an initial sweep of the streets to have the roadways passable sooner. The Director responded that it is an option that the City had recently attempted with the latest snow fall as a test and it is something the department will entertain during policy and procedure updates. Councillor McInnis enquired with the Director of Public Works on what the City of Melfort does for snow removal with a similar budget. The Director responded that he doesn't have updated information but that he has contacted their director to discuss their policies and procedures and will bring back information later.

Councillor McInnis enquired with the Director of Public Works as to what the timelines of snow removal are. The Director responded with what the timelines that are typically followed and

why an extenuating circumstance like the recent storm can affect those timelines.

Councillor McInnis enquired with the Director of Public Works on how the City of Humboldt could facilitate a 48-hour cleanup process. The Director responded it would have budget implications and there would be questions if the benefits would be worth the cost.

Councillor McInnis enquired with the Director of Protective Services on the status of Emergency Measures coordination and how the city plans to move the operations away from the role of the Fire Chief. The Director responded that the city has been discussing this for the past few years, and they are looking at ways to find a solution.

Councillor McInnis enquired with the Director of Protective Services on the availability of the City's Emergency Response Plan. The Director responded the plan should be available on the City's website and it was recently updated in 2024.

Councillor Rowe enquired with the Director of Protective Services if the additional responsibilities of EMO Measures have the Director overburdened. The Director responded it isn't a problem if nothing happens, he expressed there are times it could be overwhelming but that there are enough Senior Officers within the department that could step up in those events.

Councillor Scott enquired with the Director of Public Works that if the recent storm was an anomaly would it be overreaction to look to ways to meet the demands that are being asked. The Director responded that its appropriate to plan for those type of storms and there may be some in between answers to find solutions.

Councillor McInnis enquired with the City Manager on concerns heard during the election campaign with regards to access to information that comes from the city. The City Manager responded that the City is looking to explore ways of getting the information in some form of quarterly report to those people that don't access social media.

Councillor McInnis enquired with the City Manager on the city's economic development plan. The City Manager responded that the newly elected council should meet in a strategic planning session to discuss what their goals and objectives to accomplish during their terms are.

Councillor Rowe enquired with the City Manager on one of the areas he was wanting to champion was the state of the City's infrastructure and wanting to know what the City of Martinsville has done. The City Manager and the Director of Leisure Services is preparing a report to Council on the status of the facility.

Mayor Muench enquired with the Director of Public Works on how crews handled the second storm hitting while clearing efforts were underway from the first storm. The Director responded crews had most of the streets cleared except for cul-de-sacs, except for some that may have been missed. The crews did complete the priority routes but will look to address those missed roads sooner than normal.

Mayor Muench enquired with the City Controller on concerns from the public with regards to the ramp on the new mobility van and if there are any concerns now with the snow and ice. The controller responded the department is aware of the concerns, he has attended a ride along and the situation will have to be kept in mind when the City looks to expand the operations of the transit services. The Controller will contact the operator to find out of

snow and ice is complicating the matters.

Mayor Muench enquired with the Director of Leisure Services that there are some residents that had some concerns with the maintenance situation at the Aquatic Centre. The Director responded that they are aware of some of the issues and they are looking into them, if anyone has any concerns with the facilities, the Director encouraged Council to relay those on to him.

Councillor McInnis enquired with the Director of Public Works on the possibility for lights at the 8th Avenue and 21st Street intersection. The Director responded there are no plans to proceed with the addition of lights at that intersection and many studies would need to be conducted prior to that but shared there are other ideas which may alleviate some of the traffic stresses at that intersection.

Councillor McInnis enquired with the Director of Public Works on traffic speed concerns in the Bill Brecht area and controls that could be done to reduce speed. The Director of Public Works responded that the City is hesitant to use speed bumps as they often present more challenges than they mitigate and that there are other options available that would require Council resolution to pursue. The Director of Protective Services responded enforcement is difficult as often communication gets out when enforcement measures are taken, and they don't result in much success.

**7 Committee of the Whole**

**Resolution:** 8  
2024.260

**Adjourn**

**Moved By:** Councillor Larry Jorgenson

**Seconded By:** Councillor Karen Siermachesky

That we do now adjourn, the time being 6:20 p.m.

**CARRIED**