



## CITY NOTES

September 24, 2015

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**CITY PITCHING IN TO HELP VALLEY FIRE RELIEF EFFORTS>>** Last week, Administrative Services Director Scott Schneider took a big load of items donated by City staff over to Lake County to help the folks who lost their homes in the devastating Valley Fire. Our off-duty police officers have also been providing mutual aid to the Lake County Sheriff's Office to help with traffic and access controls in affected communities. All City employees are sworn in as Emergency Service Workers and it really hits home to witness a disaster of this magnitude in a neighboring county.

**COUNCIL INVITES COMMUNITY TO HELP WITH FUNDRAISER FOR VALLEY FIRE VICTIMS>>** At the suggestion of Vice Mayor Lindy Peters, the City will be helping organize a special fundraiser for victims of the Valley Fire. An initial planning meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM at Fort Bragg Town Hall. Anyone who is interested in helping out is invited to attend this informal meeting. More information will be released about the event after the meeting.

**COUNCIL TO CONSIDER SOCIAL HOST ORDINANCE >>** Next Monday, the City Council will consider introduction of an ordinance that prohibits the hosting of parties where alcohol is consumed by minors. The new regulations would provide for administrative penalties to be assessed for violations and also would enable the recovery of expenses associated with Police Department responses to parties where alcohol is consumed by minors. The ordinance was proposed by the Coalition for Gang Awareness & Prevention and a group of high school students.

**TWO NEW EMPLOYEES JOIN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TEAM>>** This week, Scott Perkins and Chantell O'Neal were welcomed to the City team. Scott is our new Associate Planner. He was previously a Planner I in the coastal office of the Mendocino County Planning & Building Department. Scott is a seasoned planner with experience in both local government planning and aviation planning. He received Bachelor of Arts degrees in Public & Urban Affairs and English from Virginia Tech. Chantell is our new Administrative Assistant in the Community Development Department, taking the place of June Lemos who recently transitioned to the City Clerk position. Chantell was formerly with the Savings Bank of Mendocino County and she has significant experience as a GIS Assistant with the Virginia Cooperative Extension. Chantell has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Studies from James Madison University.

**RECRUITMENT UNDERWAY FOR NEW CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR>>** City Finance Director Rosana Cimolino retired earlier this month and the City is now recruiting our next Finance Director. The job description and salary are posted on the City's website. If you know anyone who might be qualified and interested in the position, please pass this information along. The application filing period closes on November 6, 2015.

**SITE CLEARING FOR NEW RESERVOIR IS UNDERWAY>>** The first phase of site preparation for the Summers Lane Reservoir project is underway. Wylatti Resources, out of Covelo, was awarded the contract for the timber harvest and site clearing on the City-owned property at the end of Summers Lane. In total, 8 acres will be cleared for the small, off-stream reservoir. Last week, the non-merchantable timber was removed. It will be chipped and will remain on site. This week, the

merchantable timber (redwoods) will be removed. Erosion-control measures will be put in place before the onset of the winter rains. Early next year, the Summers Lane Reservoir Project will be put out to bid. Construction is expected to begin in the spring.

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES WILL CUT COSTS>>** The City's treatment operators recently completed the installation and testing of an onsite sodium hypochlorite generation system at the Water Treatment Plant. This system is now in operation. The sodium hypochlorite is used to treat the City's water instead of gaseous chlorine. The project eliminates the potential hazard of a chlorine gas release and it will save approximately \$1000/month in supply costs. We are very fortunate to have a highly skilled group of treatment operators who are continually improving our facilities and looking for ways to reduce costs.

**STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY IS COMING TO TOWN>>** On Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, the State Coastal Conservancy will hold its quarterly meeting starting at 10:30 AM in Fort Bragg Town Hall. Prior to the meeting, the Conservancy Board and staff will take a tour of the City's new Coastal Trail. The Coastal Conservancy has provided tremendous support for the Coastal Trail project including more than \$5M in grants for acquisition and development of the park and countless hours of technical support from their staff. On this agenda, the Conservancy will be considering a \$600,000 grant to Jughandle Creek Farm and Nature Center to construct additional educational and lodging facilities at their Caspar property. The public is welcome to attend the meeting and the Coastal Trail walk. The walk will begin at 8:30 AM at the Coastal Trail's Elm Street parking lot.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS>>** Check out the "Upcoming Agenda Items" pages on the City's website or sign up for meeting notifications using the "Notify Me" feature on the website <https://city.fortbragg.com>. The following public meetings are coming up:

- Thursday, September 24 @ 6 PM, Fort Bragg City Hall Conference Room – Special Meeting to Plan a Fundraiser for Valley Fire Victims. Please come and volunteer to serve on a subcommittee!
- Monday, September 28 @ 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall – City Council Meeting. Agenda includes: Introduction of Social Host Ordinance; Introduction of Mobile Vending Ordinance.
- Wednesday, October 7 @ 3 PM, City Hall Conference Room - Finance & Administration Committee. Agenda includes: Update on Facilities & Equipment Internal Service Fund Reserve Analysis.
- Wednesday, October 7 @ 6 PM, Redwood Coast Senior Center – Community Workshop re: Conceptual Design of the C.V. Starr Center gymnasium.
- Tuesday, October 13 @ 6 PM, Fort Bragg Town Hall – City Council Meeting. Tentative Agenda includes: Noyo Center Memorandum of Agreement; Consideration of Monthly "Town Hall Meetings"; Consideration of Placing Porta-Potty in City Hall Parking Lot; Georgia-Pacific Land Exchange Agreement.

*City Notes is published on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. If you have questions or suggestions regarding the column, feel free to contact City Manager Linda Ruffing at (707) 961-2823, ext. 118 or [L.Ruffing@fortbragg.com](mailto:L.Ruffing@fortbragg.com).*