MINUTES OF THE JULY 24, 2026
SPECIAL SESSION OF THE HUMBOLDT CITY COUNCIL

The Humboldt City Council met in special session on Friday, July 24, 2026. Mayor Jensen called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Council Members present: Goodell, Sleiter, Dominick, and Whittlesey via phone. Absent: Phillips.

1. Motion by Sleiter, Second by Goodell to approve the following Consent Agenda items: 1) the renewal of a Special Class C Retail Alcohol License (BW) for Night Owl Books LLC. d/b/a Night Owl Books; 2) a new FY 2026-2027 Cigarette/Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor Permit for DOGENCORP, LLC. d/b/a Dollar General #8761. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

The council reviewed the current Interim City Administrator contract with Dan Gifford. Mayor Jensen discussed concerns that assigned duties and tasks were not being addressed in a timely manner. The Council also expressed their concerns in interactions with Gifford. City Clerk Zeman provided a breakdown of staffing costs and overtime accrued due to these items not being managed properly. The Council discussed options on a path forward, including appointing City Clerk Zeman as Interim and former City Clerk Christensen returning to help temporarily. Further discussion will occur at the August 3rd, 2026 Council meeting.

Motion by Goodell, Second by Sleiter to terminate The Interim City Administrator contract with Dan Gifford, effective Friday July 24th, 2026. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

The Council evaluated a building permit for 609 5th St. N and a complaint that was brought forth regarding setback requirements. In reviewing the permit application, it was discovered that the current structure does not align with what was requested on the permit, including the appropriate setback requirements. Due to several issues with the construction, Council determined that additional information and follow-up would need to occur.

The Council discussed the FY 26-27 Right of Way Tree Removal Project. Previously, Request for Proposals had gone out with a deadline of June 30th, 2026. Prior to awarding a bid, it was discovered there was an error on the number of trees listed on the bid documentation. Due to this conflicting information, it was suggested by the City Clerk and City Attorney to perform a Request for Proposal re-bid with the corrected information.

Motion by Dominick, Second by Goodell to approve the re-issuance of a Request for Proposals for the FY 26-27 Right of Way tree removal. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Whittlesey, Second by Goodell to approve 4G's Pyrotechnics to perform a fireworks show at the Humboldt County Fair on Friday July 24th, 2026. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Dominick, Second by Goodell to adjourn this session at 9:54 AM. (4) Ayes, motion carried.

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Walter Jensen, Mayor

Attest: _____
Amy L. Zeman, City Clerk