



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lane at 4:20 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:	Dee Dee Jackson, Tiffany Schulps and Ron Lane
Commissioners Absent:	None
Councilmembers:	John McDermott
Staff:	City Manager Pete Carr and City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke

IDENTIFY CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR 2025

City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke requested nominations for Chairperson for 2025. Commissioner Jackson nominated Chairperson Ron Lane. With no further nominations, the nomination period was closed. The motion carried 3-0 by a voice vote. Chairperson Lane was declared Chairperson for 2025.

City Clerk Schmitke requested nominations for Vice Chairperson for 2025. Chairperson Lane nominated Commissioner Tiffany Schulps. With no further nominations, the nomination period was closed. The motion carried 3-0 by a voice vote. Commissioner Smith was declared Vice Chairperson for 2025.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None

CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Economic Development Commission Minutes from November 13, 2024

ACTION: Chairperson Lane moved, seconded by Vice Chairperson Schulps to approve consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote, 3-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OR ACTION

A. Queen Bee Bucks Update

City Manager Pete Carr provided the Commission with a brief update on the Queen Bee Bucks program, highlighting that a total of \$228,000 has been redeemed to date.

B. Update on Vacant buildings

Mr. Carr informed the Commission that the former Royal Hotel building now has a new owner actively addressing the code enforcement issues. The City has waived the associated fines, and the new owner has expressed a willingness to collaborate with the City. The owner has shown interest in transforming the property into a downtown hotel or possibly developing it into retail shops.

C. Update in downtown streetscapes & Lampposts

Mr. Carr reported that the benches and trash receptacles have been well-received in the downtown area. However, he noted that the Council has decided to remove the concrete pedestals and lampposts due to concerns about their appearance and placement. The City is currently seeking bids for the removal of the lamppost pedestals. Mr. Carr shared that the removed lampposts will probably be repurposed throughout the city, potentially installed in parks or along walkways. He also mentioned that the OHS welding class has expressed interest in creating replacement lampposts and is ready to begin as soon as they receive approval from the City.

D. New Business Onboarding Questionnaire and Exit Interview Program for closing businesses

Chairperson Lane proposed introducing a questionnaire for new businesses coming to Orland, as well as conducting exit interviews with businesses that close. Commissioners discussed the concept and agreed that gathering this information would be a valuable asset for the City. They also considered whether the Chamber of Commerce would be well-suited to develop and oversee the program. Commissioner Jackson suggested presenting the idea at the next Chamber meeting to gauge their interest in managing the initiative. The Commissioners explored the possibility of implementing a quarterly business survey to identify areas where businesses may need support and extra resources.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Business and Economic Development

Mr. Carr shared...

- North Valley Indian Health (NVIH) has shared with Orland their interest in constructing new health care facilities in Orland, property is in escrow on South Street near Ampla Health.
- Enloe has shared they are also interested in bringing health care facilities to Orland.
- Butte College plans to build two more classrooms.
- La Perla de Occidental was the most recent participate in the façade improvement program.
- There are currently 16 CHIP homes under construction off SR 32.
- A major corporation would like to build an alternative fuels plant and retail sales in Orland, they are currently looking for a location.
- Arts Commission liaison created a flyer for more information on murals, City sent it to business owners in business license application.

- Hecho (824 Fourth Streer) building is owned by the City, is in need of repairs and City staff is taking direction from Council.
- Pioneer Feasibility study is currently underway and Pioneer will report back to Council on February 4th.
- City staff has been working with brokers who have interest from a hotel group to come to Orland, City staff is possibly taking to Council proposals for a hotel feasibility study from three different groups.

The Commissioners unanimously agreed they would like to recommend to Council to do the hotel feasibility study.

B. Chamber Report

Chamber President/Commissioner Jackson shared a few upcoming events including:

- Dee Dee Jackson is stepping down as board president and Chamber has 4 open seats on their board, the next board meeting is January 15th.
- County is working on hiring a Glenn Grows office Manager dedicated to social media and working within Glenn Grows.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Jackson:

- Nothing to report.

Commissioner Schulps:

- Asked about the freeway signage. Mr. Carr shared that Council wanted to wait on signage until after the City visioning meeting.

Chairperson Lane

- Attended Tree Lighting and Cowboy Christmas
- Attended Avenue of Lights
- Shared Orland was mentioned on a Hulu show called High Potential
- Attended the Fathers House event in Oroville – free lighted tree walk

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Would like to look into a community fire pit/fireplace event possibly in the winter, it could be monthly, or weekly. Vendors, musicians and restaurants could set up bringing the community together to support downtown and local businesses.
- Chairperson Lane suggested a City picnic including Councilmembers, Commissioners and City staff to generate better communication.
- Mr. Carr suggested bringing a quarterly sales tax report and stated the hotel feasibility study would be brought back to share information with the commission.

ADJOURN – 5:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Schmitke, Commission Secretary

Ron Lane, Chairperson