

PUBLIC HEARING

MARCH 9, 2016

A public hearing of the Council of the County of Kaua'i was called to order by Arryl Kaneshiro, Chair, Budget & Finance Committee, on Wednesday, March 9, 2016, at 1:37 p.m., at the Council Chambers, 4396 Rice Street, Suite 201, Historic County Building, Lihū'e, and the presence of the following was noted:

Honorable Gary L. Hooser
Honorable Ross Kagawa (*present at 1:39 p.m.*)
Honorable Arryl Kaneshiro
Honorable KipuKai Kualii
Honorable JoAnn A. Yukimura (*present at 1:39 p.m.*)
Honorable Mel Rapozo

Excused: Honorable Mason K. Chock

The Clerk read the notice of the public hearing on the following:

“Bill No. 2617 – A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. B-2015-796, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I, STATE OF HAWAII, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2016, BY REVISING THE AMOUNTS ESTIMATED IN THE GENERAL FUND (*Kaua'i Humane Society Barking Dog Enforcement - \$33,901*),”

which was passed on first reading and ordered to print by the Council of the County of Kaua'i on February 10, 2016, and published in The Garden Island newspaper on February 18, 2016.

The hearing proceeded as follows:

SCOTT K. SATO, Deputy County Clerk: We have received no written testimony and we have one registered speaker. The first speaker is Bill Peterson representing himself.

BILL PETERSON: I am a resident of Kapa'a and I am here today to speak in favor of Bill No. 2617. When I was a young officer in training, my Drill Instructor told me, “Never give an order you do not think will be obeyed and if you do give an order, make darn sure it is obeyed.” He said it a little rougher than that. Laws are the same. Never pass a law you cannot or will not enforce and if you do pass a law, make darn sure it is enforced. That is why I am here today. Bill No. 2604, the Barking Dog Ordinance, is not a perfect law. It makes it far too easy for our owners of barking dogs and far too difficult for their suffering neighbors to resolve these barking dog issues, but it is the law that we have and our challenge is to make it work for everyone. Without the funding provided in Bill No. 2617 for an enforcement officer, this law is not an angry Bulldog, it is a toothless Chihuahua. It will be unenforceable. That would make this Council look weak and what is worst,