City Council Meeting Minutes August 12, 2014

8 14-0733

Discussion and Possible City Council action on a Temporary Cold Weather Shelter for the 2014 Winter and Options for Council Consideration

City Manager Deanna Santana introduced the matter and Housing Officer Suzanne Isé presented the staff report. Vice Mayor Davis provided additional background information. Ky Le, County of Santa Clara, provided additional information on behalf of the County.

Public Hearing opened at 10:42 p.m.

Tom Morphopoalos spoke in opposition to use of the neighborhood park as a homeless shelter and stated he collected over 200 signatures.

Leigh Zerboni spoke in support of assisting the chronically homeless in Sunnyvale.

Zhangyi Xie expressed concerns regarding a high density of homeless residents around the Community Center and requested the City look at other locations in a non-residential area.

Jeanne Basselgia spoke regarding concerns of the neighborhood, the lack of outreach to the neighborhood and recommended looking at other areas to locate the shelter.

Karen Rivers spoke in favor of the temporary use of the Community Center gym to provide shelter to the homeless.

Theresa Schirmer spoke in support of use of the Community Center to provide shelter.

Gisela Daetz spoke in opposition to exporting the homeless from the North County to San Jose and expressed support for use of the Community Center for shelter this year.

Lilly Xia spoke regarding a report of a survey of the perception of residents relating to a Reno homeless shelter and spoke in support of providing a shelter for the winter.

Lois Salo spoke in support of providing a year-round homeless shelter and encouraged opening a shelter by November.

Cybele LoVuolo-Bhushan spoke in support of providing a shelter and suggested

the County have a shelter and there be an assessment on each City to run it.

Lynn Huidekoper, member of Vice Mayor Davis' Task Force, spoke in support of providing a shelter.

Don Rode spoke in support of helping the homeless but spoke in opposition to integrating the homeless with seniors and children.

Eri expressed concerns regarding the use of the Community Center as a shelter and spoke in support of smaller shelters in various locations.

Hinkmond Wong stated the Community Center is not the best option or the only option as a homeless shelter and requested exclusion of the Community Center as a potential location.

Patrick Scott stated he and his wife have been homeless after 41 years of living in a residence and spoke regarding the negative attitudes of people against the homeless.

Gloria Vibanco stated she was previously homeless and spoke in support of caring for the homeless.

Diana Jones stated she spent last two winters at the armory shelter and spoke regarding the hardships she and her family experienced when the armory was full.

Oliver Terry stated he has been homeless since 2008 and spoke regarding the help the shelter provided to him.

Valerie Suares spoke in support of providing a homeless shelter with showers soon.

Mark Dobson provided information regarding the Easter Gables community and spoke in support of assisting the homeless but not in a neighborhood that already has a lot of problems.

Donna Beres, President of the Local St. Vincent de Paul and on the Board of Our Daily Bread, asked Council to find a location for a shelter soon.

Rose Gregorio spoke in support of helping the homeless.

Walt Barnes spoke in support of having a shelter.

Todd Eyring stated he has been a volunteer at the armory shelter and spoke in support of providing shelter for the homeless.

Cristian Estan spoke in support of finding an alternative location to the Community Center for a homeless shelter.

John Cordes spoke regarding his experience as a neighbor of the armory shelter and spoke in support of providing a shelter at the Community Center for one year.

Bary Warmbessel spoke in support of providing a shelter for the cold weather.

Anil Ravindranath expressed concerns regarding the difficulty of monitoring the common areas of the multi-family properties near the Community Center and regarding safety.

Unidentified man on behalf of his neighbor, spoke regarding a sign near the Community Center to discourage parking of campers by the homeless.

Public Hearing closed at 11:57 p.m.

MOTION: Councilmember Meyering moved and Councilmember Whittum seconded the motion to ask staff to come back in one week with a list of the top three City properties that could be used for a four-month period on a one-time basis and the pros and cons of the use of each one of those properties, and schedule an emergency City Council meeting next Tuesday evening.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Councilmember Whittum offered a friendly amendment to take a three minute recess.

Councilmember Meyering accepted the friendly amendment.

MOTION TO TABLE: Councilmember Whittum moved to table the motion and take a three minute recess. Vice Mayor Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Vice Mayor Davis
Councilmember Whittum

Councilmember Writtum
Councilmember Martin-Milius
Councilmember Hendricks
Councilmember Larsson

No: 2 - Mayor Griffith

Councilmember Meyering

Council recessed at 12:01 a.m.

Council reconvened at 12:08 a.m. with all Councilmembers present.

MOTION: Councilmember Whittum moved that the Council should discuss decision one.

Motion died due to lack of a second.

MOTION: Councilmember Meyering moved to have the City staff contact the current lessee, Mid-Peninsula, and advise them that the City is going to have to have the use of the Armory for the 4-month period, starting in mid-November 2014, and that the City needs to negotiate a workaround for their construction. Motion died due to lack of a second.

MOTION: Councilmember Whittum moved and Councilmember Hendricks seconded the motion to continue to support the County effort on a replacement cold weather homeless shelter.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Councilmember Larsson offered a friendly amendment to add to the motion to continue to support the County "as the lead agency." Councilmember Whittum stated it isn't necessary to specify that in the motion.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Mayor Griffith offered a friendly amendment to say that the Council "actively supports" the County as the lead agency.

Councilmember Whittum accepted the friendly amendment.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Griffith

Vice Mayor Davis

Councilmember Whittum

Councilmember Martin-Milius

Councilmember Hendricks

Councilmember Larsson

No: 1 - Councilmember Meyering

MOTION: Councilmember Whittum moved that a City contribution should be based on a cost scale in the range of \$5 to \$15 per household, and the appropriate process should include public outreach to people who would be affected prior to any decision on the site.

Motion died due to lack of a second.

MOTION: Councilmember Hendricks moved and Councilmember Larsson

seconded the motion to remove the Community Center from the current possible list of options, and request that the County look at prioritizing a location for an interim cold weather shelter which includes the following locations: the San Jose's George Travis Center, the City's Onizuka site, the County's property at Fair Oaks and California, and as an additional item, that in working with the County as the lead agency, take a look at an inclement weather program.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Mayor Griffith offered a friendly amendment to the motion which was stated as "including" those locations and eliminating the gymnasium, to say "including, but is not limited to" the locations stated. Councilmember Hendricks accepted the friendly amendment.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Councilmember Meyering moved a friendly amendment to remove from the list of possibilities the Travis Center, as it is not in the North County.

Councilmember Hendricks declined to accept the friendly amendment.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Councilmember Whittum asked that the motion include consideration of other sites.

Mayor Griffith stated that is already included.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Griffith

Councilmember Whittum
Councilmember Martin-Milius
Councilmember Hendricks
Councilmember Larsson

No: 2 - Vice Mayor Davis

Councilmember Meyering

COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Vice Mayor Davis reported his attendance at a meeting of the Heritage Preservation Commission and a meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) at Moffett Field.

Councilmember Whittum provided a report on a meeting of the VTA Board to receive an update on the first experience with Levi's Stadium, discussion of the Mountain View Double Track project, light rail station parking, a transit-related ballot measure in two years, and an ad hoc governance committee.