

**CITY OF SILVERTON
HOMELESS/HOUSING TASK FORCE MINUTES**

Zoom Web Conference Platform

February 23, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kyle Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. The task force members and staff were present through the virtual meeting platform Zoom. Chair Palmer explained the meeting is being held through Zoom in accordance with House Bill 2560.

Present	Excused	
X		Kyle Palmer
	X	Rachel-Anne Rapoza
X		Sarah White (Joined at 6:06)
	X	Helen Thomas
X		Connie Yoder
X		Dana Smith
X		Jennifer Hannan
X		Sarah DeSantis (Joined at 6:12)
X		Kayla Burdine-Rea
X		Karen Garst
X		Joseph Schmaus

Staff Present:

City Manager, Ron Chandler and Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk, Traci Nichols.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 26, 2022. Member Yoder seconded; minutes approved. Member Smith noted that the meeting did not start at 6pm. Corrections noted. Minutes approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None received by the City Clerk’s office, no Zoom comment noted.

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS - NEW BUSINESS

4.1 – ARPA Grant Award Update- City Manager Ron Chandler advised the membership that the ARPA grant had been awarded, but not for the amount applied for. Total award was \$250,000 out of the \$1,000,000 applied for. He stated that this was approximately half the cost to get the building. The grant application estimated the building at \$400-450,000 for the building, fully furnished, to be placed on the site (including lay of the foundation). He said that the grant also included fencing that would separate the facility from the rest of the shop yard, some demolition of the old building, and installation of a 6-inch water pipe coming into the property (instead of a 2-inch). He indicated that staff was looking into how to phase the project, so that part of this is completed this year, and part completed down the road. He said this is going to be put into the budget proposal for the Budget Committee and City Council to review. He thought that the proposal could include the building, the fencing, bringing electricity/water/sewer to the already-purchased pallet shelters. The work of the pipe line could be saved until the next year, so it doesn’t hit all at once. There are about 4 years to complete the project, but most of it will be done in the next year so the building is ready to move in to.

Member Smith inquired as to the 6-inch line that was being upsized. She wondered if this was primarily for Public Works use, as she didn’t think Sheltering Silverton would need that large

a line. CM Chandler indicated it was for fire flow. The nearest fire hydrant is at Fossholm/McClaine, and they want to bring it down so it's nearer the property with the Public Works and new Sheltering Silverton facilities. He said this could be phased in, as the fire company could get by with the hydrant where it is, and have enough water pressure. The ideal situation is to have a hydrant closer to the yard and this facility. Member Smith asked if the line and hydrant was mainly for the [Public Works] Shops, or for the living quarters that will be placed on the property. She noted prior experience in a different city where they ended up being able to use sprinkler systems, instead of a larger line and hydrant. CM Chandler said the staff would check into it. Member Garst inquired on timelines: when would the pallet shelters be able to go in? When will the building be able to be occupied? CM Chandler said he wasn't anticipating putting the pallet shelters up before the building was in. He said the fencing needed to be put up to go with it. He stated it would be within the next budget year, which would end by June 30, 2023 (sometime between this July and June 30 next year). Member Garst asked if CM Chandler would consider putting the pallet shelters up first. CM Chandler said that it would be considered only if the fencing was in place, so that the uses of the property weren't commingled.

Member White asked about an itemized list on what can be covered with the \$250,000. CM Chandler stated it was his understanding that anything on the list could be financed with the grant funds. Member White said her board would want to better understand what the infrastructure steps are prior to the building coming in, so they would know how to contribute/raise funds. Member Smith commented on the pallet shelters. She said putting the pallet shelters up before the main building was a great idea, given there have been 2 seasons now where the shelters haven't been used. She said to go through a 3rd season felt heartbreaking. Mayor Palmer clarified that the fencing wasn't just to keep the 2 uses from being commingled, it was also for keeping public out of the City Shops. He said that any possible way this could be moved ahead faster was vital. He asked for research to be done by Sheltering Silverton, and by City staff. Mayor Palmer clarified there was septic nearby; CM Chandler said there was sewer and water. He said it was frustrating to him personally that it took years to do things. He said it was fine to wait for things like a new City Hall, as we already had a City Hall, but with regard to the homeless we don't have anything.

Member White thanked City Manager Chandler, Mayor Palmer and the City staff for all the work that had been done planning this project. Member Hannan echoed the thanks, and wondered if the building was a large open space or a residential that was being assembled. CM Chandler indicated it would include male and female bathrooms, social area, a kitchen, and offices for Sheltering Silverton staff. He said the modular buildings were designed as a shell, and was modified dependent on the buyer's need. He said he'd need Sheltering Silverton staff to work with the builders to ensure the needs were all met in the design. Member Smith wondered what type of modular this was: manufactured housing? CM Chandler stated the closest description was like the Shops building. Member Smith wanted to clarify this was a metal building, and CM Chandler confirmed he thought that was correct, but would double-check his notes and confirm that was correct.

4.2 – St. Edwards Church Cottage Update – Member Rea said they had been meeting bi-weekly with church staff. They had gone through their policies and firmed up what needed attention. St. Edwards needed to submit this to their over-arching leadership for approval. She believes St. Edwards still may need to submit a deposit to the City, in case they need to move the cottages. She is aiming for May 1 open date for the cottages, but thinks more a broad estimate would be "This year". The initial plan was to fill 2 of the 4 cottages, but they've since come up with another plan for a 'village manager' or 'house mother' who would occupy one of the cottages. This would bring them up to full occupancy in the 4 cottages. Mayor Palmer wondered if the 'house mother' would be a previously home-displaced person. Member Rea stated they are working with an organization that has a person who is currently housed, but has been unhoused in the past. That person is out of state now, but is looking into relocating to Oregon. They are looking at putting that person into one of the cottages. She explained the tentative process for occupancy, and how it would be potentially incentivized where a person could gradually become the house manager. Member Garst wondered if the pallet shelters at the Shops, and the modular building would be used for warming shelters. CM Chandler indicated that it was solely for a

communal use, and offices for Sheltering Silverton. Member DeSantis inquired as to the plan for the cottages: is this still a wrap-around service approach with the team? Member Rea stated that yes, part of the requirements to occupy a cottage were that a person needs to be active in case management. Member White asked about warming shelter options. She didn't know that the modular/shared space building wouldn't be used as a warming shelter. She asked if it would be a possibility to use it as a warming shelter. CM Chandler said it would be up to the City Council, as the uses for the facility would be part of the building lease.

V. TASK FORCE UPDATES

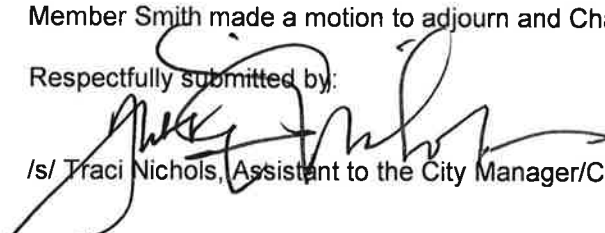
Member Yoder wanted to further discuss the pallet shelter and fencing. She wondered if it was possible to parse out some of the grant money to put up fencing, and help facilitate putting up the pallets [shelters]. CM Chandler explained that the grant was only a quarter the financial need for the project. He said the money award would give half a building and nothing else, or it would get you fencing and other parts of the project. Member Rea asked about a used building that would cut costs. CM Chandler said that if it was the right building, that was possible.

Member DeSantis said that there was an appraiser in the Community Center today, and wondered if anyone had information on what was occurring. CM Chandler said that he was aware the State was having active discussions with the YMCA. He didn't know the level of the discussions. Chair Palmer expanded on that, saying the YMCA had been in talks with the State addressing both assuming the [Community Center] lease, or possibly having ownership of the building themselves. The State is looking at a number of ways that could happen, but the State would have to sign off on it. He thought the assessor [appraiser] was part of the process, to determine what the building is worth.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Member Smith made a motion to adjourn and Chair Palmer adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:


/s/ Traci Nichols, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk