

October 27, 2020

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

Council-Manager Form of Government

Adjourned Meeting – 6:00 PM

(Secretary's Note: Due to the COVID-19 crisis and state and local orders to remain safer at home and not gather, this meeting has been conducted remotely, via teleconference.)

● CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Troxell outlined the remote participation options.

● ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Pignataro, Gorgol, Gutowsky, Summers, Stephens, Troxell, Cunniff
Staff: Atteberry, Daggett, Coldiron

2. Emergency Ordinance No. 126, 2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the City's Land Use Code to Permit Temporary Use of the Property at 1709 West Elizabeth Street as Day Shelter.
(Adopted)

The purpose of this item is for Council to consider approving an Emergency Ordinance to allow a temporary day shelter at Westminster Presbyterian Church, located at 1709 West Elizabeth Street. Westminster Presbyterian Church has agreed to provide space for Homeward Alliance to operate an inclement weather day shelter on its property beginning as soon as possible through no later than May 31, 2021. The church property is located in a low density residential (R-L) zone, and day shelters are not an expressly permitted use, so this emergency ordinance is necessary to allow such use of the property immediately. Emergency ordinances are authorized under the Charter in emergency circumstances and require the affirmative vote of at least five (5) members of the Council for passage.

Beth Sowder, Social Sustainability Manager, stated this item is an Emergency Ordinance that would suspend certain Land Use Code provisions to allow for temporary use of the property at 1709 West Elizabeth as a day shelter for inclement weather through May of 2021. She stated the property at 1709 West Elizabeth is a church located in a low-density residential zone under which day shelters are not an expressly permitted use.

Sowder described the City's response to the need to provide shelter for homeless citizens during the COVID pandemic. She discussed concerns, challenges, and gaps with an inclement-weather only day shelter and stated the need for 24/7 shelter capacity will be further discussed at the work session later this evening. She noted Transfort will be providing transportation when able during inclement weather days between the day shelter and overnight shelter.

Tenia (no last name given) urged Council to support this Emergency Ordinance.

Emily (no last name given) urged Council to support this Emergency Ordinance.

Mayor Pro Tem Stephens thanked staff for their work on finding a day shelter location. She asked how many people can be served at the location. Sowder replied this location can provide day shelter for 75-80 people and the Murphy Center can provide day shelter for about 45 people.

Mayor Pro Tem Stephens asked if those two day shelters can fit the needs of everyone usually seeking shelter or if there is still a gap. Sowder replied Catholic Charities still offers day shelter for women, and between the three, that is very close to the required number needed; however, staff is still seeking a location for additional day shelter.

Mayor Pro Tem Stephens asked about the transportation between the day and night shelters. Sowder replied it would need to be on a case-by-case basis, but Transport will provide transportation both directions if buses and operators are available.

Councilmember Pignataro asked if there is an exit strategy for this property so as to avoid the situation that occurred at the Atzlan Center. Sowder replied this shelter is specific to inclement weather and its use will be defined by the season, which in this case is set to end April 30th, but has some room into May if necessary.

Councilmember Gutowsky asked if this shelter will be available all day. Sowder replied it will be available all day only during inclement weather.

Councilmember Gutowsky asked about the Murphy Center day shelter. Sowder replied the interior portion of the Murphy Center will only serve as a day shelter during inclement weather; however, there is still access to services and exterior space with heaters is available for day shelter during other days. She commented on previous years during which the Murphy Center covered day shelter during the mornings and Catholic Charities during the afternoons; however, COVID has changed the necessity for physical space.

Mayor Pro Tem Stephens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gutowsky, to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 126, 2020.

Mayor Pro Tem Stephens thanked staff for their work on finding this location as a day shelter and noted this evening's work session will focus on more comprehensive services for homeless citizens. She also thanked the church for the assistance and for helping the community.

Councilmember Gutowsky also thanked Westminster Presbyterian Church for its help and service to the community.

Mayor Troxell thanked staff, the church, and those who have helped to provide services to aid homeless residents in the community.

(Secretary's Note: Councilmember Gorgol lost connection to the internet and was therefore unable to vote on this motion.)

RESULT:	EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 126, 2020 ADOPTED [6 TO 0]
MOVER:	Kristin Stephens, District 4
SECONDER:	Susan Gutowsky, District 1
AYES:	Pignataro, Gutowsky, Summers, Stephens, Troxell, Cunniff
AWAY:	Gorgol

● **OTHER BUSINESS**

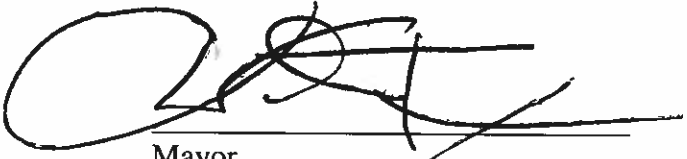
- A. Consideration of a motion to enter into an executive session to discuss issues related to the Larimer County Landfill.

Mayor Pro Tem Stephens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cunniff, that the City Council go into Executive Session for the purpose of meeting with the City's attorneys and staff to discuss the following matters as permitted under City Charter Article Roman Numeral Two, Section 11(2), City Code Section 2-31(a)(2), and Colorado Revised Statutes Section 24-6-402(4)(b): specific legal questions related to potential litigation regarding environmental remediation of conditions at the Larimer County Landfill and related obligations; and the manner in which the particular policies, practices or regulations of the City related to environmental conditions at the Larimer County Landfill and related obligations may be affected by existing or proposed provisions of federal, state or local law.

RESULT:	MOTION ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kristin Stephens, District 4
SECONDER:	Ross Cunniff, District 5
AYES:	Pignataro, Gorgol, Gutowsky, Summers, Stephens, Troxell, Cunniff

● **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.


Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk



