

**City Council**

Mayor Diana Gardner Rich  
Vice Mayor Stephen Zollman  
Councilmember Neysa Hinton  
Councilmember Sandra Maurer  
Councilmember Jill McLewis



**Agenda Item Number: 2**

City Manager  
Don Schwartz

[dschwartz@Cityofsebastopol.gov](mailto:dschwartz@Cityofsebastopol.gov)

Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC

Mary Gourley

[mgourley@Cityofsebastopol.gov](mailto:mgourley@Cityofsebastopol.gov)

**City of Sebastopol**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**MINUTES FOR MEETING OF: Tuesday – April 16, 2024**

MINUTES FOR Regular City Council Meeting of April 16, 2024  
As Approved by the City Council at their regular meeting of May 7, 2024

Please note that these are action minutes only. Detailed raw transcript is attached to the minutes and made a part of the public record. These action minutes are the City’s record of a summary of actions that took place at the meeting. The vote/action is the required information of the meeting actions that took place. Approved minutes are available on the City Council Meetings page.

The public is advised that pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5 all writings submitted to the City and City Council are public records and will be made available for review.

**6:00 pm City Council Regular Meeting, In Person – Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA/Virtual Format (Zoom)**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Rich called the Regular Meeting to Order at 6:02 pm.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Mayor Diana Gardner Rich  
Vice Mayor Stephen Zollman  
Councilmember Neysa Hinton  
Councilmember Sandra Maurer  
Councilmember Jill McLewis

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** City Manager Don Schwartz  
City Attorney Larry McLaughlin  
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Mary Gourley  
Interim Fire Chief Todd Derum

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG :** Mayor Rich led the salute to the flag.

**REMOTE PARTICIPATION UNDER AB 2449 (IF NEEDED):** To consider and take action on any request from a Council Member to participate in a meeting remotely due to Just Cause or Emergency Circumstances pursuant to AB 2449 (Government Code Section 549539(f)). None Required.

**PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:** NONE

**STATEMENTS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** Conflicts of interest may arise in situations where a public official deliberating towards a decision, has an actual or potential financial interest in the matter before the Council. In accordance with state law, an actual conflict of interest is one that would be to the private financial benefit of a public official, a relative or a business with which the Councilmember is associated. A potential conflict of interest is one that could be to the private financial benefit of a Councilmember, a relative or a business with which the Councilmember is associated. A Councilmember must publicly announce potential and actual conflicts of interest, and, in the case of actual conflict of interest, must refrain from participating in debate on the issue or from voting on the issue and must remove themselves from the dais.

There were no stated conflicts of interest by City Councilmembers.

**Agenda Item Number: 2**

**City Council Meeting Packet of: May 7, 2024**

**Page 1 of 57**

**PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (FIRST COMMENT PERIOD):**

Up to Twenty (20) Minute Time Limit (Two Minutes for up to ten speakers). Additional public comment will be held at the end of the discussion and action items for up to an additional twenty (20) minutes. Mayor has discretion to allow for additional time beyond the 20 minutes allocated for public comment dependent upon the subject matter or number of speakers.

Process for calling on Speakers: Mayor or designee shall ask for public comment as follows: Speakers to be called on in an alternate manner (One speaker in person to be called on first; then one speaker remote to be called on second with additional speakers to be called on in the same manner) based upon the time limit.

The following members of the public spoke during public comment:

- Lena
- Teresa
- Susan Lamont
- Kyle
- Michael
- Loretta
- Linda B
- Linda R

Mayor Rich responded to public comment on the cease fire resolution and parking ordinance.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** The consent agenda consists of items that are routine in nature and do not require additional discussion by the City Council or have been reviewed by the City Council previously. These items may be approved by one motion without discussion unless a member of the City Council requests that the item be taken off the consent calendar. The Mayor will read the consent calendar items; ask if a Councilmember wishes to remove one or more items from the consent calendar; and then open public comment to the members of the public in attendance. At this time, a member of the public may speak for up to three minutes on the entire consent calendar and request at that time that an agenda item or items be removed for discussion.

If an item or items are removed from the consent calendar, the item shall be placed at the end of the regular agenda items unless otherwise determined by the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tern.

Councilmembers may comment on Consent Calendar items or ask for minor clarifications without the need for pulling the item for separate consideration. Items requiring deliberation should be pulled for separate consideration and shall be placed at the end of the regular agenda items unless otherwise determined by the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tern.

Mayor Rich asked if any Councilmember wanted to remove a consent calendar item.

Councilmember’s Request(s): There were none.

Mayor Rich opened for Public Comment(s). The following members of the public spoke:

- Linda

**MOTION:**

Councilmember Maurer moved and Councilmember McLewis seconded the motion to approve Consent Calendar Item Number 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Mayor Rich called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers Hinton, Maurer, McLewis, Vice Mayor Zollman and Mayor Rich  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

1. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for Regular Meeting of April 2, 2024 (Responsible Department: City Administration)

City Council Action: Approved City Council Meeting Minutes for Regular Meeting of April 2, 2024

Minute Order Number: 2024-070

2. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for Special Meeting – Closed Session Meeting of April 8, 2024 (Responsible Department: City Administration)

City Council Action: Approved City Council Meeting Minutes for Special Meeting – Closed Session Meeting of April 8, 2024

Minute Order Number: 2024-071

3. Approval of Letter of Support for Sonoma County Transit Low-No Grant (Requestor: Sonoma County Transit/Responsible Department: City Administration)

City Council Action: Approved Letter of Support for Sonoma County Transit Low-No Grant

Minute Order Number: 2024-072

4. Approval of Resolution of Intention to Levy and Collect Annual Assessments for FY 2024-2025 for the City of Sebastopol’s Lighting Special Assessment District, Preliminarily Approving the Engineer’s Report and Setting the Date for the Public Hearing in Accordance with Provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 (Responsible Department: Administrative Services/Engineering)

City Council Action: Approved Resolution of Intention to Levy and Collect Annual Assessments for FY 2024-2025 for the City of Sebastopol’s Lighting Special Assessment District, Preliminarily Approving the Engineer’s Report and Setting the Date for the Public Hearing in Accordance with Provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972

Minute Order Number: 2024-073

Resolution Number: 6582-2024

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS:** *Informational Items or Presentations are items that are informational only and do not require action by the City Council. Presentations shall be scheduled as necessary for the promotion of an event or service or general information items to the Council and should be limited to ten (10) minutes total in length of item (total length includes questions of Council to presenter and public comment).*

**NONE**

**PUBLIC HEARING(s):** **NONE**

**REGULAR CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS (DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION):**

5. Fire Department Ad Hoc Committee – Report out of Recommendations from the Fire Ad Hoc Committee on the Future of Fire Delivery Services for the City of Sebastopol (Requestor: Fire Ad Hoc Committee/Responsible Department: Interim Fire Chief/City Manager)

The Fire Ad Hoc Committee made a presentation to the City Council recommending the City:

1. City Council direct staff to move forward with the merger of the Sebastopol Volunteer Fire Department with the Gold Ridge Fire Department; and
2. City Council direct staff to send a letter to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) requesting initiation of the consolidation process, including a waiver of fees to the extent feasible; and
3. City Council authorize staff to take other actions as needed to initiate process with LAFCO, including payment of \$10,000 deposit from Fire Department budget; and
4. Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a short-term agreement with Gold Ridge to provide Chief Officer services at the Sebastopol Fire Station during the transition period while developing a longer-term agreement subject to the approval of the City Council and Gold Ridge Board of Directors, and
5. Council Terminate Current Ad Hoc Fire Committee; and

6. Council Authorize Creation of new Ad Hoc Committee and Appointment to Ad Hoc Committee to represent the City in negotiations with LAFCO and the Gold Ridge Fire Department and related matters, with a description of tasks, roles, and responsibilities to be presented to the City Council for approval at a future Council meeting; and
7. City Staff to terminate recruitment for Fire Chief for City of Sebastopol; thereby terminating the 960 Annuitant Agreement with Todd Derum, and
8. Authorize the City Manager to explore Consulting Services for Negotiations and related assistance for Consolidation

Gold Ridge Fire Chief was in attendance and answered questions.

Mark Bramfitt, LAFCO, was in attendance and answered questions.

Mayor Rich opened for questions from Council. The Council asked various questions.

Mayor Rich opened for public comments.

The following members of the public spoke during the public hearing:

- Shawn
- Cato
- Oliver
- Linda
- Michael C.
- Member of the audience
- Bryce H.

Hearing no further comments Mayor Rich closed the public comment.

City Council Discussion, Direction, Deliberations:

The Council discussed the request for consolidation/merger with Gold Ridge.

The Council discussed timeline.

Transparent Process

Creation of an ad hoc committee

Councilmember McLewis expressed interest in the new committee

Councilmember Hinton expressed interest in the new committee.

**MOTION:**

Councilmember Hinton moved and Councilmember McLewis seconded the motion to approve:

1. City Council direct staff to move forward with the merger of the Sebastopol Volunteer Fire Department with the Gold Ridge Fire Department; and
2. City Council direct staff to send a letter to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) requesting initiation of the consolidation process, including a waiver of fees to the extent feasible; and

3. City Council authorize staff to take other actions as needed to initiate process with LAFCO, including payment of \$10,000 deposit from Fire Department budget; and
4. Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a short-term agreement with Gold Ridge to provide Chief Officer services at the Sebastopol Fire Station during the transition period while developing a longer-term agreement subject to the approval of the City Council and Gold Ridge Board of Directors, and
5. Council Terminate Current Ad Hoc Fire Committee; and
6. Council Authorize Creation of new Ad Hoc Committee and Appointment to Ad Hoc Committee to represent the City in negotiations with LAFCO and the Gold Ridge Fire Department and related matters, with a description of tasks, roles, and responsibilities to be presented to the City Council for approval at a future Council meeting; recommending:
  - i. Councilmember McLewis and Councilmember Hinton as members of the ad hoc committee
7. City Staff to terminate recruitment for Fire Chief for City of Sebastopol; thereby terminating the 960 Annuitant Agreement with Todd Derum, and
8. Authorize the City Manager to explore Consulting Services for Negotiations and related assistance for Consolidation; and
9. Authorize the City Manager to explore consulting services for Education and Outreach

Discussion:

Require new ad hoc report back to Council within two months (description and duration)

8, 9 and 4b Leaving discretion to City Manager to timing of agenda item

Mayor Rich called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers Hinton, Maurer, McLewis, Vice Mayor Zollman and Mayor Rich

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

City Council Action:

Minute Order Number: 2024-074

~~10. Consideration of Resolution Calling for a Cease Fire (Requestor: Vice Mayor Zollman) — This item was continued from a previous City Council meeting~~

City Council Action: No action taken – item pulled from agenda.

Minute Order Number: 2024-075

11. Consideration of Fire Department Staffing, Recruitment for Second Fire Engineer Position (Requestor: Fire Ad Hoc Committee/Responsible Department: Interim Fire Chief/City Manager)

The Fire Ad Hoc Committee presented the agenda item recommending the City Council authorize City staff to Recruit and fill the vacant Fire Engineer position immediately to ensure that the Fire Department is staffed with a minimum of one qualified Driver/Operator during the day, 7 days a week.

Mayor Rich opened for questions from Council.

The Council asked for questions of the Committee.

Mayor Rich opened for public comments.

The following member(s) of the public provided public comment.

- Linda
- Ernie C.
- Shawn Paul

Hearing no further comments Mayor Rich closed the public comment.

City Council Discussion, Direction, Deliberations:

The Council discussed the request for staffing.

**MOTION:**

Councilmember McLewis moved and Councilmember Maurer seconded the motion to approve staff to Recruit and fill the vacant Fire Engineer position immediately to ensure that the Fire Department is staffed with a minimum of one qualified Driver/Operator during the day, 7 days a week.

Mayor Rich called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers Hinton, Maurer, McLewis and Mayor Rich

Noes: Vice Mayor Zollman

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**City Council Action:** Approved staff to Recruit and fill the vacant Fire Engineer position immediately to ensure that the Fire Department is staffed with a minimum of one qualified Driver/Operator during the day, 7 days a week.

**Minute Order Number:** 2024-076

8. Consideration of Suspension of Zoom Virtual Format for City Meetings and Retention of In Person Only Meetings (Requestor: Mayor Rich; Responsible Department: City Administration) – This item was continued from a previous City Council Meeting

Mayor Rich presented the agenda item recommending the City Council Consider Suspension of Zoom Virtual Format for City Meetings and Retention of In Person Only Meetings for approximately two months.

Mayor Rich opened for questions from Council. The Council asked various questions.

Mayor Rich opened for public comments.

The following persons spoke at public comment:

- Shawn Paul
- Linda R

- Martin
- Loretta
- Oliver
- Robert
- Linda
- Mary

Hearing no further comments Mayor Rich closed the public comment.

**MOTION:**

Councilmember McLewis moved and Councilmember Maurer seconded the motion to approve continued use of in person and zoom virtual format of City meetings.

Mayor Rich called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers Hinton, Maurer, McLewis, Vice Mayor Zollman and Mayor Rich

Noes: Hinton Rich

Absent: None

**City Council Action: Approved continued use of in person and zoom virtual format of City meetings.**

**Minute Order Number: 2024-077**

**ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** Two minutes per speaker for up to twenty (20) minutes total for public comments but can be reduced at Mayor’s discretion depending upon the number of speakers or Mayor has discretion to allow for additional time beyond the 20 minutes allocated for public comment dependent upon the subject matter or number of speakers.

The following members of the public spoke:

- Tanya
- Martin
- Ernie C.
- Jackie

**CITY COUNCIL/CITY STAFF REPORTS/COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE MEETINGS:**

9. City Manager and/or City Clerk Reports: (This will be either verbal reports at the meeting, or written reports provided at or prior to the meeting)

City Manager reported as follows:

- Promotion of police sergeant – first female sergeant in Sebastopol
- Meet community leaders/jewels of Sebastopol

10. City Council Reports/Committee/Sub-Committee Meeting Reports: (Reports by Mayor/City Councilmembers Regarding Various Agency Meetings/Committee Meetings/Sub-Committee Meeting /Conferences Attended and Possible Direction to its Representatives (If Needed) on Pending issues before such Boards. ((This will be either verbal reports at the meeting, or written reports provided at or prior to the meeting)

Councilmember Maurer reported out as follows:

- CAC
- SWF
- Fire Department Appreciation Dinner
- Appreciation Dinner for Firefighters in future
- Police sergeant swearing in
- Coffee with a Councilmember (provided topics)
- Budget Committees
- Sebastopol Walks
- Mayors and Councilmembers meeting

Vice Mayor Zollman reported out as follows:

- Sonoma Clean Power Board meeting
- Our kids our future – non support
- Library Ad Hoc
- Non Profits
- Universal Pre K
- Budget Committee Meetings/Staff driving ship

Councilmember McLewis reported out as follows:

- Fire Ad Hoc Committee
- M&C Meeting
- Community Center
- Legislative Meeting

11. Council Communications Received (Information/Meetings/Correspondence Received from the General Public to Councilmembers)

**CLOSED SESSION: NONE**

**ADJOURNMENT OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

April 16, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting will be adjourned to the City Council Regular Meeting of Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 6:00 pm, Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris Street.

Mayor Rich adjourned the City Council Meeting of April 16, 2024 at 10:21 pm to the next City Council Meeting of May 7, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Gourley  
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk

Attachment:  
Raw Zoom Minutes



PLEASE STAND BY FOR REALTIME CAPTIONS.

ALL RIGHT EVERYONE. WE ARE GOING TO CALL THIS MEETING TO ORDER. AND -- WE ARE GOING TO CALL THIS MEETING TO ORDER. MARY, COULD YOU PLEASE DO THE ROLL CALL?

YES. THANK YOU, MAYOR.HINTON?

HERE.

MAURER?

HERE.

McLEWIS?

PRESENT.

MAYOR RICH?

IS AN.

PLEASE NOTE, ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE PRESENT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THE DATE TODAY IS THE 16th. THIS IS A REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING. WE ARE GOING TO RUN THROUGH THE AGENDA HERE. THE FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA -- THE FIRST SERIES OF ITEMS -- IS THE CONSENT CALENDAR, BUT BEFORE WE GET TO THAT, WE'RE GOING TO SALUTE THE FLAG. PLEASE RISE.

APPLICANT'S ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

THANK YOU EVERYONE. OUR NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA IS PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY THIS EVENING. THEN, AFTER THAT, WE HAVE STATEMENTS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST. I'M LOOKING TO MY FELLOW CITY COUNCILMEMBERS, ANY STATEMENTS OF COMP OF OF INTEREST, WE WILL HAVE NONE AND MOVE ON. OUR NEXT ITEM IS PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA. MARY GURLEY?

THANK YOU. I WILL GO AHEAD AND OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT. I WANT TO REMIND COUNCIL TO SPEAK INTO THE MICROPHONE AND MAKE SURE THE MICROPHONE ON. THANK YOU.

OKAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THAT REMINDER. PLEASE DO KEEP REMINDING US, BECAUSE SOMETIMES WE DO THAT.

THANK YOU. THIS IS FOR PUBLIC ITEM FOR ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC, AND, IT IS A TWO-MINUTE PUBLIC COMMENT PER PERSON, UP TO 90 MINUTES WITH 10 SPEAKERS. WE WILL GO TO IN-CHAMBERS FOR THE FIRST SPEAKER, DESIGN, BACK TO CHAMBERS, BACK TO THE IF WE HAVE A MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE THAT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, WE'LL PUT THE TWO MINUTES ON THIS SCREEN, AND I WILL TRUMP AND WHEN YOU HAVE ABOUT 30 SECONDS LEFT.

I'M SORRY.

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

THANK YOU.

I LIVE IN SEBASTOPOL, REFERENCE TO THE CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION , [ INAUDIBLE - MUFFLED ] -- HOW APROPOS TO THE SUPERFICIALITY THAT YOU HAVE FELT IT IS BEST TO PULL. I HOPE THAT THIS WILL BRING -- [ INAUDIBLE - MUFFLED ] SEBASTOPOL DOESN'T ALLOW -- PROPERTY TO GET INTO THE EMPTY WORDS, EMPTY GESTURES, SEBASTOPOL WILL HAVE -- [ INAUDIBLE - STATIC ] THIS IS THE FINAL TRUTH OF WHAT WE HAVE , HERE, [ INAUDIBLE - STATIC ] EVERYONE LIES ABOUT. MY FEELINGS ABOUT SEBASTOPOL -- [ INAUDIBLE - STATIC ] FROM THE CITY COUNCIL TO HAVE US COME BACK AND FORTH THREE TIMES AND MAKE US WAIT FOUR HOURS TO ONLY CONTINUE PLAYING GAMES. SEBASTOPOL, YOU HAVE BEEN KNOW SURPRISE THAT MANY OF US. THERE'S ALWAYS OPPORTUNITY TO SURPRISE OF, AND WE HOPE YOU DO.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT.NEXT, I WILL GO OUT TO JEN. TERESA, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF PLEASE?

YUP.

THANK YOU. CAN YOU SEE THE TWO-MINUTE COMMENT

YES. I CAN, MARY.

GREAT. GO AHEAD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

**Agenda Item Number: 2**

I JUST HAVE A COUPLE OF THINGS TO SAY TONIGHT. I AM HERE TONIGHT -- SORRY, MY FACE WOULDN'T LET ME ZOOM. YOU ARE PROBABLY LUCKY THOUGH. I'M HERE TONIGHT REPRESENTING THE WESTERN SONOMA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND I JUST WANT TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO THE COUNCIL AND STAFF IN THE PUBLIC. THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 20th, WE HAVE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT OUR LUTHER BURBANK EXPERIMENT FORM FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. WITH A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES, GARDEN LOCKS, DOORS, COMPOSTING TALK, NURSERY SALES, FRUIT TREE HELP AND MORE. THERE WILL BE SOME ACTIVITIES FOR THE CHILDREN AS WELL. I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU WERE AWARE THAT THAT WAS HAPPENING, AND WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL STOP BY THE FORMAT 777 BODEGA AVENUE. THE SECOND THING I WANTED TO TELL YOU IS THIS YEAR IS OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY OF BEING ESTABLISHED AS A NONPROFIT, AND WE'RE GOING TO BE PROVIDING LOTS OF DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. WE HOPE YOU'LL HELP US CELEBRATE THIS GREAT OCCASION AND THIS GREAT MILESTONE, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES. THANK YOU. HAVE A GOOD EVENING.

THANK YOU, TERESA, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT, I WILL COME BACK INTO THE CHAMBERS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

[ INAUDIBLE - STATIC ] SEBASTOPOL CITY RESOLUTION WITH THE MORAL COUNCILMEMBERS ARE COWARDS AND COUNCILMEMBERS -- [ INAUDIBLE - STATIC ] 33 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HONORED TO HAVE THE NEWS INSCRIBED ON THE WALL AND THE 21S STILL ALIVE , OF THOSE, 18 HAVE ASKED FOR A CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION. LUIS SANCHEZ, DR. CHARLES PRICKETT, MAYOR LaMONT, DARRELL T. SCHILLING, DR. EARL CLARK, JIM CORBETT, ADRIENNE LAU, FRED TUCCI, BARTON STONE, SUSAN CHAPMAN, NOLAN SULLIVAN, CONGRESSMAN ESPARIA CALLING FOR A CEASE-FIRE AND DID NOT CONTACT JIMMY CARTER, BUT THE CARTER CENTER HAS CALLED FOR A CEASE-FIRE. THESE TWO, 18 OF THE SURVIVING 21 IN DUCKIES, NO ONE HAS SAID, NO. NO MORE PERSONAL COMMENTS. YOU KNOW LONGER QUALIFY AS A PEACETIME AND BRING SHAME TO THE DESIGNATION FOR GENOCIDE, SITTING RIGHT BEHIND THE ACT. I WILL ASK MICHAEL TO HIS MENTAL THE [ INAUDIBLE - STATIC ] AND SEEK THE GOOD TITHING WITH SEBASTOPOL ON OR THE OTHER. ANNE FRANK, A SYMBOL OF THE VICTIM OF THE HOLOCAUST, AND PALESTINIAN -- WRITING ABOUT THE UNWRITTEN'S OF ANNE FRANK IF YOU CARE ABOUT THEM FOR THE COMING OF ANNE FRANK IN GAZA, HIDING IN ATTIC, MISSILES TRANSFORMED HER BODY INTO ASHES. IN HER DIARY, CONGRESS BLOCKED HER STORY.

YOU HAVE 30 SECONDS.

WHEN THE HOLOCAUST BEGAN -- EVEN AS A CONTINUED -- MOST PEOPLE AND MOST GOVERNMENTAL BODIES WERE SILENT. NOW, WE ARE ASHAMED OF THEM. NOW, WE ARE DOING THE SAME THING. SOMEDAY, THE WORLD WILL LOOK BACK AT YOU AND ASK, WHERE WERE YOU, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT, I WILL GO OUT TO ZOOM. KYLE, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF PLEASE?

YES, I CAN.

THANK YOU. CAN YOU SEE THE TWO-MINUTE TIMER?

NO. I WILL NEED IT.

GO AHEAD. THANK YOU.

I HOPE THIS COUNCIL WILL FINALLY CONSIDER SOME RESTRUCTURING AND REORGANIZATION, SPECIFICALLY AROUND COUNCIL REPORTING OUT, AND EVEN MORE SPECIFICALLY, AROUND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT AND ANY SORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT THAT THIS COUNCIL HAS. TONIGHT, WE'RE GOING TO BE HEARING A PRESENTATION FOR THE FIRE AD HOC MIDDIE. PRIOR TO THIS, THE AMOUNT OF OUTREACH, THE AMOUNT OF REPORTING OUT THAT THAT SUBCOMMITTEE HAS DONE HAS BEEN ABYSMAL. THE LACK OF COMMUNICATION, THE LACK OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IS REALLY NOT WHAT I WOULD INSPECT FOR ANY SORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE OR ANY SORT OF WORK THAT ARE COUNCIL MIGHT BE DOING. OFTENTIMES, OUR MEETINGS WILL GO SO LATE THAT WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO HEAR WHICH VERBAL REPORTING OUT CAN BE HEARD. WE DON'T WANT TO ABSOLVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THOSE COUNCILMEMBERS.

**Agenda Item Number: 2**

**City Council Meeting Packet of May 17, 2024**

**Page 10 of 57**

MEDICATING WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRODUCING REPORTS ON THEIR ACTIONS. THEY ARE REPRESENTING OUR CITY ACROSS OUR COUNTY AND STATE, AND WE, THE PUBLIC, NEED TO KNOW THAT REPRESENTATION IS BOTH ADEQUATE AND REPRESENTATIVE OF WHAT OUR COMMUNITY VALUES ARE. I DON'T BELIEVE, TONIGHT, THAT WE WERE GOING TO BE HEARING AN AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT THAT REFLECTS THE VALUES OF OUR CITY, AND THIS COULD HAVE BEEN KNOWN WELL IN ADVANCE IF THAT COMMITTEE TOOK THEIR RESPONSIBILITY SERIOUSLY AND REPORTED OUT REGULARLY I'M CALLING FOR THIS TOWNSELL TO PRIORITIZE THE REPORTING OUT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIONS THAT REPRESENT OUR CITY. IT'S VERY SIMPLE TO PRODUCE A WRITTEN REPORT AND HAVE IT ENTERED INTO THE AGENDAS FOR OUR COUNCIL, AND DOING SO WITH SPEAK A LOT ABOUT THE DEDICATION THAT COUNCILMEMBERS HAVE TO THE WORK THAT THEY'RE DOING TO REPRESENT OUR CITY. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, KYLE, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT, I'LL COME BACK INTO CHAMBERS. ANYONE IN CHAMBERS I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AN ITEM NOT ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA? SEEING ON, I WILL GO OUT TO ZOOM. MICHAEL, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF PLEASE?

YES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THANK YOU. CAN YOU SEE THE TIMER, MICHAEL?

I CAN.

GREAT. GO AHEAD, PLEASE.

THANK YOU. MY NAME IS MICHAEL HARRIS. I'M NOT A SEBASTOPOL RESIDENT BUT I LIVE IN BODEGA BAY. I AM A WAS COUNTY RESIDENT. I WOULD JUST LIKE TO THANK THE VICE-MAYOR FOR MAKING THE DECISION TO WITHDRAW THE CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION FROM THE AGENDA, AND THANK THE COUNCIL FOR JOINING THE SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, SANTA ROSA CITY COUNCIL, PETALUMA CITY COUNCIL, SONOMA CITY COUNCIL, AND OTHERS IN RECOGNIZING NOT ONLY THE INAPPROPRIATENESS OF BRINGING THIS UP AT THE CITY LEVEL, BUT ALSO WANTING TO AVOID THE MISLEADING, ERRONEOUS, DIVISIVE AND UNFORTUNATELY SOMETIMES, FRANKLY, OFFENSIVE RHETORIC FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT THIS ISSUE HAS ALREADY GENERATED. SO, I THANK YOU FOR YOUR DECISION AND WOULD CERTAINLY RECOMMEND THAT ANYBODY WITH CONCERNS ABOUT THIS CONTACT THE FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES WHO ARE THE ONES THAT MAKE THE DECISIONS. LIKE YOU.

THANK YOU, MICHAEL, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. AGAIN, I WILL COME BACK INTO CHAMBERS IF ANYBODY WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AN ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA. SEEING ON, I WILL GO BACK OUT TO ZOOM. LORETTA, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF PLEASE?

HI, MARY, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

I CAN HEAR YOU. CAN YOU SEE THE TIMER, LAUREN?

YES. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE LAST SPEAKER, MICHAEL. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THAT WAS REALLY THOUGHTFUL AND RIGHT WITH THE NAIL RIGHT ON THE HEAD. WE HAVE A LOT OF PROBLEMS IN SEBASTOPOL. WE NEED TO FOCUS ON OUR CITY. I WAS GOING IN FOR , NOW THAT THE CAMPGROUND HAS BEEN CLOSED, I'M NOTICING MORE AND MORE CAMPERS ON THE SIDE OF THE STREET, AND I DON'T KNOW IF THAT AREA IS REALLY IN OUR CITY LIMITS, BUT WE DO HAVE THE ORDINANCE OF NO OVERNIGHT PARKING, AND I AM JUST HOPING THAT WE CAN ENFORCE THAT ORDINANCE. I KNOW THAT WHEN MORE STREET WAS FLOODED WITH CAMPERS, OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT HAD OVER 4000 COLTON MOORE STREET IN A YEAR'S TIME OR TWO YEARS' TIME. SINCE MORE STREET HAS BEEN CLEANED UP, THE KIDS ARE BACK AT THE PARK, THE PEOPLE ARE WORKING ON THE SIDEWALKS AGAIN, AND I KNOW THE COACH'S CORNER HAS ONLY HAD TO PULL ONCE, I THINK, IN THE LAST YEAR FOR A PROBLEM. WE USED TO CALL WEEKLY, SOMETIMES MULTIPLE TIMES A DAY. THANK YOU. PLEASE KEEP THAT ORDINANCE ALIVE AND WELL. WE WANT TO KEEP THE CITY STREETS SAFE. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, LORETTA, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT, I WILL GO BACK, AGAIN, TO CHAMBERS. SEEING ON, I'LL GO BACK OUT TO ZOOM. LINDA, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF PLEASE? HERE YOU GO, LINDA. GO AHEAD WITH PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE.

OKAY. SO, I WOULD JUST LIKE TO ANSWER MAYOR RICH'S **Agenda Item Number: 2** WE'RE IN THIS FISCAL SITUATION THAT WE ARE. **City Council Meeting Fiscal Yr. May 7, 2024** BECAUSE OF YOUR CONTINUED, UNABATED, CONSTANT, NEVER-ENDING, PERPETUAL, **Page 11 of 57**





COUNCIL ON THAT AGENDA ITEM. THEN, IN TERMS OF THE PARKING, PERHAPS OUR POLICE CHIEF COULD REACH OUT TO THE INDIVIDUAL AND PROVIDE SOME INFORMATION TO HER ON OUR PARKING ORDINANCE. SO, MOVING ON WITH THE CONSENT CALENDAR, NOT SEEING ANYONE WANT TO PULL ANY ITEMS, I THINK WE NEED TO GO TO PUBLIC COMMENT.

THANK YOU, MAYOR. THIS IS PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS ONLY. ONE THROUGH FOUR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR'S, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AND I WILL GO TO ZOOM -- SORRY -- IN CHAMBERS FIRST. SEEING NONE, I WILL GO OUT TO ZOOM. LINDA, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF PLEASE?

THANK YOU. YOU KNOW, ON ITEM NUMBER 4, MINUS OFFICE ACCORDING TO OTHER INFORMATION THAT I HAVE -- THAT INCLUDES I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IT PULLED HOPE IS FOR DISCUSSION, BY THE WAY, THAT INCLUDES -- OR ONE OF THEM INCLUDE -- A GRANT FOR ALL OF THE MAYBE NUMBER THREE -- FOR ELECTRIC BUSES. MANY OF THIS, WHICH EVERYONE IT DOES, I THINK THAT ELECTRIC BUSES IS A BIG ENOUGH ITEM THAT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN PRINTED ON THE AGENDA, SO THAT WE FULLY UNDERSTAND, YOU KNOW, WHAT YOU ALL ARE TALKING ABOUT. AS REGARDS TO LIGHTING, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT, YOU KNOW, LINDA OVER HERE, SOME OF THE O'REILLY BUILDING, THE LIGHTING IN THE PARKING LOT IS JUST TERRIBLE. IT MAKES ME SICK EVERY TIME I GO OVER THERE, BECAUSE I THINK OF IT TRANSMITTING WIRELESS STUFF. I CAN THE GO THERE WITH MY METER EASILY ENOUGH, BUT INVARIABLY, WHEN I'M OVER THERE, WALKING FOR EXERCISE AT NIGHT, IN A PARKING LOT, I WILL GET SICK. RELATIVELY IN SHORT ORDER, IF I AM EVEN JUST PASSING THROUGH, BECAUSE I THINK THEY HAVE GOT WIRELESS TRANSMITTING DEVICES, EITHER IN PART OF THE LIGHTS, OR IN THE O'REILLY, BUT I'M SURE IT IS PART OF THE LIGHTS. THOSE LIGHTS ARE NOT HEALTHY. SO, I AM STRONGLY SUGGESTING -- I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO GET SOME SPECS ON THAT, BUT I'M SURE EXISTING YOU START LOOKING AT THE LIGHTS IN THE TOWN.

LINDA, WE HAVE ABOUT 30 SECONDS.

ADVERSE BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS. MANY OF THEM ARE TOO BRIGHT. THERE'S AN EPIDEMIC OF BLINDNESS. SO, YOU NEED TO START CONSIDERING, YOU KNOW, WHAT ALL OF THIS NEW TECH IS DOING TO US, THE PHYSIOLOGICAL HEALTH, BIOLOGICAL END OF VIEW THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, LINDA, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT, BACK INTO CHAMBERS. ANYONE LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT CALENDAR? SEEING NONE, I WILL GO BACK OUT TO ZOOM. ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONSENT OF CALENDAR ITEM? SEEING NONE, PUBLIC COMMENT IS CLOSED.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE ARE NOW BACK AT THE DISCUSSION. IF NONE, I'M LOOKING FOR A MOTION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

SO MOVED.

I WILL SECOND.

THANK YOU, MARY. COULD YOU DO THE VOTE PLEASE?

THANK YOU, MAYOR. SO MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAURER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER McLEWIS. COUNCILMEMBER McLEWIS?

AYE.

COUNCILMEMBER MAURER?

YES.

ITEM PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

THANK YOU, SPREAD ONTO THE NEXT ITEM, WHICH YOU BE INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PRESENTATIONS. WE HAVE NONE. NOW, PUBLIC HEARINGS. AGAIN, WE HAVE NONE. MOVING TO OUR REGULAR CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS, WE HAVE THREE OF THEM. THE FIRST ITEM WILL BE ADDRESSED NOW, ITEM NUMBER 5 ON THE AGENDA. FIRE DEPARTMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE, REPORT OUT OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FIRE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE OF FIRE DELIVERY SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL. THE REQUESTER HERE IS THE MAN HERE, THE CITY CHIEF MANAGER. SO, I TURN TO OUR CITY MANAGER, DIRECTION EXTENSION.

AND FOR THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR

FIRST, WE'RE GOING TO MAKE SOME COMMENTS, PERSONAL COMMENTS. I WILL JUST SAY, I NEVER REALLY PREPARE FOR THESE IN ADVANCE, BECAUSE THIS IS SUPER EMOTIONAL FOR OUR COMMUNITY, AND I JUST WOULD LIKE TO TRY TO HOLD IT TOGETHER, TO GO THROUGH A LITTLE TIMELINE. I WAS ELECTED IN LATE 2016. ONE OF MY FIRST ASSIGNMENTS WAS TO BE ON THE LONG-TERM AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT. I STARTED THAT IN 2017. I RECENTLY LOOKED AT SOME TEXT MESSAGES WHERE I MET WITH FIREMEN FOR COFFEE IN FEBRUARY OF 2020 OFF-SITE. I ALSO WON THE SPLIT VOTE IN JUNE OF 2022, THE 3rd VOTE TO GIVE THE FIREMEN -- SORRY -- FIREFIGHTERS -- OF SEBASTOPOL MORE TIME THAT THE REQUESTED AFTER THE PUBLISHING OF PRESENTER THE AD HOC COMMITTEE THAT MADE UP THAT TIME PATRICK SLATER AND DIANA RICH. MS. LAST YEAR, I JOINED A NEW AD HOC COMMITTEE WITH MY COLLEAGUE, COUNCILMEMBER McLEWIS, TO STUDY THIS ISSUE. A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC, TODAY, WROTE THAT I HAD ALREADY MADE IT UP, MY MIND, BEFORE COMING IN TONIGHT, AND WE KNOW THAT COULD POSSIBLY BE POSSIBLE WHEN WE HAD BEEN TALKING ABOUT THIS FOR 7 YEARS. WE WENT TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BECAUSE WE WANTED EVERYBODY TO BE FULLY INFORMED OF OUR THOUGHTS AND ASK FOR FEEDBACK. WE WERE AS OPEN AND TRANSPARENT AS WE COULD BE. WE DISCUSSED THE THINKING AND ASKED FOR FEEDBACK FROM ALL THE FIREFIGHTERS IN THE ROOM. IN MY JOB, RUNNING ASSISTED LIVING FOR THE ELDERLY, I FREQUENTLY IN THE 911 CALLER. I AM THE ONE WHO DIALS. WE HAVE GOT SENIORS DOWN ON THE FLOOR IN A VARIETY OF CHOKING INCIDENTS. I MAKE THE CALL MORE THAN ANYBODY IN MY LAST 11 1/2 YEARS, AND RESPONSE TIME IS VITAL FOR THOSE PEOPLE THAT ARE MAKING THAT PHONE CALL. TONIGHT, WE HAVE THREE FORMER CHIEFS SUPPORTING OUR RECOMMENDATIONS, AND I JUST HAVE TO THANK, ALSO, JUST THE YEARS THAT FIREFIGHTERS IN SEBASTOPOL HAVE DEDICATED TO COMMITTEE. MY OWN DAUGHTER RECEIVED ONE OF THEIR FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS, AND TODAY, SHE IS A NURSE -- NURSE -- SERVING SENIORS FOR GATEWAY HOME HEALTH. FIREMEN ALSO CAME TO HER HOUSE AND HAD TO PUT OUT A FIRE IN HER CALLER. WE WILL PUT THAT ASIDE. I JUST WANT TO MAKE THESE COMMENTS BECAUSE FOR THOSE -- MOST PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY, YOU DON'T FOLLOW EACH AND EVERY MEETING. YOU DON'T FOLLOW WHAT WE DO AND WHAT WE SAY EACH AND EVERY TIME. WHO HAS TIME? WE ALL HAVE JOBS. WE'RE RUNNING TO AND FROM. BUT THIS IS PERSONAL FOR US. AND TO SUGGEST THAT WE HAVEN'T DONE BY SOMEBODY WE HAVE RECEIVED -- A FULL, THOROUGH ANALYSIS, WOULD BE A MISTAKE. WE ARE TWO-PERSON AD HOC COMMITTEE. WE ARE A FIVE-MEMBER BOARD. TONIGHT, WE'LL BE MAKING A VOTE AND A DECISION. ALL FIVE PEOPLE WILL MAKE A AND A DECISION BASED ON WHAT IS PRESENTED. I DON'T WANT TO OPEN WITH THOSE COMMENTS, BECAUSE IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO ME TO HAVE THE TRUTH AND THE CORRECT INFORMATION OUT THERE. THANK YOU.

ALL RIGHT.

SORRY, I HAD TO PUT MY THOUGHTS DOWN TONIGHT. USUALLY DO OFF-THE-CUFF, BUT THERE'S SO MUCH TO COVER, SO I'M GOING TO DO SOME COMMENTS NOW, THEN I WILL DEFINITELY HAVE MORE COMMENTS AT THE END, BUT I JUST WANTED TO SAY, FIRST AND FOREMOST, TAKE YOU TO ALL THE FIREFIGHTERS. BECK ALL OF YOU FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE. THANK YOU FOR THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE. THANK YOU FOR THE HOURS YOU HAVE GIVEN TO OUR COMMUNITY WHILE ROBBING THE HOURS FROM YOUR FAMILIES AND YOUR JOBS. I KNOW THE WORK THEY DO. I GOT TO CARRY THE PAGER FOR TWO MONTHS. I KNOW THE FREQUENCY OF THE CALLS AND HOW IT INTERRUPTS YOUR DAY. I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU ALL KNOW THAT -- JUST HOW GRATEFUL I AM -- AND THAT WHAT WE WERE GOING TO TALK ABOUT TONIGHT -- I AM SOLID IN MY RECOMMENDATION, BUT I DID GET HERE IN A LINEAR PATH. THERE WERE A LOT OF TWISTS AND CURVES ALONG THE WAY, AND AT THE END OF THE DAY, I FEEL GOOD ABOUT WHAT WE'RE RECOMMENDING TONIGHT. I WILL EXPOUND ON THAT MORE LATER, BUT I ALSO JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT STEPPING INTO THIS, I HAVE BEEN ON THE COUNCIL SINCE THE END OF 2022, AND I WAS A COUNCIL WATER PRIOR TO THAT FOR ABOUT SEVEN YEARS. I DID WATCH WHAT WAS GOING ON, AND I SPOKE WITH FIREFIGHTERS, AND MOST PEOPLE WHO FOLLOW THE COUNCIL WATER THAT THE FIREFIGHTERS SUPPORTED ME WHEN I WAS ON THE COUNCIL. I TRULY APPRECIATED WHAT THEY DID FOR ME. I FELT AND I STILL FEEL VERY APPRECIATED TO

THIS DEPARTMENT, AND I KNOW SOME MAY NOT BE HAPPY WITH THIS RECOMMENDATION, BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, AS A HEALTHCARE PROVIDER MYSELF FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS, WORKING IN E.R.s AND EVERYWHERE ELSE, I KNOW HOW IMPORTANT SAFETY IS AND HOW IMPORTANT RESPONSE IS, AND BECAUSE I WAS ONE OF THE RESPONDERS FOR YEARS -- YOU KNOW -- WHEN WE START TALKING ABOUT ALL OF THIS, I JUST HOPE THAT THE PEOPLE WHO MAYBE DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS TONIGHT WILL UNDERSTAND THAT'S THE POINT WHERE I'M COMING FROM, AND WHAT IS BEST FOR THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE, SO I ALSO JUST WANT TO KNOWLEDGE SOMETHING THAT THE FIREFIGHTERS TALK TO ME A LOT ABOUT, AND WHEN I CAME INTO THIS, IN MY OPINION, BASED ON WHAT WE'RE SEEING, THERE'S BEEN A CHRONIC UNDERFUNDING OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR NEARLY A DECADE, AND FOR A LITANY OF REASONS, BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, THAT'S WHERE WE'RE AT, AND THAT IS THE CHALLENGES WE HAVE BEEN FACING, AND WE ARE STILL FACING, SO I'M GOING TO GO AHEAD AND JUST STEP OUT NOW, AND WE CAN START THE VISITATION. I DIDN'T KNOW OR DO YOU WANT US TO START WITH THE SLIDES HERE?

THAT WOULD BE MY SUGGESTION THIS ONE, THE NEXT ONE, KICK THINGS OFF. I WILL GO TO THE NEXT IF YOU LIKE.

I WAS GOING TO SAY, WE HAVE THE NUMEROUS COMMUNITY MEETINGS. I WENT BACK THROUGH MY CALENDARS AS BEST I COULD AND DETERMINED THAT WE HAD 33 PLUS VARIOUS MEETINGS WITH THE CITY AND DIFFERENT FIRE DEPARTMENTS. I HAVE ATTENDED BOTH GOLD RICH AND GREAT IN BOARD MEETINGS, MORE THAN ONE. I WANTED TO SEE HOW THE GOVERNANCE WORKED. I WANTED TO SEE WHAT WENT ON WITH BOTH AGENCIES SO WE COULD HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT WE COULD EXPECT AS WE EXPLORE THESE OPTIONS. ALSO, EVERYTHING ON THERE, WE HAVE GOT, AND I KNOW THAT THERE ARE MORE MEETINGS THAN 33, AND MANY OTHERS WERE FOR MANY HOURS. I JUST WANTED TO MENTION THAT AS WE LOOK AT THE BACKGROUND. SO, NEXT LINE

SO, I'M GOING TO TALK TO GOVERNANCE. RIGHT NOW, THE SEBASTOPOL CITY COUNCIL IS VIRTUALLY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND HAS BEEN FOR A VERY LONG TIME, YET WE HAVE NO DIRECT BACKGROUND IN FIGHTING FIRES OR IN THE INDUSTRY. SO, IT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT FOR US TO ACTUALLY THINK ABOUT THAT, AND THEN TO ALSO LOOK AT OUR PARTNERS - - POTENTIAL PARTNERS -- ABOUT WHAT WE WOULD DO IF WE MARCHED. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO ME THAT WE DON'T WANT TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION, SO WHEN WE LOOKED AT GOLD RICH, THEY HAVE A SEVEN-MEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS. TYPICALLY, THEY'RE VETERANS OF THE FIRE SERVICE, BUT THAT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT. THERE'S A DISTRICT-WIDE ELECTION ALL SEBASTOPOL RESIDENTS WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO RUN. THERE IS NO ASSURANCE OF SEATS, BUT ALSO NO LIMITS ON SEATS. DO WE HAVE THE ALTERNATE UP? OR WE DIDN'T DO A SLIDE?

WE DIDN'T DO AN ALTERNATE.

ALL RIGHT.

SPEAK ABOUT IT IF YOU WOULD LIKE.

OR I WILL SPEAK WITH IT. WHEN WE MET WITH CREIGHTON -- AND THERE'S MORE DETAILS IN WRITING I THINK, BUT MY RECOLLECTION OF THAT IS THEY HAVE A FIVE-NUMBER BOARD. THEY WERE VERY INTERESTED IN KEEPING CONTROL OF THE BOARD WITH THREE MEMBERS FROM THE GREAT FIRE DISTRICT, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF TWO MEMBERS FROM THIS PAST DISTRICT IF WE WERE TO COMBINE. THAT WOULD, FRANKLY, GIVE US A DISADVANTAGE ON THAT BOARD. I DID SUGGEST IN ONE OF THE EARLY MEETINGS AT THE THIRD POSITION COULD BE FROM AN OPEN SEAT, FROM EITHER DISTRICT, AND I BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE HERE, TONIGHT, MAYBE COULD SPEAK TO IT, BUT I BELIEVE THAT THAT WAS NOT SOMETHING THAT THEY WERE ENTERTAINING IN OUR DISCUSSIONS, SO FROM HERE, WE'RE GOING TO LET DON AND MAYBE TODD TAKE IT OVER. THANKS.

YEAH. FROM HERE, WE'RE GOING TO TURN TO OUR INTERIM CHIEF, ALSO SPEAKING TO SOME OTHER ASPECT OF THE ISSUE, THEN WE'LL WRAP IT UP AFTER THAT, TURN IT OVER TO CHIEF DURHAM.



RESIDENT COUNTIES, PARTICULARLY THE WEST COUNTY, ACTUALLY BORN IN THIS CITY. AFTER 40 YEARS OF THE FIRE SERVICE, FINALLY COMING BACK, LITERALLY WHERE I STARTED, SO THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME. AND I HOPE I CAN HELP EXPLAIN SOME OF THE FIRE SERVICE PORTIONS OF THIS PRESENTATION. HOPEFULLY, PHILIP IS NOT HOPEFULLY - - I'M COMMITTED TO DOING IT IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT WILL MAKE SENSE FOR ALL OF US. SO, ON A COUPLE OF ITEMS I WOULD LIKE TO TALK ABOUT, THE PURPOSE FOR A MERGER. THE FIRE SERVICE ORGANIZATION, WE REALLY HAVE THREE THINGS THAT WE NEED TO MEASURE OUR SUCCESS OR OUR VALUES. THAT IS RELIABLE, IS IT SUSTAINABLE, AND IS IT ADAPTABLE. THIS NEXT STEP FOR THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL IS NOT THE DESTINATION. IT IS THE NEXT STEP. THINGS WILL CONTINUE TO GROW AND WILL CONTINUE TO EVOLVE. IN TERMS OF RELIABILITY, IT IS AMAZING WHAT THIS CITY AND THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS OF THIS COMMUNITY HAS DONE. WE'RE ON TRACK TO EXCEED 1400 CALLER, OVER AN AVERAGE OF 4 A DAY. I THINK, TODAY WE ARE UP TO 6, THE OTHER DAY, 9 CALLS BEFORE I WENT HOME AT 5:30 IN THE EVENING. NEARLY 30 TO 50 OF THOSE ARE BACK-TO-BACK OR SIMULTANEOUS. THAT IS A HUGE DEMAND PLACED ON VOLUNTEERS. OUR INTENSE -- INTENT IS NOT THE ROOT OF VOLUNTEERS, BUT WE HAVE DONE THE RIGHT AUTHORITY. RIGHT NOW, IT IS VULNERABLE, GIVEN THE NUMBER OF CALLS, THE PROJECTED NUMBER OF CALLS, AND THE DEMANDS RELYING SOLELY ON FIREFIGHTERS AND UNDERPAID STAFF. THAT IS NOT ADEQUATE. RELIABILITY, NUMBER ONE. TWO, SUSTAINABILITY. WE NEED TO HAVE A COMBINATION OF -- WE CLEARLY CANNOT AFFORD -- THE NEXT STEP TO HAVING AN ALL-TIME CAREER FIRE DEPARTMENT - - WE NEED A BLEND OF BOTH. WE NEED TO DO IT IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT IS FINANCIALLY FEASIBLE, THAT WE TARGET INDUSTRY OR NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR OUR RESPONSE. I WILL TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THAT IN THE FUTURE, BUT IT HAS TO BE SUSTAINABLE. RIGHT NOW, JUST SINCE I HAVE BEEN HERE, SHORTLY AFTER THE 1st OF THAT YEAR, THERE'S BEEN SOME RESPONSE THAT HAVE BEEN AMAZING. AMAZING RESPONSE BY VOLUNTEERS. FIRE ENGINE, THREE OR FOUR PEOPLE. SECOND FIRE ENGINE, ANOTHER THREE OR FOUR PEOPLE. UNFORTUNATELY, TIMES THROUGHOUT THE DAY WHEN WE ONLY HAVE ONE OR TWO, OR ONE, PERHAPS NONE. IT'S NOT REASONABLE TO RELY ON AN EVIDENCE FOR THE FIRST RESPONSE. YOU ARE THERE TO HELP US, I'M VERY THANKFUL. TONIGHT, TWO OF OUR NEIGHBORING CHIEFS HERE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY, BUT FOR THE CITY, OR OBLIGATION FOR THE FIRST RESPONSE IS CRITICAL. LAST IS, AS I MENTIONED, THIS NEXT STEP IS NOT THE DESTINATION. IT IS JUST THE NEXT STEP. I SHARED WITH A COUPLE PEOPLE THIS MORNING, BECAUSE IT IS A LITTLE BIT EMOTIONAL FOR ME I HAVE BEEN HERE A SHORT TERM. I RECOGNIZE THE VALUE AND DEDICATION. I RECOGNIZE THE TRADITION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND ESTABLISHING IT IN 1902, AND TO MAKE THAT CHANGE IS GOING TO HURT. IT WILL COME WITH GROWING PAINS. BUT SO WAS WANTED MY GRANDDAUGHTER GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL. SHE DIDN'T GRADUATE BECAUSE SHE IS A FAILURE. SHE OUTGREW THE MODEL THAT SHE WAS IN. SHE HAD NEW CHALLENGES PRESENTED IN FRONT OF HER AND NEEDED TO PREPARE HERSELF. THAT IS HOW I WOULD LIKE FOR US TO, PERHAPS, LOOK AT THIS NEXT STEP, THROUGH THAT LENS. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. I WANT TO TALK ABOUT WHAT IS AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE. OFTENTIMES, WE SEE FIRE ENGINES RACING DOWN THE ROAD, THE LIGHTS, SIRENS, AIR HORNS, THEN YOU SEE ANOTHER ONE, AND WE ALL FEEL, IN OUR DAY JOBS AND OUR HOMES, THAT THEY'RE GOING WITH THE BEST INTENTIONS, WHICH THEY ARE, BUT FIREFIGHTING, QUITE FRANKLY -- I'M SAYING THIS WITH ALL DUE RESPECT -- IT IS A TEAM SPORT IT TAKES A TEAM TO RESPOND AND BE EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND SAFE. NOT ONLY SAFE FOR OUR COMMUNITY, BUT FOR THE FIREFIGHTERS THAT ARE PROVIDING THAT LEVEL OF SERVICE. SO, WITH THAT, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AS WE MOVE FORWARD WITH THIS RECOMMENDATION, TRAINING STANDARDS, STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES, ARE KEY TO SUCCESS. IF WE ARE THINKING OF THE FIRE ENGINES RACING DOWN THE ROAD, WHEN A FIRE ENGINE ARRIVES TO A HOUSE THAT'S ON FIRE, THERE'S NUMBER OF KEY TASKS THAT HAVE TO BE DONE, EITHER SEQUENTIAL OR SIMULTANEOUSLY, SO YOU NEED TO HAVE THREE OR FOUR PEOPLE IN THE FIRST ENGINE FOLLOWED UP BY ANOTHER THREE OR FOUR. ULTIMATELY, IN OUR ARRANGEMENT, FINANCIAL STANDARDS, WE WOULD WANT TO HAVE THREE PEOPLE THERE WITHIN 9 MINUTES. THAT'S THE NATIONAL STANDARD FOR OUR COMMUNITY SIZE. WE'RE NOT QUITE THERE, BUT WE NEED TO TARGET THAT FOR THE FUTURE. WE DO



THE JOB NOW WITH OUR NEIGHBORS COMING. BECAUSE THE FIRE SERVICE HAS A LOT OF STANDARDS, STANDARDS IN TRAINING, BUT QUITE FRANKLY, WHEN IT COMES TO A TEAM SPORT, THOSE PEOPLE THAT ARE ON THE SAME TEAM WITH THE SAME UNIFORM, THAT PRACTICE THE SAME PLACE, THE SAME TRAINING, THE SAME CULTURE, ARE GENERALLY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL. NEXT, THE SPEED AND RATE OF RESPONSE. WHEN I FIRST TOOK THIS JOB TO HELP WITH OUR CITY, L.A. TALK WAS AROUND RESPONSE TIME. AS MENTIONED EARLIER, BY COUNCILMEMBERS' AD HOC COMMITTEE, RESPONSE TIME IS CRITICAL. WE ALL KNOW IF YOU STOP READING FOUR TO SIX MINUTES, THERE'S THE POSSIBILITY OF BRAIN DAMAGE. WE KNOW THE SHORT TIME FOR ACQUIRING THE RESIDENTIAL AREA, THE CONDITION OF SPLASH COVERAGE THAT EXTENDS FROM ONE-ROOM TO ANOTHER IS IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AS WELL. SO, SPEED IS NECESSARY, BUT EQUALLY AS IMPORTANT IS THE WEIGHT OF THE RESPONSE, AND THE WEIGHT OF THE RESPONSE IS TRAINED OFTEN BY WOMEN AND MEN TO PROVIDE THOSE KEY TASKS. THE FIRST ENGINE SHOWS UP. THE COMPANY OFFICER PROVIDES CONDITION, DO A SIZE HAS BEEN UP, PULL IN AND TACKLE THEM, SECURE FACILITIES, LIKE THE OSHA REGULATIONS BEFORE TWO PEOPLE FIGHT FIRE, YOU HAVE TO HAVE TWO PEOPLE OUTSIDE. THAT'S WHAT YOU DO THE NEXT ENGINE RULE. SO, IT'S NOT JUST SPEED OF A FIRE ENGINE GETTING THERE, BUT IT IS THE SPEED OF A FIRE ENGINE GETTING THERE WITH A TRAINED AND QUALIFIED CREW I HOPE THAT MAKES SENSE. RESPONSE TIME IS VERY CRITICAL. THAT'S ONE PIECE OF THE ELEMENT, AND ITS COMPANION IS THE WEIGHT OF THE RESPONSE. AND AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, JUST TO REITERATE THE NATIONAL STANDARD FOR A COMMUNITY OUR SITE, 15 FIREFIGHTERS AND 9 MINUTES, 90% OF THE TIME. THAT'S WHAT WE SHOULD BE AIMING FOR. THAT'S FOR VOLUNTEER OR COMBINATION OF DEPARTMENTS. THAT'S WHAT WE SHOULD BE AIMING FOR. HAVING AN INTEGRATED RESPONSE WITH OUR PROPOSED PARTNERS, THAT WILL STRENGTHEN THAT RESPONSE. THAT WILL USHER WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME TRAINED STANDARDS, SAME OR SIMILAR UNIFORMS, RESPONDING TOGETHER, BEING ABLE TO TAKE THOSE KEY FUNCTIONS AS NECESSARY. THE NEXT THING I TALKED ABOUT IS THE DEPTH OF RESOURCES. THAT IS THE DEPTH OF FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES. LARGER AGENCIES TEND TO HAVE MORE RESOURCES. I MENTIONED EARLY IN MY PRESENTATION THAT ROUGHLY 230 OR 250 INCIDENTS THAT WE HAVE AT OR SIMULTANEOUS. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE LIVING IN SONOMA COUNTY ELLIS COUNTY, WE ARE NOT IMMUNE TO STORMS. WE ARE SOME OF THE RECENT STORMS, OUR STATION RAN OVER 30 CALLS. SO, A LARGER ORGANIZATION WE HAVE ARE GOING TO BE RESOURCE THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CALL MULTIPLE APPARATUS AND PERSONS. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. SO, AS I TOOK PART IN EVALUATING THE PROPOSALS FROM OUR TWO NEIGHBORS, WHICH ARE BOTH GOING TO BE WORKED WITH REGARDLESS OF WHERE WE GO TONIGHT, LET'S TALK A LITTLE ABOUT LEADERSHIP. THESE ARE SOME OF THE KEY ELEMENTS THAT I FOUND IN THE PROPOSALS AND INTERVIEWING AND DISCUSSING WITH THE TWO COLLEAGUE/FIRE CHIEFS, IS THE IMPORTANCE OF LEADERSHIP, BOTH AT THE EXECUTIVE LEVEL, AS MENTIONED EARLIER, AND THE VALUES OF HAVING THE FIRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THEIR FULL-TIME FOCUS ON FIRE ISSUES. AND TO HAVE THAT GROUP ALONG WITH THE FIRE CHIEF BEING FORWARD-THINKING, STRATEGIC, LONG-TERM PLANNING, AND CAN'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAKE CHANGES, THEY CAN HAVE THE VISION LOOKING FORWARD. THE NEXT IS JUST THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DISTRICT OR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. SPECIFICALLY, I'M TALKING ABOUT THE FIRE CHIEF. THERE ARE ADMINISTERED OF STAFF, AND WE HAVE THE INITIATIVE STAFF. NOT THIS ADMINISTERED A PERSON WITHOUT A STAFF NOW. SO, THERE'S A PERSON THERE BECAUSE THE WOMEN AND MEN THAT ARE GOING UP AND DOWN THE ROAD IN THOSE FIRE ENGINES, THEY DON'T GET VERY FAR WITHOUT THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF. SO, HAVING THAT DEPTH IS IMPORTANT. THE THIRD BULLET POINTS THERE, OPERATIONS. I'M SIMPLY REFERRING TO THE DAY IN, DAY OUT, SUPERVISION, INSURANCE OF RESPONSE, TRAINING, THAT IS GENERALLY WHERE THAT IS FOR THE PEOPLE EASY UP IN THE SUV. THEY ARE DEALING WITH THE DAILY RESPONSE, DAY IN, DAY OUT, AT THE STATION LEVEL, AT THE FIELD LEVEL, AND IN THE LAST IS INCIDENT MANAGEMENT. THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HAS SIX INCIDENT OF THIS STATE INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS -- THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS OTHER HANDFUL OF THEM, HERE, IN CALIFORNIA. WE HAVE A LOT OF FIRE INCIDENTS, EARTHQUAKES, AND SUCH. I FOUND IT UNIQUE WITH -- FROM MY LOCAL GOVERNMENT

AGENCY -- COLERIDGE HAS FOUR OF THE SIX MEMBERS ON INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS. SO, THOSE PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO RESPOND ACROSS THE STATE, IN SOME CASES, ACROSS THE NATION, GETTING UNIQUE EXPERIENCES THAT THEY BRING BACK TO OUR COMMITTEE. SO, COLLECTIVELY, THOSE FOUR LEVELS, I FEEL, VERY, VERY IMPORTANT TO AN ORGANIZATION, BOTH THE FUTURE OF AN ORGANIZATION, DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT, DAILY OPERATIONS, AND THE EXPERTISE FROM INCIDENT MANAGEMENT WHEN IT COMES TO RESPONDING TO YOUR EMERGENCIES. NEXT SLIDE PLEASE. NEXT, LIKE TO TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT FIRE MARSHAL SERVICES AND PRIVATE WITH FIRE PREVENTION. THE FIRST IS REVIEW OF NEW DEVELOPMENT. THE DISTRICT HAS EXPERTISE IN THAT. THEY HAVE A DIVISION CHIEF THAT ALSO SERVES AS THEIR FIRE MARSHAL AND ACCESS TO CONSULTANTS FOR ANY SPECIFIC OR SPECIALIZED DEVELOPMENT. NEXT IS A FIRE INSPECTOR, AND THE PROPOSAL WITH SOMETHING I AM EXCITED ABOUT AND LOOK FORWARD TO IS ACTUALLY HAVING A FIRE CAPTAIN ON STAFF THAT SERVES AS A FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER THAT WILL SERVE A NUMBER OF THESE FUNCTIONS. FIRE INVESTIGATION OFFICE ALL FIRES MUST BE INVESTIGATED. SOME OF THE ONES FROM THE FIRE ENGINE COMPANY AND THE STAFF -- BUT THE ONES THAT ARE A LITTLE BIT MORE COMPLEX THAT ME BEING SERIOUS INJURY OR LOSS OF LIFE -- A FULL INVESTIGATION FOR QUALIFYING FIRE INVESTIGATION IS REQUIRED. THE NEXT, PUBLIC INFORMATION. THAT'S AN AREA THAT THE FIRE SERVICE OFFERED PROBABLY ALL DISCIPLINES -- HAS GROWN, SO MUCH WITH SOCIAL MEDIA. BUT SOCIAL MEDIA IS MOST EFFECTIVE WHEN YOU CAN HAVE IT STAFFED FULL-TIME, SO IF I WAS TO CHANGE THE TERM OF THAT, REALLY, IT IS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OFFICER. SOMEBODY WHO IS CONSTANTLY THERE, SENDING A MESSAGE, HEARING THE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY, AND STAYING ON TOP OF THOSE THINGS, THE SOCIAL MEDIA, MEDIA RELEASES, AND SERVE ON BEHALF OF THE FIRE CHIEF, BE THE SPOKESPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT AND DISTRICT. THEN, THE LAST ONE THERE, PUBLIC EDUCATION. ANOTHER AREA WHERE IT'S REALLY WITHOUT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT. SITTING IN THE FIREHOUSE, THAT IS ONE-TIME YOU WILL SEE THE FIRE ENGINE OR THE FIREHOUSE DOING A CALL. I BELIEVE THOSE DAYS ARE OVER. SUCCESSFUL FIRE AGENCIES, THEY ARE OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITIES. THERE'S CONSTANT ENGAGEMENT. WE DON'T START THIS CAREER WITHOUT HAVING A SERVANT'S HEART. SERVANT PEOPLE NEED TO BE THERE SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM, A PERSON IN THAT FUNCTION, CANCER IN MANY WAYS. PRIOR WITH FIRE PREVENTION TALKS AT SCHOOLS, OTHER FACILITIES, CARE FACILITIES, PUBLIC INFORMATION, BUT SOMETHING THAT HAS REALLY COME TO LIGHT SINCE I HAVE BEEN HERE IS THE NUMBER OF CALLS WE HAVE BEEN OUR COMMUNITY THAT -- I GUESS WE HAVE A LOT OF MEDICAL EMERGENCIES, AND THEN WE ALSO HAVE SOME THAT MAY NOT BE LIFE-THREATENING OFFICE MAY FALL IN THAT CATEGORY -- BUT WHAT IT IS, WHAT WE HAVE BEEN FIGHTING, A NUMBER OF THOSE, SOME OF OUR CITIZENS NEED HELP. THERE'S A GAP THERE THIS PERSON, THIS FUNCTION WOULD NOT FILL THAT GAP, AND IT WOULD ANTICIPATE -- WHAT CAN WE DO BETTER TO PROTECT OUR SENIORS, OUR CHILDREN, NOT JUST FIRES, TRIPS, ALL SLIPS, WE NEED THAT ENGAGEMENT. AGAIN, IT IS NOT THE FIRE SERVICE'S SOLE RESPONSIBILITY TO DO THIS, TAKE NOTE OF THESE TASKS, BUT AS PEOPLE ARE RELEASED FROM FACILITIES OR HOSPITALS, WOULDN'T IT BE NICE IF WE HAD SOME ENGAGEMENT SO THAT WE CAN PREVENT THE ALLOCATION OF FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES, TAKE THEM AWAY FROM EMERGENCIES? HAVING SOMEBODY THERE ARE HAVING A PROGRAM THAT WE CAN ENTRUST WITH THAT IF THEY CAN BE VERY, VERY VALUABLE, GIVEN THE CITY'S DEMOGRAPHICS AND WHERE WE MAY GO IN THE FUTURE. NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE. SO, THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS IS ALWAYS A TOPIC IN THESE TYPES OF CONVERSATIONS. WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN WITH VOLUNTEERS. ARE THEY GOING TO GO AWAY? ARE THEY GOING TO LOSE THEIR RANK? THOSE ARE NOT OFFICE THAT IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN. THE RANK THAT THEY ARE NOW WILL BE THE RANK THAT THEY WILL BE IN A MERGER. WE CANNOT DO IT WITHOUT THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS. THEY KIND OF FALL INTO TWO CATEGORIES. WE HAVE FIREFIGHTERS THAT ARE COMMUNITY MINDED, JUST WANT TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY, THEN THERE'S VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS THAT ARE CAREER-MINDED, TRYING TO GET

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS ARE GOING AWAY. QUITE FRIENDLY AS LONG AS VOLUNTEERS, SUCCESSFUL FIRE AGENCY, WE WILL EMBRACE THEM, HAVE A PLACE FOR THEM, AND I BELIEVE OUR RECOMMENDATION COVERS THAT. NEXT, THE PROPOSED -- LET ME GO BACK TO THE NEXT BULLET POINTS. ITS INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES. SO, INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS WITH THE LORD ORGANIZATION, WORKING OUT THE STATIONS, THE GOAL LINE RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT DISTRICT HAS OTHER PROGRAMS, PARTICULARLY SOME OF THE CAREER AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS CAN GET OTHER EXPERIENCES, BUT AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, OUR CITY, WE ARE A CONTRIBUTOR FOR THESE OPPORTUNITIES AS WELL. IT IS A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ARRANGEMENT KNOWING WE HAVE 105 AND HAVE FIREFIGHTERS ON THE TRUCK. WE HAVE FIREFIGHTERS IN THE RESIDENT. THERE'S GOING TO BE INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES NOT ONLY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM'S ONLY CICERO THE VOLUNTEER, GIVING VOLUNTEERS MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER IN DIFFERENT FASHIONS. AS I MENTIONED, STARTING OFF AT TWO TYPES OF VOLUNTEERS, ONE CATEGORY IS COMMUNITY MINDED. JUST WANT TO SUPPORT THE COMMITTEE. THEN, THOSE WANT TO PURSUE A CAREER IN FIRE. HAVING THESE DIFFERENT PROGRAMS SO AS WELL FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT. SPECIFICALLY, THE FIRE DISTRICT ACTUALLY DOES CAREER DEVELOPMENT ALL OVER FIREFIGHTERS FOR THE COMPANY AS WELL IS EDUCATION. SO, THE LAST POINT, THEY'RE NECESSARY TO THE ORGANIZATION, AND LET ME SEE IF I CAN GET THROUGH THIS IT IS A LITTLE EMOTIONAL FOR ME TO SHARE THIS. GROWING UP IN SONOMA COUNTY, AND IN MY CAREER CHOICE AS A FIREFIGHTER. HAD THE ROOM AT THE FIRE STATION, BUT I ALSO REMEMBER THE FIRE CHIEF IN SEBASTOPOL. SO, I WILL GET THERE. HOLD ON. TRUST ME. YOU WILL HAVE TO COME UP HERE AND GET ME. SO, THE FIRE CHIEF IN SEBASTOPOL FROM 1960 TO 1962. HE WAS NOT JUST A LEADER OF THIS COMMUNITY BUT ACROSS THE COUNTY . PHENOMENAL INDIVIDUAL. INTO THE FIRE CHIEF OFFICE, WHEN THE FIRST THINGS I NOTICED ON THE WALL WAS THIS LITTLE SIGN THAT IS FRAMED AND SAYS, IT UP ON THE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE 500 HIM, RESPECTED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. WENT, OH, I KNOW HOW MUCH HE WAS RESPECTED. I BELIEVE IN HONORING THOSE THAT HAVE GONE BEFORE ME. I THOUGHT, I SHOULD READ ON. THE QUOTE WAS, I WOULD ADVISE HIM NOT TO FORGET HOW IMPORTANT VOLUNTEERS ARE. WHEN YOU CAN MAINTAIN GOOD REPORT WITH THOSE PEOPLE, THAT'S HALF THE BATTLE. THE SECRET TO SUCCESS, HE CONFIDES, IS THEM, AND WITHOUT THEM, WE'RE LOST. I'M TELLING YOU, NOT LOSING HER VOLUNTEERS. WE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS, AND YOU ARE LUCKY TO HAVE THE ONES THAT YOU HAVE. THANK YOU, CHIEF. NEXT SLIDE. FOR MYSELF, TO FINISH UP MY PORTION OF THIS, THE PREFERRED ORGANIZATION, WE LOOKED AT THREE DIFFERENT OPTIONS. YOU WILL LEARN AS WE GO THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT, STATE AND INDEPENDENT, PARTING WITH THE GREAT FIRE DISTRICT, GOLD RICH, AND AS YOU HAVE TOLD, ABOUT THE FIRST LIGHTS, THE RECOMMENDATION MEANS TORTS OR IS WITH ALDRICH, AND FOR ALL THE ITEMS I ALREADY COVERED, I FEEL THAT THEY ARE THE BEST FIT AT THIS PORTION OF OUR EVOLUTION. IT'S NOT TO SAY THAT WE WERE GOING TO STOP WORKING WITH SONOMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT, OR ANYONE TO THE NORTH. THAT IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN. THE REASON WE CAN'T IS THERE'S GOING TO BE INCREASED CAPABILITIES. ROUGHLY SPEAKING, WE COULD POTENTIALLY GET 90s PEOPLE TO DOWNTOWN SEBASTOPOL WITHIN 9 MINUTES. THAT WOULD BE THE CAREER STAFF, NOT COUNTING VOLUNTEERS OR THE VOLUNTEERS WITH EXERTION. THAT IS GETTING AS CLOSE TO THE TARGET FOR NATIONAL STANDARDS. THAT IS BRINGING US TO WHAT OUR CITIZENS DESERVE. I FEEL THEY HAVE A STRONG LEADERSHIP. NOT BOTH CAREER AND VOLUNTEER OFFICERS. THERE CAREER CHIEF OFFICERS -- I HAVE NOT ALL OF THEM. MOST OF THEM, IF NOT ALL OF THEM, I THINK BORN AND RAISED HERE, IN THE COUNTY. WE'RE FROM DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS. SOME OF THEM WENT OTHER PLACES, RETURNED HOME, AND HAVE COME TO THE GOAL LINE RIDGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, AND KNOWING THAT THEY HAVE BACKGROUND COMPANY OFFICERS AND CHIEF OFFICERS FROM CAL FIRE, LORAIN COUNTY FIRE, CITY OF LAS VEGAS, THOSE ARE ALL KIDS THAT GREW UP IN SONOMA COUNTY THAT PURSUED FIREFIGHTING CAREERS, THAT CAME BACK TO THAT LEVEL. THAT'S NOT TO MENTION ACCOMPANY VISITORS ALL IN THAT CATEGORY. KUDOS TO THEM TO DR. CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET OF: MAY 7, 2024 NOT GOING TO GO BE THE ONLY TALENT. WAS AN, YOU WON'T SEE ME, BUT THE



SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT, WITH A BRING TO THE TABLE, THERE'S TWO ASSISTANT CHIEFS, BOTH OF WHOM HAVE OVER 40 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE. ONE OF THEM, CELEBRATING HIS BIRTHDAY WITH US TONIGHT. WE WILL STILL BE A PART OF THAT. THE NEXT STEPS ARE GOING TO BE US WORKING TOGETHER TO HAMMER OUT THE DETAILS. THAT'S WHERE THE WORK STARTS. AND SO, OUR OFFICERS THAT WE HAVE, THEY HAVE SUPPORTED THE COMMUNITY HERE AND WILL BE PART OF THAT DESIGN AND MERGING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS. THE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICE OF EXPERTISE AND FIRED TO DEPARTMENT AS I MENTIONED, HAVING THAT CAREER LEVEL CHIEF PERSON THAT OVERSEES FIRE MARSHAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES, COUPLED WITH A FIRE PREVENTION CAPTAIN. VERY SUCCESSFUL IN A WELCOMING ADDITION TO THE COMMUNITY SENSE. AND LAST, AS I MENTIONED, I KNOW I SPENT A LOT OF TIME ON IT, BUT AS I HAVE WATCHED THE TWIN HILLS FIRE DISTRICT AND THE HASSLE FIRE DISTRICT BECOME THE GOLD RICH DISTRICT, AND THOSE AREAS OF CSA-40, THE VOLUNTEER COMPANY THAT BECOME A PART OF THEM, I HAVE RECOGNIZED MY COMMUNITY 40 YEARS IN THE FIRE SERVICE IN SONOMA COUNTY, THAT'S ONE AGENCY THAT CONTINUES TO SEEK A BALANCE BETWEEN CAREER AND VOLUNTEER BASED OFF OF OPERATIONAL NEED AND AVAILABILITY FOR PEOPLE TO FILL THOSE ROLES. THAT'S WHAT I HAVE FOR YOU THIS EVENING. I WILL BE AVAILABLE LATER. I WILL KEEP THE MIC ON FOR THE CITY MANAGER TO FINISH UP WITH HIS PORTION.

THANK YOU, CHIEF. I'M GOING TO SPEAK TO THE FINANCES, AND A COUPLE OF OTHER FACTORS AS WE GO ALONG.

I'M SORRY, CITY MANAGER. COULD YOU STATE? I'M SORRY, FIRE CHIEF, IF WE COULD GO BACK, I JUST WANT TO CHECK IN AND SEE IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS FOR THE FIRE CHIEF, MENTOR FIRE CHIEF, AT THE MOMENT? NONE? OKAY, GREAT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THAT'S IT? THANK YOU.

OKAY. IN THE REPORT AND TONIGHT, A FAIR NUMBER OF NUMBERS AROUND DOLLARS IN PARTICULAR. I JUST WANT TO THE SIZE THAT THESE ARE STARTING POINTS AND ESTIMATES. SO, THEY'RE NOT PRECISE. THIS IS WHAT I HAVE CALLED IN THE REPORT. WE HAVE CALLED THEM THE END OF THE BEGINNING, NOT THE FINAL STEP. SO, THERE IS A WAY TO GO. WE ARE CONFIDENT ENOUGH IN THE NUMBERS TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL TO MAKE A DECISION THAT WE WOULD NEVER GET TO RESIZE NUMBERS AT THIS END. JUST IMPOSSIBLE AND PREMATURE, BUT WE'RE FEELING VERY STRONGLY THAT WE HAVE ENOUGH CONFIDENCE TO PROCEED AS RECOMMENDED, AND AS MENTIONED BEFORE, WE DID LOOK AT THREE OPTIONS, STATE, INDEPENDENT, GOING WITH GOLD RICH, AND WE STARTED BY LOOKING AT THE STAFF COST AND THE OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES. STAFFING IS THE LARGEST COST. FOR A FIRE SERVICE. ALDRICH CAME OUT BEST ON THAT. A LOT OF THAT IS BECAUSE THE ECONOMY IS A SCALE. AGAIN, FOR THE LARGER ORGANIZATION WITH SHARED LEADERSHIP ROLES AND THEIR MINISTRY TO SUPPORT FUNCTION, AND JUST BEING LARGER BRINGS BENEFIT TO SPLIT AND SHARE THE COSTS MORE BROADLY. IT IS PRETTY STRAIGHTFORWARD. THE OTHER OPERATING COSTS WITH THINGS LIKE FUEL, MAINTENANCE, MIRACLES IN THE BUILDING, EQUIPMENT, PERSONAL AGREEMENT, THOSE SORTS OF THINGS, WE JUST ASSUME THEY'RE GOING TO BE PRETTY EQUAL. WHICHEVER OPTION WE GO WITH, BECAUSE IT'S LOGICAL, WE DIDN'T THINK IT MADE SENSE TO MAKE ANY OTHER ASSUMPTIONS. WE JUST ASSUMED THAT THAT WAS GOING TO BE THE CASE. AND SO, WE ESTIMATED THE ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS, REMAINING INDEPENDENT WITH NOT 2 1/2 MILLION WITH GOLD RICH, WITH THE ECONOMY TO SCALE AND ANOTHER 2.1 MILLION, AND IN THE HIGHEST ON THE COST, 2.7 MILLION. THIS ALSO INCLUDED ADDITIONAL FIREFIGHTERS THAT WENT A LITTLE ABOVE AND BEYOND WHAT WE ASKED FOR IN THE PROPOSAL. EVEN IF YOU TOOK THOSE OUT, THEY WAS STILL BE MORE EXTENSIVE AS AN OPTION THAN GOLD RIDGE WOULD BE. SO, ANOTHER MAJOR ASPECT OF THE COSTS ARE ATHLETES IN THE BUILDINGS. THE FLEET IS WHERE WE GET A LITTLE OVER \$700,000 IN VEHICLE PAYMENTS. ONE OF THEM. THE OTHER IS FULLY PAID FOR. WE DON'T HAVE SUFFICIENT FUNDING SET ASIDE TO COVER THE COSTS. THIS IS PAYMENTS FOR THAT ONE COMING. THE COST OF BYRON JONES GOES UP 10% OR MORE, PERHAPS 15% PER YEAR IN RECENT YEARS. DON'T KNOW IF THAT WILL SLIGHTLY INCREASE. WE ARE NOT INEXPENSIVE. WE HAVE NOT DETERMINED IF WE CAN FULLY FUND A SYSTEM, BUT WE KNOW IT WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL. ONE WE DON'T KNOW THE ACTUAL

AMOUNT IS IF WE MERGE, THERE MAY BE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIES OF SCALE. MAYBE WE DON'T NEED AS MANY IN THE FUTURE AS WE HAVE CURRENTLY. THE FIRE STATION, THE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE IS \$5 MILLION, BUT IN THE SHAPE WE NEED, THE ACTUAL AMOUNT, WE DON'T KNOW. IT WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL. UNDERSTAND REMODELING WITH MY PREMISE TO THE 5 MILLION NUMBER. IT WILL BE A LOT OF DOLLARS, MULTIPLE MILLIONS. WE DON'T HAVE ANY FUNDS SET ASIDE FOR THAT PURPOSE. IN TERMS OF THE REVENUE SIDE, HAVING DONE THE COST SIDE, WE LOOK AT THREE POTENTIAL SERVICES. ONE, THE CITY'S FUND, WHICH THIS YEAR, WE ARE BUDGETING \$1.5 MILLION. WE ARE ALL AWARE OF MAJOR DEFICITS AHEAD THOUGH. MEASURE H REQUIRED WE SPENT \$1.2 MILLION OR 10% OF THE GENERAL FUND, AND THAT AMOUNT IS FOR THE GENERAL FUND. MEASURE H IS 1.1 MILLION TO THE CITY, AND THEN THE PARTIAL CATCH WITH CONSOLIDATION WOULD BE ANOTHER 1.1 MILLION. THOSE ARE ALL THE POTENTIAL MAJOR REVENUE STREAMS FOR US. OF COURSE, THE GRANDSON RESOURCES AND THINGS, WE WOULD PURSUE THEM, BUT A LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY PERSPECTIVE, I THINK THIS IS GOING TO BE MAKING YOUR DECISIONS. THEN, THE REVENUE POTENTIAL FOR EACH OF THE THREE OPTIONS. INDEPENDENT, STATE INDEPENDENT, RECURRING GENERAL FUND FOR MEASURE H. 2.7 IN ROUND NUMBERS. ALSO, MEASURE H IS POTENTIALLY IN JEOPARDY BECAUSE OF THE BALLOT INITIATIVE IN THE FALL. IT IS NOT A SURE THING, BUT ASSUMING THAT IT PASSES, NEITHER ALL REASONABLE. GOLD RICH? EXCUSE ME. THEY HAVE SUGGESTED A PERCENTAGE OF THE GENERAL FUND, PLUS MEASURE H, PLUS A PARCEL TAX. THE PERCENTAGE OF THE GENERAL FUND WOULD BE SOMETHING WE WOULD NEGOTIATE. I THINK THERE'S SOME PLUSES AND MINUSES IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL IN INCREASING THE GENERAL FUND REVENUE, BUT IT ALSO ALLOWS US TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF GENERAL FUNDING FOR THE RECESSION IF THAT WENT DOWN. THEN, WE'RE LOOKING AT ABOUT 3.7 MILLION IN REVENUE POTENTIAL FOR COSTS FOR THE FUNDING SOURCES. SO, OVERALL, LET'S SEE. IF WE STAY INDEPENDENT, REVENUE POTENTIAL IS ABOUT TO DOES.7, OPERATING COSTS, 2 1/2. SO, WE HAVE AVAILABLE ABOUT \$200,000 A YEAR I THINK THAT IS LIKELY GOING TO BE CONSIDERABLY INSUFFICIENT TO REPLACE OUR FLEET IN A TIMELY WAY, AND TO GET A NEW BUILDING OR AN APPROVED BUILDING IN PLACE. GOLD RICH REVENUE POTENTIAL FROM BEFORE IT 3.8, OPERATING INSTANCES, 2.1. THAT LEAVES THE AVAILABLE AMOUNT OF 1.7 MILLION, WHICH I THINK WOULD BE SUFFICIENT, AND WITH GREAT REVENUE, 3.7, OPERATING EXPENSE, 2.7, LEAVES ABOUT 1 MILLION, IT IS ALSO ABOUT MUCH MORE THAN THE 200,000 REMAINING INDEPENDENT, ALTHOUGH NOT AS MUCH AS WHEN GOLD RIDGE WOULD HAVE TO OFFER. SO, , JUST GO BACK ONE. ONE OTHER THING I WANTED TO MENTION THAT HAS, AND AS MENTIONED IN THE REPORT, WITH A SIMILAR MEASURE H UPHELD, THERE'S THE MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT REQUIREMENTS, BUT IF WE MERGE, THEN IT IS UP TO NEGOTIATIONS. THIS IS OUR UNDERSTANDING. SO, I'M GOING INTO THIS, THINKING, WE HAVE A LOT OF CATCH UP TO DO ON FIRE, BOTH FOR THE STAFFING SIDE, BUT ALSO FOR OUR FLEET AND BUILDINGS. AND SO, LOOKING AT THIS THROUGH THE LENS OF WHAT WE NEED TO BASICALLY ASSUME, THAT WE HAVE TO -- SHOULD MAKE A CONSIDERABLE GENERAL FUND CONTRIBUTION -- AND A HUGE CONTRIBUTION ON PARTIAL TAX. AT LEAST AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, UNTIL WE GET IN BETTER SHAPE. THERE'S SOME GREATNESS THERE, BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE THE FUNDING NUMBERS ON THE FLEET AND THOSE THINGS, BUT AGAIN, FOR A DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO CONSOLIDATE, I THINK THE NUMBERS SUGGEST THAT THAT WOULD BE IN OUR BEST INTEREST. SO, IN MORE OF AN OVERALL ASSESSMENT, WITH GOLD RIDGE, IT IS KIND OF COMBINING THE COMMENTS FROM THE AD HOC MEMBERS, AS WELL AS THE CHIEF DURHAM. THE HIGHEST RATED FOR A SERVICE POLITY, STRONG AND DEEP LEADERSHIP, MOST COST-EFFECTIVE PROPOSAL BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMIES OF SCALE. WE FOUND IT THE MOST STRATEGIC PROPOSAL WITH THE BUDGETING AND TAKING ON THINGS I CAN'T INTEGRATE FLEET, HOW TO INTEGRATE IN MINISTRY SERVICES, AND TO MY MIND, THIS JUST SHOWED A LITTLE BIT MORE VISIONARY APPROACH. THE GOVERNANCE, YOU KNOW, THERE IS NO GUARANTEED SEAT, AND WE ALSO WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR A BETTER BALANCE THAN JUST ONE. I MIGHT UPDATE THE GREAT PROPOSAL, ACTUALLY, THAT THEY HAD FIVE SEATS. THEY SUGGESTED TWO FOR SERVICE POLITY WOULD MAINTAIN 5, AND I THINK THE AD HOC, A SERVICE POLITY DEPARTMENT AND SERVICE AREA HAS MORE CALLS AND WOULD HAVE 5 SEATS.

THAT STRIKES ME AS NOT FEELING REALLY GOOD. WITH IT AS SO PRIOR EXPERIENCE FOR GOLD RIDGE WITH MERGERS . SO, HOPEFULLY THERE'S SOME LESSONS THAT THEY HAVE LEARNED THAT THEY CAN PROVIDE SITUATION, AND THEN THIS APPLIES, REALLY, TO ALL OF THE OPTIONS, THE STRONG SUPPORT OF VOLUNTEERS, BUT WE WERE LOOKING FOR THAT IN THE PROPOSALS WE ASKED ABOUT, AND ANYTHING THAT THEY DEMONSTRATED THAT THEY HAVE THAT. SO, THAT'S HOW WE ENDED UP. IN TERMS OF NEXT STEPS, FOR MARK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LOCAL AREA INFORMATION COMMISSION, THIS YEAR, HE PROVIDED TOPLESS TO BE PACKET LETTER, TO OVERSEE THE MERGER PROCESS WITH TWO STEPS. ONE, AMENDING THE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, SECOND IS TO ACTUALLY MERGE THE ORGANIZATIONS WITH A LOT OF OTHER STEPS IN BETWEEN HERE AND THERE. COSTS ARE NOT ENTIRELY KNOWN. 15,000 SEEMS ENTIRELY DECENT AT THE MOMENT. THEY ALSO HAVE A LOT ON THEIR PLATE. IT CAN BE ASKED TO MOVED TO THE TOP OF THE PLATE, BUT WE DON'T HAVE A DEFINITIVE TIMELINE. THEN, PART OF THE PROCESS IS THERE'S A PROTEST OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS IF THEY DO NOT WANT US TO PROCEED, AND I SUSPECT THAT WOULD MOSTLY BE AROUND THE TRANSFER OF THE PARTIAL TAPES THAT WOULD COME WITH THE MERGER SHOULD THEY EVER COME BACK. SO, WE HAVE A DOCUMENT IT ACTIONS FOR YOU, AND I WILL RUN THROUGH THESE IF YOU WOULD LIKE. FIRST IS GENERALLY TO MOVE FORWARD WITH GOLD RIDGE. SECONDLY, WE WOULD SEND A LETTER TO LAFCO WITH THE REQUEST FOR A FEE WAIVER. WE DON'T WANT TO PROCEED TO SEND THE LETTERS, THAT IS ALSO WE NEED TO DO, AND WE WOULD ASK FOR A FREE WE WERE GIVEN OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION. UNAUTHORIZED STAFF COULD TAKE OTHER ACTIONS AS NEEDED. ONE OF THOSE IS TO INCLUDE \$10,000 DEPARTMENT. TO LAFCO -- THAT IS THE PRICE OF ADMISSION TO GET THE BALL ROLLING WITH THAT. THEN, A FOURTH STEP WOULD BE TO AUTHORIZE ME TO SIGN A SHORT-TERM AGREEMENT WITH GOLD RIDGE FOR CHIEF OFFICER SERVICES, AND THEN WE WOULD ALSO WORK ON DEVELOPING A LONG-RANGE FROM AGREEMENT FOR CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL AS WELL AS OTHER FURTHER COURT APPROVAL. THINKING SHORT TERM, JUST A FEW MONTHS. IF WE COULD GET IT DONE BY THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR, GREAT, BUT UNTIL WE HAVE HAD THOSE CONVERSATIONS, DON'T WANT TO BE TOO DEFINITIVE ABOUT IT, BUT WE DO NEED TO GET SOMETHING IN PLACE FOR KNOW OTHER REASON THAN IF WE MAKE THIS DECISION, WE WOULD TERMINATE THE AD HOC COMMITTEE. WE'RE SUGGESTING CREATE A NEW AD HOC COMMITTEE TO PRESENT US IN ASSOCIATIONS WITH LAFCO, TRAFFICKING, DEFINE THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR STAFF AND THEN WE HAVE A RECRUITMENT UNDERWAY FOR NEW FIRE CHIEF. CAN WE GO IN THIS DIRECTION? ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT WITH GOLD RIDGE, WHICH WITH ME TERMINATING THE RECRUITMENT AND TERMINATING CHIEF DURHAM'S ROLE AS INTERIM FIRE CHIEF, BECAUSE THOSE HAVE TO GO TOGETHER, THEN FINALLY, AUTHORIZE ME TO EXPLORE CONSULTING ASSISTANCE TO HELP THE CITY TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE SOME YOUR EXPERTISE REPRESENTING THE CITY AT THE TABLE AND ANY OTHER NEEDS THAT WE MIGHT HAVE TO HELP ENSURE A SUCCESSFUL ENTRY. SO, THAT CONCLUDES MY PART OF THE PRESENTATION. WITH THAT, I WILL TURN IT BACK OVER.

OKAY. MAYBE WE CAN FIND OUT WHETHER THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS.

YEAH. WE WERE JUST GOING TO MAKE SOME FINAL COMMENTS, THEN WE WERE GOING TO TAKE QUESTIONS. DID YOU WANT TO MAKE THE FINAL COMMENTS FIRST?

OKAY. JUST THE KIND OF ADDRESS FINAL COMMENTS, I'M VERY PROUD OF THE WORK THAT WE HAVE BROUGHT FORTH TONIGHT. IT SEEMS LIKE JILL SAID, WE HAVE HAD A LOT OF WORK AND A LOT OF MEETINGS. FOR ME, AT THE END OF THE DAY, MY RECOMMENDATION COMES FROM -- AS I HAVE LEARNED -- SPEED AND WEIGHT, AND WE HAVE TO HAVE THOSE THINGS TO DELIVER STRONG FIRE SERVICE, AND UNFORTUNATELY, IT HAS BEEN POINTED OUT -- THANK YOU TO THE PRESS -- THAT WE WERE SHORT ON THOSE THINGS LAST FALL, AND THIS IS REALLY URGENT FOR OUR COMMUNITY. WE HAVE GOT TO GET A SOLUTION, AND WE CAN'T CONTINUE -- IN MY MIND -- TO KEEP TALKING ABOUT ANOTHER 7 YEARS. THE FOUNDATIONAL UP AS THE OTHER THING WE NEED -- IS QUALITY EQUIPMENT. I THANK YOU SO MUCH TO THE SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOUNDATION, WHICH IS BEEN HELPING OTHERS ' EQUIPMENT, AND WE PARTNERED WITH B... GRANT FOR SOME MORE EQUIPMENT, BUT WE, FRANKLY, NEED MORE UPDATED EQUIPMENT, AND WE



JUST DON'T HAVE THE MONEY FOR IT. SO, AND THEN, JUST TO ADDRESS, AT LEAST MY THINKING, AND FULL, FULL DISCLOSURE, WHEN I FIRST GOT TOGETHER WITH JILL, SHE RAN ON AN INDEPENDENT FIRE PLATFORM. SO, WHEN WE FIRST GOT TOGETHER, I WAS LIKE, MAYBE WE SHOULD STAY INDEPENDENT. THIS IS, LIKE, REALLY IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY. WE HAVE TO STUDY IT, BUT MAYBE THAT IS THE WAY TO GO. THEN, THERE WAS A PART IN MY JOURNEY, I GUESS, YOU COULD SAY, THAT I WAS LIKE, I LOVE READING, THEIR CULTURE, THEY ARE A SMALL DEPARTMENT LIKE US, EVERYTHING TO THE NORTH. YAY. I MEAN, I REALLY LOVE THEIR BOARD. YOU KNOW? THE MEMBERS AND I GOT TO KNOW, I DIDN'T GET TO KNOW EVERYBODY, BUT THE AD HOC COMMITTEE THEY HAD WITH THE TREASURER WHO IS HERE TONIGHT, AND ANOTHER MEMBER. AND SO, I REALLY HOPE THAT PART OF WHAT WE ASKED OUR OWN DEPARTMENT WAS, WELL, FROM A CULTURE STANDPOINT, WHAT DO YOU THINK? I HAD HEARD A LOT ABOUT FEEDBACK ON GOLD RICH AND HOW MUCH, YOU KNOW, LAND COVERED THEY WERE COVERING. AND THEN, AFTER ALL OF IT, REALLY, I THINK INFORMATION IS POWER, AND I FEEL REAL SOLID ABOUT MY RECOMMENDATION TONIGHT TO CONSOLIDATE WITH GOLD RIDGE. WE HAVE WORKED ON A REALLY HARD. IT'S A RECOMMENDATION, OF COURSE WE WON'T HEAR FROM THE PUBLIC, WE WILL HEAR FROM OUR COLLEAGUES, BUT I FEEL SOLID ABOUT THE RECOMMENDATION, JILL.

I'M GOING TO SAY, EVERYTHING YOU SAID WAS SO TRUE BECAUSE WE HAVE THE CONVERSATION A MULTITUDE OF TIMES. NOT JUST THE SPEED IN THE WIND, PERSISTENT ABILITY. NOT JUST NOW, WE NEED TO HONOR WHAT HAS BEEN DONE AND HOW OUR FIREFIGHTERS HAVE CEDAR CITY A TON OF MONEY IN RECENT YEARS HAD JUST DONE A WONDERFUL JOB SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY, BUT LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE, WE HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCING THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS WITH FIRES, AND THEN THE RESPONSE TIMES AND EVERYTHING THAT WAS IN THE PAPER, AND ALSO JUST DOING ALL OF THESE MEETINGS, KNOWLEDGE IS POWER. LISTENING TO ALL THE EXPERTS, TELLING US, THE WAYS IN WHICH WE ARE DOING GREAT, THE OTHER WAYS WE REALLY NEED TO, YOU KNOW, WE NEED TO STEP IT UP, YOU KNOW, THAT LOOKING AT ALL THE FINEST CHALLENGES WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT FOREVER, TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO BRING IT ALL TOGETHER. AT THE END OF THE DAY, EVERY TIME I STRUGGLE WITH IT, THAT IS WHAT I ORIGINALLY CAME INTO THIS WITH. I, TOO WAS THERE WITH BRADEN. LET'S DO THAT. SOUNDS GREAT. THEN, START LOOKING AT THE OPTIONS AS FAR AS GOVERNANCE, AND ALSO WHILE WE GO THROUGH THE EXPLORATION OF THE MERGER, LAFCO, ALL THE STEPS THAT NEED TO BE TAKEN TO DETERMINE IF THIS IS WHERE WE CAN SET A FINAL DECISION, LOOKING AT OUR STAFF AND THE AMOUNT OF TIME THAT IT TAKES TO DO THIS, AND KNOWING THAT GOLD RIDGE HAS DONE THIS SO MANY TIMES, IT JUST MADE MORE SENSE TO ME, IN MY MIND, YOU KNOW, GOING WITH AN AGENCY THAT ACTUALLY HAS AN EXPERTISE IN THIS -- LIKE I SAID -- I HAVE ATTENDED THEIR BOARD MEETINGS, AND IT WAS IMPORTANT TO ME TO UNDERSTAND, AND REALLY, I HAVE TO SAY, YOU KNOW, I REALLY LIKE ALL THE BOARD NUMBERS, BOTH GREAT AND AND GOLD RIDGE. FOR ME, THIS HAD TO BE ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY AND FINANCES, AND IT IS JUST IMPORTANT TO ME THAT WHATEVER WE DO, WE HONOR OUR FIREFIGHTERS, AND I DO HAVE A REQUEST I WANT TO PUT OUT THERE TO CONSIDER AT ANY TIME, BUT AS WE GO THROUGH THIS PROCESS -- I KNOW THAT I HAVE SPOKEN WITH THE CITY MANAGER ABOUT THIS -- I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT, AT SOME POINT, WE DO SOME TYPE OF -- WHETHER IT IS A STATUE, WHETHER IT IS A WALL, WHATEVER IT IS, HONOR THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE FUTURE VOLUNTEERS OF OUR FIREFIGHTERS. I THINK THAT WE -- THEY DESERVE THAT. AND WHILE WE MAKE THESE DECISIONS AFTER 100 YEARS TO CHANGE THESE THINGS, I JUST THINK THAT WE NEED TO HONOR -- YOU KNOW -- WE HAVE A PEACEFUL -- WE HAVE A LOT OF DIFFERENT WAYS THAT WE HONOR PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY. I THINK WE SHOULD DO THAT AS WELL. I JUST WANT TO PUT THAT OUT THERE, AND I DON'T KNOW IF EVERYONE WILL AGREE WITH ME, BUT I WOULD LIKE THE STAFF TO EXPLORE THAT AT SOME POINT WHEN IT IS THE APPROPRIATE TIME. FINALLY, THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ELSE THAT RESONATED WITH ME WHEN WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS. I REALIZED THAT OUR FIRE STATION IS REALLY CHALLENGED, NEEDS A LOT OF WORK, BUT IT IS ALSO NOT FEMALE, AND AS A FEMALE, AND AS WE WE BE ABLE TO MEET THAT AT SOME END, AND SO, I JUST WANTED TO

THERE, THAT THE THAT WAS ALSO SOMETHING THAT I CONSIDER. YOU KNOW, WHEN WE LOOK AT THE COST, YOU KNOW, ALL THE COSTS INVOLVED, AND THE FINAL FINANCIAL PROPOSAL, THAT ALSO WEIGHED ON ME. I DON'T KNOW IF THAT HELPS AT ALL TO UNDERSTAND, BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN A VERY WINDING ROAD TO GET TO THIS POINT, BUT I, TOO, FEEL VERY SOLID IN THIS RECOMMENDATION.

EXCELLENT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I THINK WE HAVE RECEIVED A LOT OF INFORMATION HERE. UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS A VERY EMOTIONAL ISSUE, AND I JUST WANTED TO EXTEND MY APPRECIATION TO THE AD HOC MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO WERE SITTING AT THE TABLE WITH US HERE, BECAUSE IT IS A WEIGHTY RESPONSIBILITY THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN ON, IN ADDITION TO STAFF, BUT FOR COUPLE AND COUNCILMEMBERS ELECTIVE EVERYONE HERE, AND WHO HAVE MET WITH OTHER FIREFIGHTERS, THAT IS HUGE. SO, QUESTIONS HERE, VICE-MAYOR ZOLLMAN?

THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR. MY THANKS TO YOU , EVERYONE INVOLVED, MUCH APPRECIATED, AND STAFF AS WELL. I'M TRYING TO PIECES ALTOGETHER, AND THEN HEARING A GENERAL MANAGER TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT MR. H IS DEFINITELY -- IT COULD BE IN JEOPARDY -- DEPENDING UPON WHAT GETS PAST AND A STATEWIDE INITIATIVE SO, I'M WORRIED ABOUT THAT AND HOW THAT FITS INTO THE RECOMMENDATION. ALSO, WANTING TO UNDERSTAND, AS I UNDERSTAND IT THE NEXT AGENDA ITEM IS GOING TO BE ABOUT FIRE ENGINEER, AND THAT THAT RECOMMENDATION IS COMING FROM A TASK FORCE. SO, THE QUESTION I HAVE IS IT CONTINGENT THAT WE NECESSARILY LOCK OURSELVES INTO HIRING A FIERY ENGINEER FOR YEARS MOVING FORWARD IN ORDER TO DO THIS INVESTIGATION AT LARGE?

I THINK THE QUESTION IS WHETHER THE TWO ARE IMPLIED, NECESSARILY. YEAH.

THAT WAS A QUICK ANSWER. OKAY.

WE SHOULD MAKE THESE DECISIONS IN THE PENALTY, IN MY OPINION.

I'M THE SAME, THAT WILL WEIGH HEAVILY ON THE OTHER, BECAUSE I NEED TO KNOW IF WE WILL TURN THEM AWAY FROM ANY OTHER POINTS, WHETHER IT IS CONTINGENT OR NOT CONTINGENT PART YOU SAID, NO. LET US ASSUME --

I WOULD MAKE THE CONSOLIDATION MY RECOMMENDATION FOR THE DECISION TO BE INDEPENDENT OF HIRING THE SAME FIREFIGHTER.

I WANT TO ADD SOMETHING TO THAT THOUGH.

OKAY.

PLEASE DO NOTE THAT WE HAVE NOT YET ADDRESSED THAT RETICULAR STAFF -- THIS IS A SEPARATE ITEM.

I KNOW, BUT SO, WITHOUT GETTING MYSELF IN TROUBLE, WE WERE TASKED WITH A LONG-TERM GOAL AND A SHORT-TERM GOAL. THIS AGENDA ITEM IS PART OF OUR TASK FOR THE SUBCOMMITTEE, AND THAT HIS LONG-TERM GOAL, WHICH IS WHY WE NEED TO TAKE THE ITEMS SEPARATELY. HOPEFULLY, THAT WILL HELP.

OKAY.

THANK YOU. I'M SORRY, VICE-MAYOR ZOLLMAN, YOU ALSO HAVE THOSE RELATED MEASURE H QUESTIONS. DID YOU HAVE THAT IN YOUR QUESTIONS?

I AM JUST WORRIED ABOUT THE OVERALL FINANCES, AND A LOT OF THIS SEEMS TO BE CONTINGENT ON MEASURE H BEEN SUCCESSFUL, BEING AHEAD OF THE STATE INITIATIVE IN NOVEMBER. I'M MISSING, I HOPE THAT THE AD HOC HAS GONE THROUGH AND STAFF HAS GONE THROUGH IT, AND THAT HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY CONSIDERED IN LIGHT OF THE MOST RECENT CONVERSATION THAT IS ALSO INVOLVED IN IT.

FOR MY THOUGHTS, IF IT IS OKAY? IF THIS IS OVERTURNED, VALIDATED IN SOME WAY, THAT MAKES IT MORE OF A COMPONENT, IN MY MIND, TO DO CONSOLIDATION, BECAUSE WE ARE GOING TO NEED THE ECONOMIES OF SCALE AND THE RESOURCES WITH CONSOLIDATION EVEN MORE. MORE SO THAN NOW OR THAT WE WOULD AS THE AGENCIES BECOME EVEN MORE COMPELLING.

THANK YOU.

THANK YOU. GO AHEAD, COUNCILMEMBER MAURER .

I WOULD CAUTION ABOUT THE GOLD RIDGE PROPOSAL. HOW DID THAT COME ABOUT? WAS THAT BOARD-IMPROVED, THE FIRE CHIEF READ IT ? HO



I WOULD LIKE THAT GOLD RIDGE CHIEF WHO IS HERE TO COME UP AND ANSWER THAT I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT THEY DID. I CAN TELL YOU THAT THE AD HOC STAFF PUT TOGETHER A SET OF QUESTIONS THAT WAS ESSENTIALLY A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM BOTH DISTRICTS, AND GOLD RIDGE SUPPORTED ONE BEFORE WE ASKED THEM TO SUPPLEMENT THE QUESTIONS, SO WE WERE GETTING COMPARISONS FROM BOTH DISTRICTS. HOW THEY DID IT FROM THERE INTERNALLY, I DON'T KNOW, BUT THE CHIEF CAN ANSWER THAT.

DO WE HAVE AN ADDITIONAL QUESTION?

I WANT TO ALSO SAY, THE EMPHASIS IS THAT WE PUT OUT EQUAL TO BOTH DEPARTMENTS A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TO JUST MAKE THAT REPORT.

AND THEN THE INTEREST IS IN FINDING OUT ABOUT THE BOARD IN THE GOVERNANCE, WHETHER THEY WERE PART OF THE PROCESS OF THE PROPOSAL, AND DO WE HAVE BUY-IN FROM THE BOARD, OR WE JUST WANT A LITTLE MORE?

IF WE COULD CALL THE BOARD --

IF WE CAN FIND BOTH THE CHIEF AND BOARD NUMBERS FROM HERE.

SO, WHO DO WE WANT TO CALL TO THE PODIUM? I SEE THE FIRE CHIEF STANDING UP. OKAY.

GREAT. GOOD EVENING. YEAH. SO, IN 2022, THE CITY REQUESTED A PROPOSAL FROM THE GOLD RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT , AND THAT WAS SEEN BY ALL OF YOU, AND AGAIN, THE REQUEST WAS TO SUBMIT ANOTHER PROPOSAL RECENTLY. THE PROPOSAL OFFICE OR THE ACTIONS THAT I TAKE -- ARE ALWAYS WITH YOU GOT IT AND FOR DISSIPATION. WITHOUT COMPLETELY SPEAKING FOR THEM, YES, THEY'RE IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSAL.

THANK YOU. TWO MORE QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

OKAY.

MY SECOND QUESTION IS, IN THE PROPOSAL, WAS A REQUEST THAT SEBASTOPOL SHOULD PAY A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF THE REVENUE -- AND I'M WANTING TO KNOW, IS THAT GOING TO BE A NEGOTIATED ISSUE, OR IS THAT A DONE DEAL?

TO BACK UP, THE WORK REALLY STARTS NOW. WE'RE TAKING THE NEXT STEP, AND IT IS CLEAR THAT THERE'S GOING TO BE A REQUIRED NEGOTIATION. THAT WAS AN INITIAL PROPOSAL. A STYLE OF KIND OF REVENUE AND A FUNDING AGREEMENT THAT WILL SEE WE ARE SOMEWHAT ACCUSTOMED TO AT THIS.

. THIS IS A SORT OF INITIAL PROPOSAL. IT WAS MADE IN THAT MANNER TO PROVIDE KIND OF A STEADY WAY FOR THE CITY TO PROJECT COST AND BUDGET FOR THE FUTURE. IT WAS MEANT TO BE IN A MANNER THAT CAN BE BENEFICIAL TO BOTH THE FIRE DISTRICT AND THE CITY TO MOVE FORWARD AND HAVE A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF REVENUE AND COST ASSOCIATED WITH FIRE PROTECTION.

THANK YOU. LAST ONE IS ABOUT THE NAMES. WE HAVE A FIRE DEPARTMENT WITH 122 YEARS FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE. I THINK THE NAME IS REALLY IMPORTANT. SO, I'M WONDERING ABOUT GOLD RIDGE'S PERSPECTIVE ON THAT. COULD THE NAME SAY SEBASTOPOL THEN GOLD RIDGE DIVISION UNDERNEATH? COULD THE UNIFORM SAY SEBASTOPOL, GOLD RIDGE? WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THAT?

MY THOUGHTS ARE WE HAVE A HISTORY OF THIS EXACT QUESTION. PROBABLY THE NUMBER ONE QUESTION THAT WE CAN GO THROUGH FOR THE CONSOLIDATION PROCESS. TO NOT BORE EVERYBODY WITH A HISTORY OF THE NAME GOLD RIDGE, BUT I WILL BECAUSE IT IS REALLY APPROPRIATE TO SHARE THIS CONTEXT, GOLD RIDGE NAME WAS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DISTRICT FORMED WHEN WHEN HILLS AND HESTON CONSOLIDATED, AND HE WAS WITH THE VISION OF FUTURE CONSOLIDATIONS TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF A LARGER ONE. WE HAVE OUTGROWN THAT SOILS DISTRICT NOW. WE DO THINGS TO HONOR THE NAMES OF THE AREAS WE HAVE ANNEXED SO, ON ALL OUR FIRE ENGINES, IT SAYS, GOLD RIDGE, BUT ON THE DOOR PATCH , IT ALSO HAS THE STATION FOR THE FIRE ENGINE TO RESPOND AT THE UNIFORM HAS MORE SUBTLE WAYS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE STATION. BUT TO THE POINT THAT CHIEF DURHAM MADE ABOUT ONE TEAM, IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT AT SOME POINT THERE. UNDERSTANDS THEY ARE A GOLD RIDGE FIREFIGHTER FROM THE SAME TEAM, SO IT IS KNOWLEDGE IN THE INDIVIDUALISM, BUT WE HAVE DEGRADED THINGS. THEY ARE HAPPY TO HAVE CONVERSATIONS ON OUR

PATCHES TO REDESIGN IT, BUT IT WOULD BE IN CONSIDERATION OF A LARGER THING AT THIS HOUR. SO, I WOULD LIKE TO ARGUE THAT THE PATCH IS REPRESENTATIVE OF SEBASTOPOL, THE ORCHARD, THE RURAL COMMUNITY THAT SURROUNDS US, BUT TO CIVILLY SAY, RIGHT NOW, WE DOLLARS THE STATION BY HAVING THE PATCH SHOULD BE ON THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE WHERE YOU COME FROM, BEYOND THAT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A SHORTER PATCH THAT SAYS THE STATION NUMBER FOR PRIMARIES' CURRENT LOCATION.

TO CLARIFY, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN DOWNTOWN SEBASTOPOL WOULD HAVE THE GOLD RIDGE?

IT WOULD HAVE THE GOLD RIDGE NAME AND WE WOULD ACKNOWLEDGE McLEWIS AS WELL.

OKAY . NIKKI.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE BOTH THINGS.

THANK YOU.

IF YOU COULD STAY UP THERE FOR THE MOMENT, VICE-MAYOR ZOLLMAN?

YES, MADAME CHAIR, THANK YOU. AS IT HAS BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED BY US, AS COUNCILMEMBERS, CULTURE IS VERY IMPORTANT. WE RECENTLY MADE SURE THAT THERE IS A NOTICE, NATION CLAUSE ON ANY TYPE OF HIRING THE COMMISSION. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE VOLUNTEER MANUAL FOR THE BOARD OF SEBASTOPOL FIREFIGHTERS IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING UPDATED. AS COUNCILMEMBER McLEWIS INDICATED, ONE OF THE THINGS THAT SHE FELT IMPRESSED BY WAS THE FACT THAT IF WE NEED TO EXTEND IT, THAT WE MAKE ACCOMMODATIONS LOOKING FOR EVERYONE, REGARDLESS OF MALE, FEMALE, FOR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, SO MOVING FORWARD, WHAT DOES YOUR CULTURE LOOK LIKE IN REFERENCE TO THOSE SPECIFIC TERMS?

RELATIVE TO THOSE SPECIFIC TERMS, I LIKE TO BELIEVE, YOU KNOW, REFLECTION, YOU KNOW, UNDERSTAND HOW YOU ARE PERCEIVED. IT IS NOT ALWAYS EASY. SO, WE HAVE A CULTURE OF INCLUDING EVERYONE, BROADENING THE TERM OF WHAT A VOLUNTEER IS TO EXPAND THE ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS THAT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FIRE DISTRICT. SPECIFIC TO YOUR QUESTIONS, I WOULD HAVE TO GIVE IT MORE THOUGHT TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION. BEYOND JUST GENERALLY BEING OFFICE FOLLOWING THE RULES -- FINDING A WAY FOR THEM TO CONTRIBUTE, I CAN'T ANSWER YOUR QUESTION BETTER THAN THAT.

I HAVE ONE FOLLOW-UP, IF I CAN.

GO AHEAD.

I'M ASSUMING YOU HAVE A VOLUNTEER LEADER THAT STATES SOMETHING ABOUT DISCRIMINATION, GENDER --

YES.

I WOULD BE ALERTING THE PRESS IF WE GOING THAT DIRECTION AND REVEALING IT AND BEING ABLE TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS, BUT YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO ENTERTAIN THOSE?

ABSOLUTELY. I MAY BE MISUNDERSTOOD YOUR QUESTION. WE UTILIZE FLEXIBLE FIRM POLICY MANAGEMENT, WHICH IS STATEWIDE. IT KEEPS US UP TO DATE WITH THE CURRENT AND ON THE ONGOING CHANGES TO STATE LAW. THAT'S WHERE MANY OF OUR POLICIES ARE DERIVED. VERY RARELY EDITED. SO, TO THE POINT, A LOT OF THE WORK STARTS NOW, WHILE I AM UP HERE, I JUST WANT TO SHARE THAT I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE EMOTIONAL ASPECT OF THIS. I WANT TO SHARE, BRIEFLY, YOU KNOW, WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT, TO ME, AND ONE MANAGEMENT STYLE -- I HAVE NUMEROUS MANAGEMENT STYLES APPLIED WHEN APPROPRIATE -- BUT I WOULD, OVERALL, SAY, I AM A COLLABORATIVE PERSON, AND I WOULD HOPE THAT MY TEAM AND OTHERS WHO HAVE WORKED WITH ME WOULD SAY THE SAME THING, AND THAT IS GOING TO BE KEY TO THE NEXT STEP, BEING COLLABORATIVE, BOTH WITH THE CITY, THE CITY COUNCIL, THE STAFF, AND REALLY IMPORTANTLY, THE VOLUNTEERS TO TAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL PROCESS. AND ALL I AM UP HERE, I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE CHIEF OLAR AND HEAD KNOWLEDGE. I DO. THIS HAS BEEN, YOU KNOW, WE HAVE BEEN, SEVEN YEARS, IN THIS TYPE OF CONVERSATION. WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IT PUTS ON MY STAFF, CHIEF ALERT END ST VOLUNTEERS, CITY COUNCIL, AND I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE AD

WORK THAT THEY HAVE DONE, AND THIS IS NOT AN EASY THING FOR ANYBODY TO COME TO A CONCLUSION, AND I WANT TO SAY THAT I AM HUMBLE, AND I'M EXCITED TO WORK WITH THE CITY COUNCIL AND VOLUNTEERS, AND THROUGHOUT THIS SAYS, KEEP A FOCUS ON OUR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, THE MEMBERS OF THE GOLD RIDGE FIRE COMMUNITY, BUT AS WELL AS THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU GUYS AND REALLY HONORED. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU. THEN, I HAD A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS.

OKAY. ALL RIGHT.

THE FIRST ONE IS, WHAT I'M HEARING, BUT I WANT TO CONFIRM, THAT THE TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT ON ALL OF THEM OPEN FOR NEGOTIATION?

WHICH? SO, THE CONSOLIDATION PROCESS?

YES.

SO LIPID

TO BE SPECIFIC, FOR INSTANCE, THERE IS A PROVISION THAT WOULD APPLY A PERCENTAGE INCREASE ANNUALLY TO SEBASTOPOL'S CONTRIBUTION. I WOULD HOPE THAT THAT WOULD BE OPEN TO NEGOTIATION.

AGAIN, THIS PROPOSAL WAS NEVER MEANT TO BE VAGUE. IT WAS MEANT TO BE A STARTING POINT. SO, YES, EVERYTHING IS UP FOR NEGOTIATION. THERE ARE OTHER THINGS, LAFCO IS ALSO THE REFEREE, TO SOME EXTENT, IN THIS. WE HAVE TO MAKE IT MAKES SENSE. HAVE TO STAY FOCUSED ON WHAT MAKES SENSE FOR BOTH THE CITY AND THE FIRE DISTRICT, AND AGAIN, WE'RE WORKING REALLY HARD TO MAKE IT WORK, AND ALSO BE ENOUGH TO SAY, IF THIS IS NOT THE RIGHT PATH FOR WHATEVER REASON, THEN WE MOVE ON.

OKAY. BUT THE GOAL OF THIS FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE -- THE GOAL IN THIS CONTRACT WOULD BE ON THE MONETARY SIDE TO ENSURE THAT SEBASTOPOL WAS CONTRIBUTE IN THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT TO COVER EXPENSES, NOT TO CREATE PROFIT.

NO. ABSOLUTELY NOT TO CREATE PROFIT. THE WAY I DESCRIBED IT AT ONE POINT WAS, THROUGH THIS PROCESS, NOBODY NEEDS TO BE RESENTFUL OF THE OTHER, AND WE NEED TO CREATE SUSTAINABLE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES FOR THE CITIZENS OF OUR COMMUNITIES. SO, IF THE MAP PROBLEM DOESN'T WORK OUT, AGAIN, WE WOULD PART WAYS, BUT THE GOAL, AGAIN, NOT TO MAKE PROFIT, BUT RATHER, GET THE END GOAL OF A SUSTAINABLE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE.

OKAY. I HAVE ANOTHER PREDICTION. ANYTHING ELSE HERE? GO AHEAD, COUNCILMEMBER MAURER.

COULD YOU SHARE A COUPLE OF THOUGHTS ON HOW TO MERGE THE TWO FIRE DEPARTMENTS HARMONIOUSLY?

YEAH. I HAVE LOTS OF THOUGHTS ABOUT IT. SOME OF THEM OCCUR ON A DAILY BASIS ALREADY AS FAR AS OUR WORKING RELATIONSHIP. YOU KNOW, SOME THINGS THAT WE DO IS, AGAIN, HAVING THAT COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO PROBLEM-SOLVING IS GOING TO BE VERY IMPORTANT. HONORING THE PAST AND TECHNOLOGY THAT SEBASTOPOL, AS A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, IS EASY FOR ME TO SAY THAT IT IS THE BEST IN THE COUNTY, MAYBE NOT EVEN IN THE STATE. IT IS REMARKABLE WHAT THEY HAVE DONE OVER THE YEARS. IT IS SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE HONORED. I TAKE THAT RESPONSIBILITY VERY SERIOUS. I STARTED AS A VOLUNTEER, AS AN EXPLORER, 14 YEARS OLD AT GOLD RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT. THAT OPPORTUNITY HAS GIVEN ME EVERYTHING I HAVE TODAY. SO, THAT, THE COMMITMENT TO BEING COLLABORATIVE, BEING RECOGNIZED AS THE DEDICATION OVER HERE, THESE MEMBERS THAT MAY RECOGNIZE HOW HARD IT IS TO GO THROUGH CHANGE, AND HAVING -- I MEAN -- I HAVE BEEN CALLED AN EXPERT IN THIS, AND I SUPPOSE, BY ONE MEASUREMENT, I AM, BUT I HAVE LEARNED A LOT. I'M NOT ALWAYS A PERFECT IN THE PROCESS, BUT I HAVE A COMMITMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SEBASTOPOL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT TO HONOR WHAT THEY HAVE CONTRIBUTED, AND I ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WORDS AND THAT KIND OF ANALOGY THAT CHIEF DURRA MADE A AND READING, TAKING THE NEXT STEP, AND I WOULD SAY THAT WE HAVE AN EXPERTISE AS A FIRE DISTRICT WHO HAS EVOLVED OVER THE YEARS AND STILL KEEPING A MEANINGFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR VOLUNTEERS TO PURCHASE UP A. SO, BALANCING THE NEEDS OF VOLUNTEERS, BUT ALSO BALANCING THE NEEDS OF VOLUNTEERS AND EXPERTISE IN THAT.

I THINK I'M GOING TO BRING IT BACK FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS. THEN WE NEED TO GO OUT TO THE PUBLIC. ANYONE HERE HAVE -- COUNCILMEMBERS -- OKAY, THEN MY REMAINING QUESTION -- I HAVE TWO OF THEM. ONE HAS TO DO WITH THE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT. THIS IS REALLY A PROCESS QUESTION. SO, WE HAVE HEARD A PROPOSAL FROM OUR CITY MANAGER THAT WE MOVE FORWARD WITH CONSOLIDATION, AND ALSO, THERE'S AN INDICATION, A SUGGESTION THAT THERE BE A NEGOTIATION WITH GOLD RIDGE ABOUT INTERIM MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT FOR THE FIREHOUSE. DO YOU SEE THAT IS MANAGEABLE, REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG THE LAFCO PROCESS MIGHT TAKE? I DO. I THINK THE STIPULATION, TO ME, WE ARE STILL FOCUSED ON THE CONSOLIDATION PROCESS. WE HAVE EXPERIENCED THIS EXACT SCENARIO WITH OUR CONSOLIDATION FOR THE FIRE COMPANIES, CSA-40, WHERE THE PROCESS HAS BEEN FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS, AND WE STARTED OUT WITH AN INITIAL TWO-YEAR CONTRACT, THEN WENT NEARLY 4 1/2 YEARS. I'M NOT SUGGESTING YOU WANT THAT OR HAVE THE TIME TO DO THAT. WITH CORONATION WITH LAFCO, THE TIMELINE, THE ROUGH TIMELINE THAT MARK HAS SUGGESTED, IN AN EFFORT, CERTAINLY, THERE'S SOMETHING THAT HOLDS US UP, WE GET TO OUR DESIRED DATE -- IF IT IS JULY OF 2025 LETTERS WE AREN'T THERE YET, I'M NOT GOING TO CUT AND RUN. BUT IF, SOMEHOW, THROUGH NEGOTIATION OR THROUGH THE PROCESS OF THE CHANGES, I DON'T WANT TO FIND MYSELF IN A LONG-TERM CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT. I THINK IT IS CHALLENGING. WE HAVE EXPERIENCED THAT. I THINK HAVING A CLEAR START DATE, DESIRED END DATE, IS GOING TO BE MORE PRODUCTIVE THAN HAVING A CONTRACT THAT GOES ON INTO THE UNKNOWN. AS LONG AS WE REMAIN FOCUSED, WE'RE NOT -- WE'RE ON THIS PATH, WE WILL WANT TO MAKE SURE WE SEE IT THROUGH.

THEN, MY FINAL QUESTION IS THE COST OF CONSOLIDATION. I HAVE LOOKED THROUGH THIS REPORT. I HAVE HEARD THE NUMBER 15,000, I THINK, STATE, FIRE, CITY MANAGER, AND MAYBE THIS IS A QUESTION MORE FOR OUR CITY MANAGER, BUT I AM ASSUMING THAT CONSOLIDATION PROCESS IS GOING TO REQUIRE THE RETAINING OF THE CONSULTANT TO REPRESENT THE CITY, AND THAT WE HAVE GOT SOME NOTICING OBLIGATIONS, PERHAPS 15,000 OR SO, AND THEN THERE'S THE INITIAL OF HIS LOOKS LIKE - - 25,000. IS THERE A SENSE OF WHAT COSTS MIGHT BE INVOLVED FOR THE CITY?

THERE'S THE LAFCO COMPONENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT, 3000, MORE DIRECTLY, BUT IT IS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, I BELIEVE, OF WHAT YOU MENTIONED. WE HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR A FEE AND REFERRED IT TO THE PARTS OF THE FEES THEY MIGHT REQUEST, LIKE A DIRECT COST OF MAILINGS, ET CETERA, THAT THEY HAVE DONE. THERE WILL BE A SECOND COMPONENT. THINK ABOUT THIS AT A COST OF CONSOLIDATION. WE WOULD HAVE A COST, IN ANY CASE, WHICH WOULD BE FOR THE CHIEF ARRANGEMENT IN THE SERVICES WITH GOLD RIDGE. WE WOULD, ESSENTIALLY, BE IN CONTACT WITH THEM, I THINK, ACTUALLY, YOU ARE LOOKING AT OUR NEW CHIEF IF WE WERE TO PROCEED WITH THIS AND REACH AN AGREEMENT. THEN, HIS TEAM -- THAT IS THE SECOND COST -- AND THE THIRD COST WOULD BE WANTING A NEGOTIATOR TO SUPPORT THE CITY AND FIRE EXPERTISE. BE ON THE CHIEF TERM, THE IDEAL CANDIDATE FOR THAT, BUT IT IS NOT WHERE THAT IT COULD WORK OUT. WE WOULD WANT SOMEBODY WITH THE ACQUIRED EXPERTISE WORKING WITH US AS WELL I DON'T HAVE A DOLLAR AMOUNT WITH THAT. SO, THOSE ARE THREE ASPECTS I AM AWARE OF. IF I AM MISSING SOMETHING, I'M NOT BEEN ON THIS PANEL BEFORE. I WOULD INVITE OTHERS TO SAY SO.

I HAVE A COST I MENTIONED IN CONVERSATION, THAT -- AND A LESSON LEARNED -- GOING THROUGH THE POSTTEST PERIOD, I THINK WE VERY MUCH NEED TO TREAT OUR NEXT STEPS AS AN EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO THE COMMUNITY. THERE WILL BE SOME COST ASSOCIATED WITH MESSAGING, MAYBE HIRING SOME EXPERTISE IN THAT AREA TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL AND COLLABORATIVE PROCESS WITH THE COMMUNITY. SO, THERE'S AN ADDED COST THAT COULD BE SHARED, YOU KNOW, AGAIN, NOT TO KEEP COMING BACK TO NEGOTIATION, BUT AGAIN, I THINK REITERATE THE IMPORTANCE, THIS IS A STEP, THERE'S A LOT OF WORK TO DO AHEAD OF US, BUT ABSOLUTELY, ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY IS GOING TO BE VERY IMPORTANT PART OF THE NEXT STEPS, ALONG WITH WHAT'S BEEN SAID SO FAR.

THAT'S OKAY. THANK YOU. I THINK VICE-MAYOR ZOLLMAN  
YES, WE DEFINITELY HEARD FROM THE  
TIED TOGETHER. THIS ITEM, THEN THE FIRE ENGINEER. I WAS STILL FEELING MORE



COMFORTABLE, ARE YOU STILL MORE HAPPY AS WE HAVE BEEN TALKING AS A DANCE PARTNER? ARE YOU STILL INTERESTED IN BEING A DANCE PARTNER WITH US, GIVEN OUR CURRENT STAFF? **Agenda Item Number: 2**

YES. I THINK WE HAVE ALL NOTICED THAT WE NEED TO INCREASE STAFFING SOONER THAN LATER. I THINK THAT IS WHY I WOULD SAY THAT THEY'RE INDEPENDENT. THE LONG-TERM GOAL IS TO HAVE MORE STAFF, YOUR IMMEDIATE NEEDS, I WOULD CONSIDER -- OR HIGHLY RECOMMEND -- HAVING MORE STAFFING FIREHOUSES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THAT DOESN'T CHANGE OUR PATH EITHER. YOU KNOW, AS FAR AS IF THAT EMPLOYEE THEN, SOMEDAY, IS MY OFFICE OR THE GOLD RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT -- THAT COMES WITH THIS PROCESS, AND THAT'S ADDRESSED IN THE PROPOSAL, AS WELL, AS FAR AS TAKING ALL THE EMPLOYEES. SO, THEY'RE INDEPENDENT, IN MY VIEW, AS WELL. OKAY. GREAT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. YOU ARE WELCOME TO SIT DOWN. THANK YOU.

SORRY. YOU CANNOT SIT DOWN. SORRY ABOUT THAT.

WE HAVE TALKED ENOUGH. NO. I HAVE A QUESTION FOR MARK. FROM LAFCO -- CAN WE SWITCH, MARK, FOR OUR GOLD RIDGE FIRE CHIEF? THANK YOU. HE WAS PROBABLY WAITING TO BE CALLED OUT.

GO AHEAD.

I JUST WONDERED IF YOU MIGHT EXPOUND A LITTLE BIT FOR US, OR EVEN JUST ADDRESS ANY CONCERNS OR ANYTHING YOU THINK, AS A COUNCIL, YOU KNOW, WE NEED TO BE THINKING ABOUT CONSIDERING. WE ALL READ YOUR LETTER AND EVERYTHING. I WANT TO GIVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY.

PRETTY EXPANSIVE IN THE LETTER. HOPE TO HAVE A MORE POINTED QUESTION FOR ME, BUT I THINK THE RECOMMENDATION YOU JUST HEARD FROM THE CHIEF, WHICH IS THERE'S A COMMUNITY OUTREACH PORTION TO THIS. IT IS VERY SENSITIVE. GOLD RIDGE WILL BE APPLYING A PARTIAL TAX ON YOUR RESIDENTS. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'RE GETTING FOR THAT PARTICIPATION. RIGHT? WE HAVE NOT SEEN A FIRE REORGANIZATION GO SIDWAYS DUE TO PROTESTS, BUT IT HAD GOTTEN A LITTLE MORE CONTENTIOUS THAN THE FIRST ONES WE DID, SO I WOULD JUST MAKE A RECOMMENDATION, AND THAT'S NOT A REQUIREMENT FROM LAFCO AT ALL. THAT IS JUST ME WATCHING WHAT WE HAVE BEEN SEEING IN THE PREVIOUS REORGANIZATIONS, AND JUST TO RAISE OUR HAND, WE ARE NOT NEW TO THIS. WE HAVE GONE FROM 40 AGENCIES IF YOU COUNT THE VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENTS DOWN TO ABOUT 20 IN THE LAST 5 OR 62 YEARS, AND I'M GOING OUT TO KENWOOD TOMORROW. IN TERMS OF YOU GETTING ON THE SCHEDULE FOR LAFCO, THAT WOULD BE MY BEST PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATION, IS GET ON THE SCHEDULE, APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMISSION, ASK FOR THE FEE WAIVER, ASKED TO BE PRIORITIZED IF YOU ARE IN A HURRY.

YOU MENTIONED THE FEE WAIVER. IS THAT SOMETHING THAT IS COMMONLY DONE?

IT HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST. IN THE LETTER, I DID WRITE THAT THE COMMISSION HAS NEVER GRANTED A FEE WAIVER FOR THE OUTSIDE COSTS WE INCUR. DURING THE MAILINGS TO THE RESIDENTS, LEGAL COSTS, THINGS LIKE THAT, BUT THEY HAVE WAIVED MY TIME. THAT IS HOW MUCH THEY VALUE IT. THEY HAVE COME IN THE PAST, WITH MY TIME. I THINK YOU HAVE EXCELLENT BASIS FOR ASKING FOR THAT. BY THE WAY, WE DON'T CARE IF GOLD RIDGE PAYS THE FEES OR YOU PAY THE FEES. AS LONG AS THE MONEY IS GREEN.

THEN, IN THE LETTER -- SO MANY CAVEATS.

I KNOW. SORRY.

YOU KNOW, TIMEFRAME.

RIGHT.

IT COULD BE YEARS, IT COULD BE MONTHS. LIKE -- GIVEN RIGHT NOW --

IT IS A 12-MONTH PROCESS WITH A HUGE CAVEAT THAT IF YOUR CITIZENS ARE NOT BACKING THIS, WE CAN GO TO AN ACTUAL ELECTION NOW TAKE AN AWFUL LOT MORE TIME AND MONEY, AND IT COULD ALL FAIL. YOUR CITIZENS HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SAY, NO TO THIS, AND THAT IS WHERE THE HUGE CAVEATS ARE AT THE END, BUT WE HAVE DONE THESE, EIGHT MONTHS FROM START TO FINISH, SO, I THINK 12 MONTHS IS A PRETTY GOOD ESTIMATE FOR WHAT WE ARE GETTING YOU **Agenda Item Number: 2** UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.

I APPRECIATE IT, JUST THINK IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE PUBLIC TO HEAR EVEN IF THEY HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO TAKE THE TIME TO READ THE LETTER. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NOW, I THINK WE CAN GO OUT FOR QUESTIONS TO THE PUBLIC. THANK YOU, MAYOR. THIS WILL BE PUBLIC, AND FOR THE RECOMMENDATION TO MERGE WITH GOLD RIDGE FOR FIRE SERVICE DELIVERIES. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, AGAIN, WE GO TO IN-JIM RISCH FIRST, THEN WE GO OUT TO ZOOM. YOU HAVE TWO MINUTES TO SPEAK. ANYBODY IN THE CHAMBERS I WOULD LIKE TO TALK AND PROVIDE COMMENT ON THE FIRE MERGER WITH RECOMMENDATION FROM GOLD RIDGE, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND. SEAN?

SORRY. I JUST WANT TO READ IT. I WANT TO TAKE ONE TOPIC TO TALK TO YOU TONIGHT. BASICALLY, REACH OUT TO THE CITIZENS. THE PURPOSE OF THE CITY'S PROVIDE POLICE FIRE. ONE OF THREE CORE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE CITY, WANT TO MAKE SURE THE CITIZENS ARE AWARE THAT, DURING THE ONE MEETING WITH THE FIRE AD HOC COMMITTEE HAD WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AS A WHOLE, STATED IN THE PLAN BY ANISA TO PROMOTE GOLD RIDGE, AND HE DID NOT WORK, AND THEN YOU WILL BE SHOWN AS INDEPENDENT. THAT IS WHAT SHE TOLD US. MANY OF US AT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT DRAFTED PRESS COST SAVING SOLUTION THAT ALSO EXPRESSED OUR RESPONSE TIMES AND NONE OF THEM EVER BEING GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT, THIS DECISION SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MADE EVEN BEFORE THEY GOT ANYWHERE. THIS FEELING IS ALSO SUPPORTED IN PART BY DANA RICH STATING AT A DIFFERENT COUNCIL MEETING, ACKNOWLEDGE THAT BY MERGING WITH GOLD RIDGE, THEY COULD BYPASS GETTING CITIZEN APPROVAL TO BE REVOKED, RATHER, IMPOSE A NEW TAX ON THE CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES TO BECOME A PART OF GOLD RIDGE. THE PARTS FROM AND WAS TOLD THAT GOLD RIDGE WOULD NOT GO FORWARD WITH THE MERGER UNLESS THE CITIZENS HAD A CHANCE TO VOTE, BUT THAT DOES NOT SEEM TO BE THE TRUTH. THE WRITING OF IT WAS DONE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT EACH AREA COULD PROVIDE SPECIAL SUPPORT FOR THE FIRE STATIONS TO THE COMMUNITIES. THE PASSING OF MAJOR CAPITAL IS, THE CITY WAS SUPPOSED TO STILL REQUIRED TO PAY THE FAIR SHARE OF FIREFIGHTER COVERAGE TO CITIZENS. DANA RICH ALSO STATED THAT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS HAD THE CITY --

SHOT, 25 SECONDS.

THE CITY DID NOT HAVE A FIRE DEPARTMENT, THEY MAY NOT HAVE TO PAY ANYTHING FOR THE FIRE MARSHALS, CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES. THIS HAS ALSO BEEN CONFIRMED BY THE CITY'S MANAGEMENT AS A POSSIBILITY OF LOOKING INTO THE PEOPLE YOU ARE VOTING FOR TONIGHT. THERE IS ME. THE PEOPLE BEFORE YOU TONIGHT ARE VOTING FOR THE NEGLECTED RESPONSIBILITY FOR CITIZENS IN THE CITY'S FIRE DEPARTMENT WITH A LOOPHOLE TO SKIP THE HEARING OF CITIZENS THROUGH VOTES, AND FOR THE FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE FIRE DEPARTMENT DIRECTLY ON CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES. THANK YOU. THIS IS JON CONDO, SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR 22 YEARS.

THANK YOU, SEAN, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT, I WILL GO OUT AS THEM. CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF, PLEASE?

YUP.

THANK YOU. CAN YOU SEE THE TIMER?

I CANNOT.

I WILL JUMP IN WHEN YOU HAVE ABOUT 30 SECONDS LEFT. GO AHEAD WITH THE PUBLIC COMMENTS, PLEASE.

YET. I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SECOND SEAN PAUL'S COMMENTS, AND I APPRECIATE THE EFFORTS OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR TRYING TO FIND THE SOLUTION, AND AS A CITIZEN, I DON'T FEEL THE PROPOSAL FOR SEBASTOPOL TO STAY AN INDEPENDENT FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS GIVEN A FAIR CONSIDERATION IN THE WAY THAT IT WAS -- THE DETAILS -- WERE PRESENTED. AND IT SEEMS LIKE, AGAIN, SECONDING WHAT SEAN PAUL SAID, THAT THE PROCESS THAT WE WERE GOING THROUGH OF IMPOSING A PARTIAL TEXT THROUGH THIS PROCESS IS A WORKAROUND INSTEAD OF JUST COMING TO SEBASTOPOL AND SAYING, WE WANT AN INDEPENDENT -- WE WANT TO RETAIN OUR FIRE SERVICE, WE WANT TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE WITH FIRE SERVICE, WE CAN'T DO THAT WITHOUT AN ADDITIONAL FUND. PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH THAT PARCE  
WORKAROUND, AND THE END RESULT IS  
DEPARTMENT. IT KNOW LONGER IS THE SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT. IT IS THE GOLD

RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT. AND IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE IT'S AN EQUAL CONSOLIDATION. DESPITE THE FACT THAT WE'RE STATIONED WITH MORE CALLS THAN, POTENTIALLY, THE ENTIRETY.

10 SECONDS.

THE ENTIRETY OF THE REST OF GOLD RIDGE. OUR STATION IS THE BUSIEST STATION, DOES THE MOST, AND JUST TO BE ONE SMALL PART OF THAT INSTEAD OF, I DON'T KNOW, ANY PARTNER, DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO ME, BOTH AS A CITIZEN AND AS A VOLUNTEER. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TOPIC,. NEXT, I WILL COME BACK TO CHAMBERS. OLIVER? I'M SUPPORTING THIS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO THE CITY MANAGER. THAT WAS A VERY PROFESSIONAL AND VERY, VERY THOROUGH DOCUMENT. I THINK THE PEOPLE ARE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT THIS. THIS IS KIND OF THE END OF THE BEGINNING. THERE IS QUITE A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE WE ACTUALLY GET CLOSE TO A MERGER TO THE LAFCO GUY'S POINT THE FACT IS WE'RE TRYING TO BUILD MORE FROM THE STATE'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THIS PERIOD, A DENSE URBAN AREA, BUT PARADOXICALLY, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CAN'T AFFORD TO LIVE HERE. WE HAVE A HUGE PROBLEM HERE, IN ITSELF. SO, I THINK IS REALLY GOING TO KEEP THE CULTURE OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ALIVE, AND AS COUNCILMEMBER LEWIS -- McLEWIS SAID -- CELEBRITY THAT, BUT MOVING INTO A NEW ERA NOW. I THINK WE NEED TO BE PLANNING ACCORDINGLY . THERE'S A LOT OF CENTRALIZATION GOING ON, AND SO, I AM FOR THIS. I THINK IT IS VERY ENCOURAGING. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, OLIVER, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT.

I'M HEARING SOMETHING THROUGH THE SPEAKERS. ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT? I THINK IT IS OUTSIDE.

OKAY. ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THANK YOU. NO MORE SPEAKERS. NEXT, I WILL GO OUT TO! IF THERE'S ANYONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AD HOC FIRE COMMITTEE'S ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MERGER, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND VIRTUALLY OR PLEASE UNMUTE YOUR TELEPHONE TO GET MY ATTENTION. LINDA, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF PLEASE? GO AHEAD WITH PUBLIC COMMENT, LINDA.

OKAY. ANYWAYS, FIRST OF ALL, SO GOOD TO HEAR YOUR VOICE, JOE AND PAUL. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, THE EMTS, EVERYBODY IS ASSOCIATED WITH, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE. SO, AS POINTED OUT TO ME EARLIER TODAY BY -- FOR THE DEPARTMENT -- WAS THAT YOU HAVE SAVED THE CITY MILLIONS, YOU KNOW, AND I AGREED WITH JILL. THERE IS A NECESSITY FOR YOU TO BE HONORED WITH A WALL, IF YOUR NAME WAS ON IT, OR ONE THING OR ANOTHER. BUT, ASIDE FROM THAT, I ALSO AGREE WITH THE FIRST TWO CALLERS, THAT I THINK THIS IS A WORKAROUND, A SNEAKY WAY TO GET THIS PARCEL TAX WITH THE PROPERTY OWNER HERE WITHOUT THIS, YOU KNOW, WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE OR CONSENT. I DON'T THINK THAT'S RIGHT. ALSO, IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE AN EQUAL PARTNERSHIP. PART OF OUR IDENTITY AS SEBASTOPOL, I THINK, THAT WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO RETAIN THAT, YOU KNOW, THAT PART OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, SO ON AND SO FORTH. I AM STILL KIND OF NOT TOTALLY CONVINCED THAT WE CAN RETAIN INDEPENDENCE, SOMEHOW.

LINDA, YOU HAVE ABOUT 25 SECONDS.

THOUGH. ANYWAY, I THINK, BASICALLY, THAT THE PARTIAL TAX THING OUGHT TO BE -- THE PUBLIC OUGHT TO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE BEING ALL OF THE'S GOING TO BE BUILT -- A FEW EXTRA HUNDRED DOLLARS. THEY SHOULD KNOW ABOUT IT. BUT IT'S TYPICAL OF THE CURRENT LEADERSHIP, YOU KNOW, THAT WE HAVE RIGHT THERE, THE MAYOR, THAT THIS IS THE WAY THINGS WORKING THESE DAYS. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, LINDA, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT, BACK INTO CHAMBERS. MICHAEL?

HELLO. MICHAEL KRENECKI, I LIVE IN SEBASTOPOL. I WANT TO READ TO YOU FROM A SEBASTOPOL "WEST TIMES AND NEWS," FROM OCTOBER 29th, 1902, THE SENIOR SEBASTOPOL INC. , IN PART 2, HAD ITS OWN FIRE DEPARTMENT.THE HEADLINE IS FIRE ENGINE TESTED TODAY. THE FIRE ENGINE HOST CAR, HOSE AND CHEMICAL EXTINGUISHERS RECENTLY PURCHASED BY TOWNS ESTES **Agenda Item Number: 2** WEDNESDAY MORNING'S TRAIN. THE ENGINE IS A FINE **City Council Meeting Packet of May 15, 2024** AFTERNOON. IT WORKED TO SATISFACTION, AND EVERYONE WAS SEEING **Page 31 of 57** IT AT THE



END OF THE 500-FEET OF 2 1/2-INCH HOSE. THE TEST WAS CONDUCTED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF DAVID MARTIN, REPRESENTATIVE OF CHAPMAN AND ANY, FROM WHOM THE FIRE APPARATUS WAS PURCHASED. THE SUCTION HOSE WAS PLACED IN AN ABOVE IN FRONT OF THE UNITED STATES HOTEL, WHICH IS BY MY SHOP, AND THE STREAM OF WATER WAS THROWN OVER MRS. GREENS BUILDING ON THE CORNER OF MAIN STREET AND BODEGA AVENUE. THE GENTLEMAN HOLDING THE NOZZLE IN THE CENTER OF THE STREET. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HER HISTORY, SEBASTOPOL COULD NOW BOAST A PRODUCTION AGAINST FIRE. SO, I WANT TO BE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR THAT, TONIGHT, IF YOU VOTE TO CONSOLIDATE, YOU WILL STRIP AND SIGN SEBASTOPOL. OF THE ABILITY TO BOAST OF PROTECTION AGAINST FIRE. THAT WILL BE EITHER GIVEN TO GOLD RIDGE OR GRAYTON. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, MICHAEL, FOR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT, TO ZOOM IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATION ABOUT THE FIRE AD HOC COMMITTEE, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND VIRTUALLY, PLEASE UNMUTE YOUR PHONE IN ORDER TO GET MY ATTENTION. SEEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS FROM ZOOM, I WILL GO ON LAST TIME TO THE CHAMBERS.

THERE'S A LOT OF TALK OF MONEY AND TAXING. HAS THERE BEEN -- FOR THE PARTIAL TAX -- TO WHOEVER WINS THE CONTRACT, DO WE KNOW WHAT THAT COST IS? AND HAS IT BEEN FOOLED WITH THE COMMUNITY? IF WE GO THROUGH THIS PROCESS, AND WITH THE LAFCO GUY , HE SAID, IT ENDS AT THE END, WHERE THE PUBLIC SAYS, NO, WE JUST SPENT A LOT OF TIME AND MONEY, OR WE COULD HAVE HAD A LITTLE FORESIGHT OF WHAT THAT COST WOULD BE? THAT IS MY QUESTION.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. AGAIN, I WILL GO, ONE MORE TIME, TO ZOOM. IF THERE'S ANYONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND VIRTUALLY, OR PLEASE GIVE MY ATTENTION. SEEING ON, I WILL COME BACK WHEN LAST TIME TO CHAMBERS.

GOOD EVENING. I'M BRYCE ADLER, DENTAL OFFICE IN TOWN, BEEN IN DENTAL FOR 32 YEARS. ON HILLSBORO AVENUE, A LOT OF ACTION ON HILLSBORO AVENUE WITH FIRE TRUCKS. DAILY, MULTIPLE LINES PER DAY. PER THE PROPOSAL THE LAST FEW DAYS, WELL THOUGHT OUT, LOTS OF WORK. I APPLIED EVERYBODY WHO WAS INVOLVED. I AM IN FULL SUPPORT OF THE MERGER. YOU HAVE THE EMOTIONS, BUT YOU HAVE THE ECONOMICS. THERE'S A POINT WHERE WE NEED VALUE, WE NEED SERVICE, AND THE VOLUNTEERS HAVE DONE AN OUTSTANDING JOB, BUT AT THIS END, THE TOWN IS OUTGROWING THAT, BUT WITH A MERGER AND A CONSOLIDATION, WE WON'T LOSE OUR IDENTITY. WE WILL BE PART OF A BIGGER TEAM. I LOVE THE TEAM CONCEPT. I THINK THAT IS THE WAY TO GO. IT WILL SERVE THE TOWN BETTER AND WE WILL HAVE A HIGHER QUALITY OF CARE, RESPONSE, AND, AGAIN, WEIGHT. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, AGAIN, BRYCE, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. I WILL GO ON LAST TIME TO ZOOM. ANYONE ON ZOOM WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND VIRTUALLY OR GET MY ATTENTION . SEEING ON, I WILL GO ON LAST TIME TO CHAMBERS. IF THERE IS ANYONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC, AND SEEING ON, PUBLIC COMMENT IS CLOSED ON THIS ITEM.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I'M GOING TO MAKE SOME INITIAL STATEMENTS HERE. WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT FREE SPEECH A LOT, HERE, IN THESE CHAMBERS RECENTLY. I WANT TO REMIND EVERYONE THAT THE OPINIONS THAT ARE EXPRESSED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE THEIR OPINIONS. SO, I CAUTION YOU TO NOT NECESSARILY ACCEPT EVERYTHING YOU HEAR AS ACTUAL FACT. THESE ARE OPINIONS FROM PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY, AND YOU WILL FIND, GENERALLY, THOSE WHO SIT AT THE COUNCIL TABLE SIMPLY ALLOW THE STATEMENTS TO CONTINUE, BUT I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY AS WE LOOK, FOR INSTANCE, WHAT THE AD HOC COMMITTEE HAS BEEN DOING AND REPRESENTS TO THEIR STATEMENTS OR OTHERS ON IT FROM THE COUNCIL, MYSELF INCLUDED, TO RECOGNIZE THAT IT'S A PROCESS, AND IT'S IMPORTANT TO THINK ABOUT THE WORDS THAT ARE SAID BY ALL OF US AND THEIR CONTEXT. IT IS EASY WHEN THEY ARE PULLED OUT OF CONTEXT TO MISUNDERSTAND THEM. OUR DECISION-MAKING -- THAT'S MY NEXT COMMENT -- IS AS A GROUP.EVERYONE HAS SEEN THIS GROUP OF FIVE GREAT INDIVIDUALS, VERY ARTICULATE, VERY COMMITTED TO OUR QUESTIONS. PEOPLE MAKE DECISIONS. NO ONE OF US WOULD LIKE TO BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE DECISIONS TOGETHER. THAT'S THE BEAUTY OF DEMOCRACY. THAT'S THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN. WE WOULD LIKE



TO REMIND EVERYONE ABOUT. IN THE PUBLIC, JUST TO REAFFIRM FOR PURPOSES OF OUR PROCESS, THAT THAT IS WHAT WE DO. IT IS NOT ONE PERSON WHO CAN HAVE THE GLORY, OR WHO CAN BE BLAMED. WE ARE A PROCESS, AND WE LISTEN TO ALL OF YOU TOO. WITH THAT SAID, I WOULD LIKE TO BRING US BACK TO COMMENT ABOUT THIS PARTICULAR ITEM ANYONE WANT TO START? I THINK EVERYONE HAS A SENSE OF WHAT OUR ASK IS FROM OUR CITY MANAGER. ANYONE WANT TO START WITH COMMENTS? ACTUALLY, I'M SORRY. DO WE HAVE ANY FINAL INPUT FROM OUR AD HOC NUMBERS HERE BEFORE WE GET COMMENTS FROM OTHERS? OKAY. COUNCILMEMBER MAURER OR VICE-MAYOR COLEMAN?

FIRST OF ALL, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE AD HOC COMMITTEE. THIS WAS A LOT OF WORK OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME, AND THANK YOU TO STAFF, ALSO, FOR THEIR SUPPORT, AND THIS IS A REALLY HARD ONE FOR ME. IF I WERE JUST VOTING FOR MYSELF AND MY FAMILY, THIS WOULD BE A SLAMDUNK. YES. BUT I AM VOTING FOR THE WHOLE CITY, AND I AM VOTING FOR PEOPLE WHO WILL BE SHOCKED THAT THEY'RE GETTING A TAX AND DIDN'T GET A VOTE, AND THAT IS VERY SERIOUS FOR ME. I AM UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THAT. I PERSONALLY WOULD VOTE FOR IT. RIGHT? ME, FAMILY, YES. I THINK -- IDEALLY -- WHAT WE NEED -- AND I THINK WE REALLY NEED THIS -- AND N, E, E, D, WE NEED BETTER FIRE SERVICES. WE NEED THE KIND OF FIRE SERVICES THAT ARE BEING PROPOSED. THAT'S NOT TO DENIGRATE AT ALL THE FIRE SERVICES WE HAVE HAD FOR THE LAST 122 YEARS. WE HAVE HAD AN AMAZING FIRE DEPARTMENT. I FEEL THE PRIDE AND HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT FOR 32 YEARS. I HAVE SO MUCH PRIDE ABOUT OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT. I RAN ON THE IDEA OF KEEPING IT LOCAL AND ADEQUATELY FUNDING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. I KNOW JILL RAN FOR THE SAME REASON.

[ CAPTIONERS TRANSITIONING ]THIS IS REALLY A BIG CHANGE, AND I RESPECT IT. I WORKED WITH JILL ON THE AD HOC SERVICES, AND I KNOW SHE STICKS TO HER PRINCIPLES AND DOESN'T JUST CHANGE BECAUSE SOMEONE ELSE IS TELLING HER SHE NEEDS TO THINK DIFFERENTLY. I TRUST HER. SO, UM, I'M COMFORTABLE WITH THE IDEA OF THE FIXED PERCENTAGE OF OUR REVENUE. I THINK SEBASTOPOL'S REALLY BOTTOMED OUT RIGHT NOW IN TERMS OF OUR REVENUE, AND I THINK WE'RE GOING TO CHANGE THAT. SO I WOULDN'T WANT THAT TO BE, I DON'T WANT THE COST OF A MERGER TO BE TIDE TO A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF OUR REVENUE. UM, THE PREVIOUS FIRE CHIEF MARTIN SUGGESTED THAT A MERGER COULD BE DONE AND HAVING IT TIED TO A CPI, AND I THINK THAT THAT WOULD BE A BETTER WAY TO GO. THE OTHER THING I THINK FOR RESIDENTS IS IF GOLD RIDGE WAS WILLING TO KEEP THE SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT WITH THE INCLUSION OF GOLD RIDGE UNDERNEATH IT. I THINK THAT WOULD, I THINK IT WOULD SERVE THE COMMUNITY BETTER THAN HAVING IT BECOME GOLD RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT. AND I UNDERSTAND THE INTENTION TO BLEND AND MERGE AND MAINTAIN THE MORALE AND NOT HAVE, YOU KNOW, THE DIVISION AND WHY YOU'D WANT EVERY FIRE DEPARTMENT TO SEE GOLD RIDGE. I JUST THINK SEBASTOPOL WITH THAT 122 YEAR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND SO MUCH PRIDE IN TOWN AROUND OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT THAT IT WOULD BE REALLY IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE SEBASTOPOL, THE NAME OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT SEBASTOPOL WITH GOLD RIDGE UNDERNEATH IT. I'M GOING TO STOP THERE, OKAY?

VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN?

THANK YOU MADAME MAYOR. AND I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE PERSONALLY WITHIN THE SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT. I KNOW IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE I REALLY CARED. MY QUESTIONS WERE INTERPRETED IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. BUT I DO WANT TO THANK THE VETERANS. THAT WAS ODD THAT I SAID VETERANS. THE SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL. BECAUSE I AM A VETERAN, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT INSTITUTIONS LIKE FIRE AND POLICE ARE OFTEN LED AND OFTEN PROCEED IN A WAY THAT THE MILITARY HAS PEOPLE PROCEED. SO I DEFINITELY DO RESPECT ALL OF YOU AND APPRECIATE ALL YOUR EFFORTS ALL DURING THE TIME THAT I'VE HAD THE HONOR TO SERVE HERE. SO I DEFINITELY WANT TO SAY THAT. WHAT I DEFINITELY DID GET FROM THE REPORT, AND AGAIN THANK YOU TO THE AD HOC MEMBER, WAS THE RESPONSE AND WEIGHT. I THINK THE RESPONSE YOU GUYS HAVE BENT OVER BACKWARDS TO TRY AND DEAL WITH THE RESPONSE TIME GIVEN REALLY SMALL, UM, THE WEIGHT IS SOMETHING THAT IS I THINK NECESSARY FOR OUR COMMUNITY IS ON THE OLDER SIDE AND REQUIRE A LOT OF RESOURCES. THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME

TO RIDE ALONG WITH YOU. OBVIOUSLY I WILL NEVER FORGET THAT EXPERIENCE. NOT TO BREACH RULES, BUT THERE WAS AN ELDERLY LADY THAT FELL OUT OF HER BED. TO SEE THE AMOUNT OF EFFORTS IT TOOK WITH THE EMT AND EVERYTHING ELSE, IT'S, IT WAS, IT WAS A LOT. AND I DO THINK THAT IT'S GOING TO HELP ALL OF US AS COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY WITH THOSE THAT WE LOVE WHO ARE ELDERS, TO HAVE MORE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO BE ABLE TO DO WHAT'S NEEDED SO WE DON'T IN HINDSIGHT GO WELL, I WISH WE HAD MORE OR MORE PEOPLE RESPONDED ALONG THE LINES OF THE WEIGHT ANALOGY. SO YEAH, I MEAN, IT IS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION. BUT YES, I'M DEFINITELY IN FAVOR OF THE CONSOLIDATION AND DO LIKE THE, YOU KNOW, PHRASE THAT'S BEEN BANTERED ABOUT THAT THIS IS THE END OF THE BEGINNING, WHICH IS I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO LOOKING WITH EVERYONE TO MAKE SURE THE NEEDS OF OUR RESIDENTS ARE MET. SO THANK YOU.

OKAY, MY, I'M SORRY. WELL, I'LL MAKE MY COMMENTS, AND THEN I THINK COUNCILMEMBER MAURER MAY HAVE SOMETHING ADDITIONAL TO SAY. I WAS REALLY STRUCK BY A NUMBER OF THE PUBLIC COMMENTS. WHAT IT EMPHASIZED FOR ME WAS THE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE EFFECTIVE EDUCATION AND INFORMATION FOR OUR PUBLIC REGARDING, FOR INSTANCE, THE PARCEL TAX THAT WOULD COME OVER WITH A CONSOLIDATION. AND TO THE PERSON WHO ASKED THAT QUESTION, I BELIEVE IT'S \$265 A PARCEL IS MY UNDERSTANDING. CITY MANAGER MAY BE ABLE TO CONFIRM OR MAYBE AD HOC MEMBERS. BUT IT IS IN THE STAFF REPORT. AND, UM, I DO WANT TO REMIND PEOPLE THAT ALTHOUGH IT WOULDN'T BE SUBJECT TO AN OFFICIAL VOTE, THERE WOULD BE A PROTEST OPPORTUNITY, AND IF THERE WERE SUFFICIENT PROTESTS, IT WOULD GO FORWARD TO A FORMAL VOTE AS IN AN ELECTION. SO CITY MANAGER? THE GOLD RIDGE CURRENT PARCEL TAX IS \$265 A YEAR FOR A TYPICAL SINGLE FAMILY HOME.

THAT'S RIGHT. IT DIFFERS DEPENDING ON MULTIFAMILY THAT KIND OF THING. SO THAT'S THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION. BUT I THINK IT UNDERSCORES THE COMMENTS AND UNDERSCORES THE NEED TO EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY AND THE PUBLIC. IN GENERAL I'M JUST INCREDIBLY IMPRESSED BY THE THOROUGHNESS OF THIS REPORT. I AM REALLY APPRECIATIVE OF THE COLLABORATIVE WORK DONE BETWEEN OUR COUNCILMEMBERS ON THE AD HOC COMMITTEE AND STAFF WITH A SPECIAL NOD TO OUR INTERIM FIRE CHIEF WHO STEPPED INTO THE MIDDLE OF THIS. AND HAVING BEEN ON THE CITY COUNCIL FOR FOUR YEARS AND SEEING A PORTION OF THE HISTORY THAT COUNCILMEMBER HINTON WAS DESCRIBING, I THINK IT'S, UM, IT'S AN INCREDIBLE CULMINATION OF A HUGE AMOUNT OF WORK. I RECOGNIZE THAT FOR SOME INDIVIDUALS, FOR SOME FIREFIGHTERS THIS IS NOT GOING TO FEEL RIGHT. BUT I IS IT HERE, AND WE'VE HEARD FROM A COUPLE OF THEM. BUT I SIT HERE AS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO NEEDS TO VOTE WITH THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL'S INTERESTS IN MIND, AND OVERALL, I JUST THINK THAT THIS, THIS PROPOSAL IS THE PROPOSAL THAT SERVES THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL THE BEST IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY INTO THE FUTURE. IT JUST, IT RINGS TRUE TO ME IN EVERY SINGLE ELEMENT AS I LISTEN TO THE PRESENTATION. SO, AND I DO, THE PIECE THAT I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT WAS WHETHER THESE VARIOUS FACTORS SUCH AS THE PERCENT CONTRIBUTION GOING UP EVERY YEAR, WHETHER ALL THESE FACTORS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION DURING THE LAFCO PROCESS, AND WHAT I'M HEARING IS ALL THE FACTORS ARE, AND IF THERE'S A FAILURE TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT ON ANY FACTOR, IT ENDS. BUT EVERYTHING IS OPEN TO NEGOTIATION. SO I APPRECIATE THAT, AND I APPRECIATE THE OPENNESS OF OUR FIRE CHIEF, AND I ALSO VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE PARTICIPATION OF BILL BULLARD AND HIS FIRE DEPARTMENT AND HIS BOARD MEMBERS BECAUSE I KNOW THEY'VE BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN DISCUSSIONS. I ALSO KNOW BECAUSE I'VE HEARD IT FROM OUR INTERIM FIRE CHIEF AND THE GOLD RIDGE FIRE CHIEFS THAT THESE THREE FIRE CHIEFS, THEY WORK TOGETHER ALL THE TIME. THEY ARE ALWAYS THERE FOR ONE ANOTHER. SO I THINK WE NEED TO NOT FORGET THAT. THAT'S MY GENERAL COMMENTS. I'M IN FAVOR WITH RECOGNITION THAT IT'S NOT GOING TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY. BUT THAT IT'S THE BEST THING FOR THE CITY FROM MY PERSPECTIVE. I DID HAVE, I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE A DISCUSSION BEFORE WE END AN AGREEMENT. I'D LIKE TO SEE WHICH PARTS OF MOVING City Council Meeting Packet of May 7, 2024 TO HAPPEN IN THE NEAR TERM AND WHICH MIGHT BE ABLE TO WAIT UNTIL AUGUST. THAT'S

MY GENERAL COMMENTS. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS? GO AHEAD COUNCILMEMBER MAURER. COMMENTS, I'M SORRY. OH, CAN WE, UM, I'M HEARING A QUESTION, A REQUEST TO BE INCLUDED FROM THE AD HOC MEMBERS. COUNCILMEMBERS?

YEAH, I'D JUST LIKE TO ADD SOME COMMENTS AS WELL HERE. UM, I JUST WANT TO SAY IT WAS BROUGHT UP ABOUT OUR CITIZENS AND HOW THEY FEEL, AND I WANTED TO POINT OUT THAT WHEN WE DID THE SURVEY CONSIDERING A TAX MEASURE LAST SUMMER, FIRE POLLED THE BEST IN THAT POLLING WE INVESTED IN LAST JULY. SO I FEEL WHERE AN INVESTMENT COMES IN, OUR COMMUNITY WILL SUPPORT THIS PARCEL TAX OR THIS, UM, FOR BETTER FIRE SERVICE I GUESS IS WHAT I'M COMING DOWN WITH. AND WE DO HAVE SOME RESULTS EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A SMALL SAMPLE TO SHOW THAT. NEXT I WANTED TO ALSO POINT OUT THAT WE KNOW THAT THE THREE FIRE DISTRICTS HAVE BEEN HOLDING JOINT TRAININGS ALREADY, AND THAT'S BEEN GOING ON SINCE THE FORMER CHIEF, MAYBE EVEN BEFORE THEN, SO WE HAVE BEEN, I KNOW ALL THREE FIRE DEPARTMENTS HAVE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER AND THE CHIEFS HAVE BEEN COORDINATING THAT. SO I FEEL LIKE THAT HAS ALREADY HAD SOME OF OUR, UM FIREFIGHTERS FROM ALL THREE DISTRICTS WORKING AS A TEAM. AND SO THAT'S ALREADY BUILT SOME BRIDGES. AND LASTLY, UM, TO A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WHO, UM, OH, ONE MORE COMMENT. I DID WANT TO JUST SAY. THIS MEETING FEELS REALLY DIFFERENTLY, AND I THANK OUR FIREFIGHTER COMMUNITY BECAUSE PEOPLE SEEM TO BE OKAY NOW WITH ALL THIS WORK IN SEVEN YEARS. AND AGAIN, THAT'S NOT SPEAKING FOR EVERYONE. WE'VE HEARD FROM PEOPLE TONIGHT THAT AREN'T OKAY WITH THE DECISION, AND THERE'S GOING TO BE SOME OF THOSE. BUT IT DOES FEEL, AT LEAST FOR ME, BETTER AND GOOD TONIGHT. AND THEN LASTLY, THE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WHO SAID BY DOING THIS WE WON'T BE ABLE TO BOOST, OR BOAST THAT WE'RE SAVING LIVES, AND I ABSOLUTELY DISAGREE WITH THAT COMMENT. I'M SORRY, MICHAEL. WE HAVE A GREAT RELATIONSHIP, BUT WE DO DISAGREE. AND IT IS ABSOLUTELY THIS RECOMMENDATION IS THE OPPOSITE OF THAT. THIS RECOMMENDATION IS SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO SAY WE ARE SAVING LIVES, AND WE ARE MOVING FORWARD FOR ALL THE REASONS WE'VE ALREADY STATED. THOSE ARE MY COMMENTS.

OKAY. I'VE SAID A LOT ALREADY, BUT JUST A COUPLE THINGS. I AGREE WITH COUNCILMEMBER MAURER. THE CONCERN WITH, UM, THE TAX WITHOUT ACTUALLY BEING ABLE TO VOTE ON IT. THAT WAS A CONCERN OF MINE. I MEAN, THAT WEIGHED HEAVILY ON ME. BUT AT THE SAME TIME, WEIGHING THAT WITH THE IDEA THAT WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO, WE ARE NOT SOMETIMES RESPONDING TO CALLS AND THAT COULD BE ANY OF US THAT, YOU KNOW, ENDS UP IN THAT SITUATION WHERE WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO A CALL. AND JUST WEIGHING THAT VERSUS THE TAX, IT JUST SEEMED TO ME THAT IN MY MIND I NEEDED TO MAKE THE DECISION ON WHAT IS ON SAFETY AND WHAT IS BEST FOR OUR CITY MOVING FORWARD. AND FOR ME THAT'S WHAT GOT ME OVER THE HUMP. AND OF COURSE, A COUPLE OF THE THINGS THAT JUST RESONATE WITH ME THAT WE HEARD FROM FORMER INTERIM FIRE CHIEF AND A COUPLE OTHER PEOPLE WAS THAT NO SURPRISES. NO SURPRISES WITH THE FIREFIGHTERS. IT'S IMPORTANT THAT AS WE GO THROUGH THE PROCESS WE CONTINUE TO HAVE THAT CONNECTION WITH THEM. AND WE HAVE TRANSPARENCY AND CONTINUE THAT DIALOGUE. THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT PHASE, SO I WANT TO REASSURE ALL THE FIREFIGHTERS I'M INVOLVED. ALL OF US. COUNCILMEMBER MICHAEL FLYNN AND I, WE CAME AT THIS, WE CAME INTO THIS WITH, YOU KNOW, ABSOLUTELY OPPOSITE OPINIONS ON THIS AND I'M JUST ADAMANT AND ENSURING YOU FROM MY PERSPECTIVE THAT TRANSPARENCY AND WORKING WITH OUR CURRENT VOLUNTEERS IS IMPORTANT AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE A PRIORITY AS WE WORK THROUGH THIS. BECAUSE I KNOW IT'S NOT GOING TO BE EASY. CHANGE IS NEVER EASY. BUT IT'S NECESSARY AT THIS POINT TO BE SUSTAINABLE IN MY OPINION. I JUST WANT TO PUT THAT OUT TO THE PUBLIC. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU. AND THEN COUNCILMEMBER MAURER, DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY? MORE THINGS TO SAY. YES, I UM, I ACTUALLY, I SEND OUT AN ALERT, E-MAIL ALERT ABOUT UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS. I SEND IT OUT TO A LITTLE OVER 100 PEOPLE. AND IN THE VERY FIRST LINE I SAID THERE'S CONSOLIDATION OF **Agenda Item Number 2** SAID AND IF WE CON SYSTEM DATE, THERE'S GOING TO BE A **City Council Meeting Booklet of** MAY 7, 2024 KNOW. AND I RECEIVED ABOUT EIGHT RESPONSES, AND THEY WERE SPLIT. HALF THE PEOPLE **Page 35 of 57**



WERE FINE WITH IT, IN FAVOR OF IT, AND THE OTHER HALF HAD CONCERNS WITH THE LOSS OF LOCAL CONTROL AND BEING TAXED WITHOUT HAVING A VOTE. AND THEN, UM, I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT MY NEIGHBORS. SO I WENT AND SPOKE WITH ONE COUPLE, NEIGHBOR, BECAUSE THEY TOLD ME PLEASE DO NOT RAISE PROPERTY TAXES. SO I WANTED TO GO OVER THERE AND LET THEM KNOW WHAT WAS ON THE AGENDA AND DISCUSS WITH THEM. AND AFTER WE DISCUSSED IT, THEY WERE IN FULL SUPPORT. AND, UM, I WANTED TO REACH OUT TO ANOTHER NEIGHBOR WHO WAS MORE ON A FIXED INCOME, OLDER WOMAN, AND, YOU KNOW, PROBABLY WOULD OPPOSE. BUT SHE ALSO DIDN'T OPPOSE. I'M NOT SURE IF IT WAS HOW I PRESENTED IT OR IT WAS THE IDEA THAT WE'RE GETTING BETTER FIRE SERVICES, WE'RE GETTING AN IMPROVED FIRE DEPARTMENT. AND HOW IMPORTANT THAT IS FOR THE LONG TERM INTEREST OF OUR RESIDENTS. SO FOR ME I'M GOING TO PUT THAT UP AS MY DECIDING FACTORS. WHAT IS IN THE BEST LONG TERM INTEREST FOR OUR RESIDENTS. AND I WOULD LIKE TO ASK, IF IT'S POSSIBLE, THAT WE DO THAT LETTING OUR RESIDENTS KNOW THAT THIS IS WHAT'S BEEN DECIDED, THIS IS WHY, AND THIS IS WHAT IT'S GOING TO COST. AND HERE'S THE REASON WHY OR HERE'S THE RATIONALE THAT THIS WAS THE THE BEST MOVING FORWARD. BEST DISCUSSION FOR WHAT WE FEEL FOR THE RESIDENTS MOVING FORWARD. BUT I WOULD LIKE TO ASK, IF POSSIBLE, IF YOU JUST LET PEOPLE KNOW AND IF YOU'RE NOT HAPPY WITH THIS, YOU CAN PROTEST, AND HERE'S HOW YOU PROTEST. BUT HAVING THAT BE VERY TRANSPARENT SO EVERYBODY KNOWS THIS IS, YOU KNOW, AND I'M ALSO, I HADN'T MADE MY MIND UP UNTIL TONIGHT, BUT I DECIDED THAT I'M GOING TO VOTE FOR THIS BECAUSE I WANT TO GIVE A VOTE OF SUPPORT FOR THE MERGER THAT GOLD RIDGE HAS THAT FEELING OF THEY'RE SUPPORTED BY THE COUNCIL AND THAT IT'S, THEY'VE GOT 100% SUPPORT HERE. AND I THINK THAT THAT FEELS LIKE THE RIGHT DECISION FOR ME. SO THANKS FOR LETTING ME BLAB ON.

NO, I THINK THAT WAS COMPELLING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS. THANK YOU FOR EVERYONE'S COMMENTS. I THINK DO WE HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL INPUT FROM OUR CITY MANAGER?

SO COURTESY OF OUR ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER, SHE SUGGESTED ADDING ANOTHER ITEM, AND I THINK IT'S APPROPRIATE GIVING THE COMMENTS WE HEARD THAT WE ALSO EXPLORE AND PRESUMABLY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GOLD RIDGE CONSULTING OR CONTRACTING SERVICES FOR EDUCATION AND OUTREACH AROUND THE CONSOLIDATION. THAT I WOULD ADD THAT TO THE PACKAGE OF RECOMMENDATIONS, AND THEN I'M NOT SURE YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH THEM ONE BY ONE. AT A MINIMUM, UNLESS WE GO THROUGH THEM ONE BY ONE ON NUMBER SIX, IF WE DO WANT TO FORM A NEW AD HOC, THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME, I WOULD THINK, TO DO IT. OR HOWEVER YOU WANT TO PROCEED THERE, BUT I WANT TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK ABOUT THAT IF THAT'S THE COUNCIL'S DESIRE.

SO I WANT TO -- I'M SORRY.

NO, I WANTED TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THAT. WE WEIGHED THE PROS AND CONS. COMMITTEES, THEY TAKE A LOT OF TIME. THEY'RE NOT ALWAYS IDEAL. BUT IN DISCUSSING THIS, YOU THINK WE ALL CAME TO AN AGREEMENT THAT, UM, YOU KNOW, THIS NEGOTIATION AND THIS NEXT STEP IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND IT WOULD BE REALLY IMPORTANT IN MY OPINION TO HAVE COUNCILMEMBERS INVOLVED. WHETHER OR NOT IT'S ME OR WHOMEVER, BUT IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR US TO HAVE A NEW ONE, BUT A CONTINUATION OF WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING. AND I'M INTERESTED IN BEING ON IT. I WANT TO EXPRESS THAT JUST BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION I'VE RECEIVED OVER THIS TIME. BUT WE WEIGHED THE PROS AND CONS, SO GO AHEAD.

YEAH, THIS IS THE END OF OUR AD HOC IS TONIGHT AFTER THE LONG TERM AND SHORT TERM RECOMMENDATIONS. BUT WE WOULD BOTH PUT OUR NAMES FORWARD TO FORM A NEW AD HOC TO HELP WORK WITH THE PROCESS. AND ALSO I THINK IN RESPONSE TO COUNCILMEMBER FEEDBACK, WE WOULD WANT TO VET OUT AN EDUCATION PROGRAM AND BRING BACK A RECOMMENDATION OF WHAT THAT WOULD LOOK LIKE AS PART OF THAT AD HOC COMMUNITY'S WORK, AND WHAT ELSE ANYONE WANTED TO ADD TO THAT.

SO WE COULD THROW OUT SOME IDEAS TONIGHT, AND THE MORE VETTED, LIKE, FORMAL LISTS OF TASKS I

OKAY, SO MY QUESTION -- THANK YOU FOR OFFERING THAT INFORMATION AND THE EXPLANATION REGARDING THE REQUEST FOR THE AD HOC. TO THE CITY MANAGER, WHEN YOU LOOK AT THESE NOW NINE ITEMS IN THE, IN THE REQUEST FOR NEXT STEPS, ARE YOU GIVEN OTHER OBLIGATIONS THAT STAFF IS FACING, SPECIFICALLY BUDGET. ARE THERE ANY OF THESE ITEMS YOU FEEL COULD OR SHOULD BE LEFT FOR LATER CONSIDERATION? IF FOR INSTANCE IN AUGUST VERSUS SOME THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED --

MAYBE JUST GO THROUGH THEM ONE BY ONE.

OKAY, YEAH, THAT'D BE GREAT.

I THINK RECOMMENDATION ONE WITH A FORMAL VOTE I THINK WILL HAVE THAT DIRECTION TO MOVE FORWARD. SENDING A LETTER TO LAFCO IS VERY DOABLE IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. LIKE THIS WEEK.

OKAY.

IN TEMPLES OF PAYING THE \$10,000, I'M SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH THE CHIEF FROM GOLD RIDGE, AND I'M NOT SURE WHO ELSE FROM HIS TEAM, AND OUR INTERIM CHIEF ON THURSDAY, AND WE CAN TALK ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SPLITTING THAT COST OR SOMETHING. BUT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER WE WANT TO GET THE CHECK IN THE MAIL SO TO SPEAK. THE SHORT TERM AGREEMENT IS URGENT, AND I INTEND THAT TO BE THE FOCUS OF THE CONVERSATION ON THURSDAY BECAUSE WE HAVE TO GET CHIEF DURHAM, I HATE TO SAY WE HAVE TO GET HIM OUT OF THERE, BUT I HOPE HE TAKES IT IN THE RIGHT SPIRIT. I THINK HE DOES. NOW DEVELOPING A LONGER TERM AGREEMENT, THAT'S SOMETHING THAT WILL POSSIBLY TAKE SOME TIME. SO I'D LIKE YOU TO GIVE ME SOME GRACE AROUND NEGOTIATING THOSE TIME FRAMES FACTORING IN THE URGENCY OF GETTING THE BUDGET DONE IN A TIMELY PERSON -- MANNER BECAUSE THE LONGER WE WAIT THE HARDER IT IS.

SO YOU WANT THE TIME CONSUMING PORTION TO HAPPEN AFTER THE BUDGET.

THEY MAY HAVE AGREEMENTS. WE HAVE NOT HAD THIS CONVERSATION. DID I TALK TO THE CHIEF ONCE IN THE PROCESS, BUT THEY MIGHT HAVE MODEL AGREEMENTS THAT WE CAN EASILY, I JUST DON'T KNOW. BUT TO GIVE ME THE GRACE TO MAKE A SHORT TERM AGREEMENT FOR MULTIPLE MONTHS IF WE NEED SOME TIME TO PUT A LONGER ONE IN PLACE. AND THEN ALSO FIVE WILL TAKE THAT ACTION TONIGHT. SIX, I THINK IT'S GREAT THE AD HOC CREATED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND ALSO HAVE AN IN DEPTH CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT TO US.

OKAY.

THE GENERAL FUND PERCENTAGE IS AN EXAMPLE OF THAT. THAT'S ONE WHERE WE MIGHT NEED TO GO ON A LITTLE BIT SLOWER PATH. WE'LL TERMINATE THE RECRUITMENT AND THEN I'LL START EXPLORING AS WELL. PROBABLY NOT AS URGENT, BUT CONSULTING AND SERVICES FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND RELATED ASSISTANCE IN THE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH. I'M ACTUALLY HOPING ON EDUCATION AND OUTREACH THAT GOLD RIDGE MIGHT HAVE SOME EXPERIENCE AND THOUGHTS ON THAT. I WOULD SAY THAT ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR FOR THE SHORT TERM AGREEMENT, FIVE, AND SIX, SEVEN ARE URGENT.

OKAY.

AND WE CAN AND SHOULD MOVE AHEAD RAPIDLY. AND THE REST OF THEM, UM, TO THE EXTEND TIME ALLOWS TO THE EXTEND WE CAN STEAL WITH WHAT GOLD RIDGE ALREADY HAS OR BORROW FROM ONE ALREADY EXISTS DEPENDS ON OUR TIMING.

SO THAT MEANS THAT THE ONES THAT MIGHT OCCUR LATER THAT YOU'D LIKE SOME DISCRETION ON WOULD BE NUMBER EIGHT AND NEWLY ADDED NUMBER NINE?

AS WELL AS THE LONGER TERM AGREEMENT. SO THINK ABOUT IT AS 4A IS SHORT TERM AND 4B IS LONG TERM MIGHT TAKE A LITTLE LONGER TO DO 4B AND THE LONGER TERM AGREEMENT, AND THEN THE TASK ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AD HOC. I THINK WE CAN MOVE THAT FORWARD, I'M JUST NOT SURE HOW QUICKLY WE CAN MOVE IT FORWARD.

AND THEN CHIEF DURHAM, DID YOU HAVE A COMMENT? YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU MIGHT. OKAY. OH, YES, I'M SORRY, COUNCILMEMBER MAURER?

CAN YOU REPEAT WHAT THE NINTH ONE WAS?

EXPLORE CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WITH GOLD RIDGE.

YEAH.

Agenda Item Number: 2

YEAH, OKAY. SO YEAH, I UNDERSTAND THE GENERAL PRESENTATION. MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE A DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON THE AD HOC. WE'VE EXPRESSED GENERALIZED SUPPORT FOR THE CONSOLIDATION. ON THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, GO AHEAD COUNCILMEMBER.

WHAT I WOULD SUGGEST IS THAT IF WE, IF THE COUNCIL CHOOSES TO START A NEW AD HOC, THEN THEY COULD MEET WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH OR SOMETHING. IT MIGHT TAKE AWHILE TO GET BACK ON AGENDA. WE KNOW WE'RE PRETTY PACKED. AND BASED ON COMMENTS TONIGHT, COUNCILMEMBERS CAN SEND SEPARATE NOTES AND THEN COME BACK WITH A FORMAL PLAN. UNLESS PEOPLE WANT TO TACKLE THAT NIGHT. BUT WE COULD PUSH THAT. IT DOESN'T SOUND, UNLESS IT SOUNDS LIKE THE CITY MANAGER'S LIST OF THINGS IS MORE IMPORTANT.

I UNDERSTAND. ONCE APPOINTED THE AD HOC'S FIRST TASK WOULD BE TO COME BACK AND DESCRIBE THE PERIMETERS OF THE AD HOC, LONG IT'S GOING TO LAST, WHAT IT'S ASSIGNMENT IS. ALL THOSE PIECES. MY ONLY HESITATION WITH THAT IS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT NEEDING A SHORT TERM AGREEMENT VERY SOON. SO DOES THE SHORT TERM AGREEMENT NEED INPUT FROM THIS NEW AD HOC?

I PERSONALLY FEEL LIKE IT DOESN'T.

I DON'T THINK IT DOES EITHER.

I MEAN, WE'VE TALKED A LOT ABOUT, I TRUST THE CITY MANAGER TO DO A SHORT TERM AGREEMENT.

YEAH.

I APPRECIATE THAT WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT I DO VALUE THE WISDOM OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN DOING THIS FOR LONGER, AND I MAY WELL REACH OUT AND SAY WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS OR THAT. AS LONG AS WE HAVE THAT UNDERSTANDING.

OKAY. SO, UM, MAYBE WHAT WE'LL DO IS JUST GO THROUGH AND WE HAVE A COUPLE OF OPTIONS. WE CAN GO THROUGH AND VOTE ON EACH ONE INDIVIDUALLY OR JUST GO AHEAD AND HAVE A MOTION FROM SOMEONE TO SUPPORT ALL OF THE ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN PROPOSED. I SEE MARY LEANING IN.

OH, I WAS ACTUALLY JUST GOING TO RECOMMEND IF YOU HAVE CONSENSUS ON WHO YOU WANT TO APPOINT TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO DO ONE MOTION. IT DOESN'T APPEAR THAT ANY OF THESE ITEMS ARE CONTROVERSIAL IN THE RECOMMENDATION, SO I WOULD RECOMMEND ONE MOTION.

OKAY, THANK YOU.

AFTER THE DISCUSSION OF THE AD HOC.

SO I'LL ASK THE OPEN ENDED QUESTION. WE HAVE TWO COUNCILMEMBERS WHO HAVE EXPRESSED, EXCUSE ME, AUDIENCE, PEOPLE, WE HAVE TWO COUNCILMEMBERS WHO HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN BEING ON THIS AD HOC. DO WE HAVE ANY OTHER COUNCILMEMBERS INTERESTED IN BEING ON THIS AD HOC? I SEE COUNCILMEMBER MAURER SHAKING HER HEAD. VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN. THEY'RE BOTH ON THE BUDGET COMMITTEE, SO KIND OF BUSY. SO I WOULD PROPOSE WE ACCEPT THE REQUEST, THE OFFER OF THE TWO ABLED BODIED WELL EXPERIENCED COUNCILMEMBERS TO BE ON THE NEW AD HOC. EVERYONE GENERALLY, ARE WE THUMBS UP? THAT'S PROBABLY THE EASIEST WAY. AND THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY. OKAY, SO I THINK AT THIS POINT I PROPOSE WE CALL FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE ALL OF THE REQUESTED NEXT STEPS. GO AHEAD. I WOULD LIKE TO MOVE THE ITEMS ON THIS AND, UM -- AND I'LL SECOND.

SO LET ME GO AHEAD, OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ THEM, MARY COULD YOU READ THEM FOR US SINCE THERE'S A BUNCH OF THEM?

I SURE WILL. SO I DID GET ASKED A QUESTION IF THE ITEM WAS ON THE AGENDA, YES, THAT COMMITTEE WAS WITHIN THE REPORT, SO IT'S A PART OF THE AGENDA ITEM. SO THE MOTION WOULD BE MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER HINTON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MCLEWIS TO APPROVE THE DIRECTING STAFF TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE MERGER OF THE SEBASTOPOL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT WITH GOLD RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT DIRECTING STAFF TO SEND A LET  
Agenda Item Number: 2  
City Council Meeting Packet of May 7, 2024  
Page 38 of 57  
AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION REQUESTING IN PROCESS WAIVING FEES, STAFF TAKING THE PROCESS TO INITIATE THE PROCESS

\$10,000 DEPOSIT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SHORT TERM AGREEMENT WITH GOLD RIDGE DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD WHILE DEVELOPING A LONGER TERM AGREEMENT. TERMINATING THE CURRENT AD HOC FIRE COMMITTEE. AUTHORIZING NEW AD HOC FIRE COMMITTEE AND APPOINTING COUNCILMEMBER MCLEWIS AND HINTON AS MEMBERS TO REPRESENT THE CITY IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH LAFCO AND GOLD RIDGE AND RELATED MATTERS WITH THE INTERRUPTION T -- DESCRIPTION OF TASKS, ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO BE AT A FUTURE CITY COUNCIL MEETING. TERMINATE THE AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERIM CHIEF. EXPLORE CONSULTING SERVICES FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND RELATED ASSISTANCE FOR CONSOLIDATION AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXPLORE CONSULTING SERVICES FOR EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.

THANK YOU. SO THAT'S THE MOTION THAT'S BEEN SECONDED. I HAVE A MODIFICATION, A COUPLE OF MODIFICATIONS I HOPE ARE ACCEPTABLE HERE. FIRST I'D LIKE TO REQUIRE THAT THE NEW AD HOC REPORT BACK TO THE CITY COUNCIL REASON A SPECIFIC AMOUNT OF TIME TO DESCRIBE THAT THEY'LL BE TASKED WITH DOING. MY PROPOSAL WOULD BE THAT THEY REPORT BACK TO US WITHIN TWO MONTHS. IT COULD BE A WRITTEN REPORT, BUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. BUT WITHIN TWO MONTHS. ANY DISCUSSION ABOUT THAT? OR ANY CONCERNS ABOUT THAT?

I WOULD JUST SAY I'M NOT INTERESTED IN A WRITTEN REPORT, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT ON THE AGENDA FOR FULL TRANSPARENCY IN FRONT OF THE PUBLIC. SINCE THERE'S TWO PEOPLE HERE ON THE AGENDA REVIEW COMMITTEE, I'LL AGREE TO THOSE TERMS WITH AN AGENDA.

SO WITHIN TWO MONTHS --

AND FOR THE CITY MANAGER, IS THAT REASONABLE WITH YOUR SCHEDULE?

I THINK SO. I DON'T KNOW THAT WE'LL HAVE THE FULL CHARTER, BUT WE'LL HAVE SOMETHING.

YEAH, IT'S JUST THE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

YEAH, JUST THE DESCRIPTION OF WHAT THE AD HOC COMMITTEE WILL BE DOING AND WHAT THEIR DURATION OF EXISTENCE WILL BE IS I THINK WHAT WE'RE LOOKING AT. AND THEN THE OTHER MODIFICATION WOULD BE, I THINK IT'S WORTH MEMORIALIZING THAT FOR ITEMS 8, 9, AND THE 4B, WE'RE RECOGNIZING THAT WE'RE LEAVING SUBSTANTIAL DISCRETION IN THE CITY MANAGER IN TERMS OF THE TIMING FOR GETTING THOSE DONE. IS THAT ACCURATE?

AND BY 4B, MARY YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS. THAT'S THE PORTION OF 4 THAT ADDRESSES DEVELOPING A LONGER TERM AGREEMENT. DO WE NEED TO ARTICULATE THAT CLEARER THAN I JUST DID OR CAN THEY JUST ACCEPT THE MODIFICATIONS?

I'M WILLING TO ACCEPT THOSE.

CAN I JUST ASK A QUESTION BECAUSE I HEARD THE REPORTING BACK OF THE TASK AND RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT THEN I HEARD NO WRITTEN REPORT.

I WANT AN AGENDA ITEM WHICH WILL INCLUDE A WRITTEN REPORT.

AS OPPOSED TO SOMETHING THAT WOULD BE SIMPLY ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR AND WOULDN'T BE DISCUSSED.

AND JUST TO MANAGE EXPECTATIONS, I MEAN, THAT TIME FRAME COULD, YOU KNOW, IT'S GOING TO BE DEPENDENT ON THEM. I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE WE RECOGNIZE THAT. WE'LL BRING THAT BACK. BUT, YOU KNOW, IF WE SAY SIX MONTHS AND IT'S A YEAR.

TWO YEARS.

YEAH.

OH, I GET IT. SO YOUR COMMENT THERE, THAT JUST NEEDS TO BE IN THE STAFF REPORT THAT YOU'LL DEFINE YOUR TERM, BUT MAKE IT CLEAR THAT COULD BE MODIFIED DEPENDING ON --

YEAH, BECAUSE YOU SAID A TIME FRAME, YOU KNOW.

YEAH, GOT IT. DOES THAT MAKE SENSE TO EVERYONE? SO MARY DID YOU UNDERSTAND THAT OR DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

NO, I DO NOT HAVE A QUESTION. SO I ASSUME THE MOTION IS ACCEPTED BY THE MAKER AND THE SECOND?

IT IS.



THANK YOU. SO MOTION AS AMENDED IS JUST DISCUSSED TO INCLUDE THE REPORTING BACK FROM THE AD HOC WITHIN TWO MONTHS WITH A DESCRIPTION AND DURATION OF THE TASK AND NOTING THAT ITEMS 8, 9, AND 4B ARE LEFT TO THE DISCRETION OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR TIMING. HINTON?

AYE.

COUNCILMEMBER MAURER?

YES.

COUNCILMEMBER MCLEWIS?

AYE.

VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN?

YES.

MAYOR RICH?

YES.

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

FABULOUS, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE'LL TAKE A TEN MINUTE BREAK PLEASE FOLKS. WE'LL BE BACK IN TEN MINUTES. THANK YOU.

ALL RIGHT, WE'LL CALL THIS MEETING BACK TO ORDER. IT'S ABOUT 10 TO 9:00. WE'RE ON ITEM NUMBER 7. THIS ITEM IS THE FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING RECRUITMENT FOR A SECOND FIRE ENGINEER POSITION. AND I BELIEVE WE'RE LOOKING TO THE FIRE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THIS ITEM. IS THAT CORRECT?

SURE. I'LL GO AHEAD AND KICK IT OFF. UM, SO PART OF OUR TASKS WERE BOTH A LONG TERM PLAN FOR THE SEBASTOPOL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND A SHORT TERM PLAN. THIS HELPED US ADDRESS, IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER URGENT ITEMS FROM SEPARATE PREVIOUS AGENDA ITEM, THIS HELPS US ADDRESS ANOTHER SHORT TERM GOAL WAS TO LOOK AT THE STAFFING ON OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT AND COME FOURTH WITH A RECOMMENDATION TO JUST, I MEAN, IT KIND OF COVERS THE BACKGROUND. BUT MY RECOLLECTION IS THIS ITEM WAS PUT INTO THE BUDGET VOTED ON LAST JUNE. WE WENT THROUGH A PROCESS WITH A PREVIOUS FIRE CHIEF WHERE WE DID A RECRUITMENT AND THERE WERE NO ACCEPTABLE CANDIDATES, SO THE POSITION WAS NOT HIRED. THERE WAS A LITTLE CONFUSION ABOUT WHETHER THE CITY WAS TECHNICALLY ON A HIRING FREEZE OR NOT, BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, UM, THE FIRE AD HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT WE NEED TO FUND THIS POSITION AS SOON AS WE POSSIBLY CAN. GO OUT FOR A RECRUITMENT FOR IT. UM, WE HAVE REQUESTED SOME BRIDGE FUNDING WHICH OUR CITY MANAGER AND OUR CURRENT FIRE CHIEF, UM, ARE WORKING ON, AND I'LL LET THEM EXPLAIN THAT PART. BUT THAT'S THE BASICS. JILL, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD ON THAT?

JUST THAT WE'RE BOTH IN AGREEMENT THAT WE NEED THIS SOONER THAN LATER, WHICH IS OUR SHORT TERM PLAN HERE TO SOLVE THIS CHALLENGE THAT WE HAVE WITH RESPONDING. I MEAN, WE JUST CAN'T, IN MY MIND CAN'T CONTINUE ALLOWING THAT SO THAT'S WHY WE, UM, WERE BRINGING IT FORTH TO YOU NOW.

AND MAYBE THE CITY MANAGER CAN EXPLAIN THE FUNDING MECHANISM.

YEAH, SO I'LL EXPLAIN THAT THE UM, WE MADE AN ASK TO THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BOTH DIRECTLY THROUGH SUPERVISOR HOPKINS AND SIMULTANEOUS THROUGH THE FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP TO FUND THIS POSITION UNTIL THE MEASURE H DOLLARS, THAT'S ASSUMING MEASURE H IS UPHELD, KICK IN, WHICH WOULD BE OCTOBER 1st IS WHEN THE COLLECTIONS BEGIN. UM, THAT, UM, REQUEST, THE FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP APPROVED IT. IT'S DUE TO GO TO THE COUNTY FIRE AD HOC WITH I UNDERSTAND SUPERVISORS HOPKINS ON MAY 1st, AND IF IT PASSES WITH THEM IT WILL GO TO THE FULL BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, I'M ASSUMING DURING BUDGET HEARINGS, BUT I HONESTLY DON'T KNOW FOR SURE. SO WE DON'T HAVE A DEFINITIVE ANSWER FROM THE COUNTY UNTIL AT LEAST AFTER MAY 1st AT SOME POINT. SO THAT'S THE STORY ON THE FUNDING IF YOU'D LIKE US TO TALK MORE ABOUT THE NEED FOR THE POSITION, UM, WE'D BE HAPPY TO DO THAT. BUT I'LL JUST STOP THERE. HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

CAN I ADD ONE MORE THING? WHAT WAS THE TOTAL AMOUNT IN THE BUDGET, BECAUSE THIS NUMBER, WE HAVE

Agenda Item Number 2

City Council Meeting Packet of May 1, 2024

Page 40 of 57



ASKING FOR, EVEN IF WE DON'T GET IT BACK FILLED BY THE COUNTY BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF OUR FISCAL YEAR IS --

SO THE BUDGET, I BELIEVE THE BUDGETED AMOUNT WAS ABOUT \$138,000, WHICH WOULD BE THAT AMOUNT FOR THE POSITION FOR A FULL YEAR. AND WE HAVE A COUPLE MONTHS LEFT IN THE FISCAL YEAR, SO, UM, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT AND A LITTLE BIT OF RECRUITING AND TWO MONTHS OF SALARY, ASSUMING WE STARTED IT ON MAY 1st WOULD BE ABOUT 31,000 FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS FISCAL YEAR.

OKAY, QUESTIONS? GO AHEAD VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN.

THANK YOU, MADAME MAYOR. YES, I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE IF THERE'S A REQUEST FOR MONEY WHY THIS ISN'T GOING THROUGH THE BUDGET COMMITTEE. I'M HOPING OUR GENERAL MANAGER WILL BE ABLE TO ADDRESS THAT. BECAUSE WITHIN THE BUDGET COMMITTEE WE HAVE RECENTLY STARTED THE DISCUSSION ABOUT GOING THROUGH THE STAFFING REPORT AND TRYING TO PROVIDE SOME SORT OF RATIONALE FOR WHY SOME POSITIONS ARE SELECTED TO CONTINUE INTO THE FUTURE, THEREFORE PROCLUDING OTHER POSITIONS RECOMMENDED IN THE STAFFING REPORT. I JUST REALLY WANT TO BE CLEAR. THE EXAMPLE I'M GOING TO GIVE IS IF WE AUTHORIZE THIS POSITION, ARE WE SAYING WE DON'T NEED A PLANNING COMMISSIONER/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT? BECAUSE THESE ARE THE ACTUAL THINGS I REALLY WANT TO UNDERSTAND. BECAUSE I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS THE RECOMMENDATION, BUT I WANT A BIGGER PICTURE ABOUT HOW FUNDING THIS POSITION IS GOING TO NECESSARILY PRECLUDE OTHER CONDITIONS EITHER IN THE STAFFING REPORT OR THOSE WE COLLECTIVELY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING, WHICH IS MAYBE NOT HAVING A FULL TIME PLANNING DIRECTOR, BUT MAYBE HAVING A PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ONE. I'M INTERESTED IN ANYONE'S COMMENTS ON THIS.

ANYONE?

WELL --

THERE'S A GAP IN PARTICULAR --

I'D JUST LIKE TO MAKE COMMENTS, AND MAYBE THE CITY MANAGER CAN FILL IN BECAUSE WE WERE HERE FOR THE VOTE WHERE HE WASN'T WHEN IT HAPPENED AS PART OF OUR CURRENT BUDGET. SO THIS WAS VOTED ON IN BUDGET HEARINGS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR WHEN THE BUDGET COMMITTEE AT THAT TIME WAS VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN AND MAYOR RICH. IT WAS VOTED ON. IT WAS APPROVED IN THE BUDGET. SO I SEE THAT DIFFERENT AS FROM THOSE OTHER POSITIONS YOU'RE DESCRIBING NOW WHERE WE'VE LOST A PLANNING COMMISSIONER AND WE'RE LOOKING AT MAYBE DIFFERENT SITUATIONS MOVING FORWARD. IT IS ALSO WAS TASKED AS PART OF THE FIRE AD HOC'S SCOPE OF WORK TO MAKE A SHORT TERM RECOMMENDATION, AND THIS POSITION SHOULD HAVE BEEN HIRED LAST FALL BY OUR FORMER FIRE CHIEF AND WAS NOT. IT WOULD HAVE GONE OUT, THEREFORE, TO RECRUITMENT AGAIN, HAD WE NOT HAD THE FIRE CHIEF, UM, QUIT UNEXPECTEDLY IN EARLY NOVEMBER IN MY VIEW. SO IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO ADD TO THAT.

THE PIECE I WOULD ADD IN TERMS OF WHY NOT TAKE IT THROUGH THE BUDGET COMMITTEE IS THE COMMITTEES OVERLAP, AND THIS IS ONE WHERE THERE'S, AND I THINK COUNCILMEMBER HINTON EXPLAINED IT REASONABLY CLEARLY, FAIRLY CLEARLY WHICH THIS IS PART OF THEIR CHARTER. ONE COULD MAKE A REASONABLE ARGUMENT TO THAT EFFECT BECAUSE THEIR CHARTER AND RESPONSIBILITIES DO ADDRESS SHORT TERM STAFFING AND THIS IS PART OF SHORT TERM STAFFING. IT ALSO IS A BUDGET ISSUE, SO I THINK IT'S A PERFECTLY LEGITIMATE CLAIM TO BE MADE IT'S A BUDGET COMMITTEE DECISION AS WELL. AND WE CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT IN DETAIL IN BOTH COMMITTEES BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF THE BROWN ACT. SO THAT'S WHY WE COULD TALK ABOUT IT WITH ONE AND NOT THE OTHER AND THEN BRING IT BACK TO THE FULL COIN COUNCIL. AND THAT'S PART OF WHY THE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE NEXT AD HOC IS TALKING ABOUT BUDGET FOR NEXT YEAR, IS THAT GOING TO BE THE JURISDICTION OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE OR THE JURISDICTION OF THIS AD HOC COMMITTEE. SO I'M TRYING TO SEE AHEAD AND SEE LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHTENED OUT FOR THE NEXT TIME AROUND. BUT THAT'S WHAT THIS TIME AROUND, WHY IT'S ONLY GONE TO THE FIRE AD HOC COMM

OKAY, AND BRING IT UP ON THAT POINT WHEN WE HAVE FROM THE NEW FIRE AD HOC, UM TO HAVE THAT BE A CONSIDERATION WHEN

YOU DO PRESENT TO US. WHEN IT COMES TO FINANCES, IS IT SOLELY WITHIN YOUR PURVIEW OR THE STANDING BUDGET COMMITTEE. I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THAT DISCUSSION AND PUT FORTH IN THE REPORT.

AND I'D LIKE TO MAKE A COMMENT TO THAT HAVING SAT ON THE BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR FIVE PREVIOUS YEARS. I THINK WHEN WE HAVE AD HOC COMMITTEES, IN MY OPINION, AND THAT COULD INCLUDE THE WASTE AD HOC COMMITTEE WHO'S BRINGING RECOMMENDATIONS FORTH. THEY'RE THE ONES THAT ARE MAKING, I GUESS DOING THE SPECIALTY WORK, AND THEN THEY BRING IT TO THE FULL COUNCIL. JUST BECAUSE WE SELECT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS, WHICH HAVING BEEN ON THE BUDGET COMMITTEE, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY CONTROL EVERYTHING IN REGARDS TO THE BUDGET. WE ALL HAVE KIND OF PAR OUT SPECIALTIES. THAT'S BEEN MY PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE, AND IT'S GOOD TO CLARIFY IT BECAUSE, UM, WE SHOULD ALL UNDERSTAND MEMBERS ON EACH COMMITTEE ON AD HOC WHAT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES ARE.

SO I HAVE A LOT OF COMMENTS ON THIS POINT, BUT I'D LIKE TO REMIND US THAT WE ARE IN THE QUESTION SECTION, AND I KNOW IT'S REALLY HARD TO NOT, BECAUSE IT'S A NATURAL FLOW, BUT WE HAD A QUESTION ABOUT, FROM VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN, DID YOU GET YOUR QUESTION ANSWERED?

I WOULD DEFINITELY LIKE TO ASK THE GENERAL MANAGER IN PARTICULAR. SO YOU INDIVIDUALLY, AS OUR GENERAL MANAGER, IT'S STILL YOUR RECOMMENDATION THAT WE GO AHEAD AND GET OURSELVES INTO A SITUATION THAT COULD LAST INTO THE NEXT FIVE OR SIX YEARS WITH HIRING THIS ENGINEER EVEN THOUGH FROM SOME OF US, WE HAVE THOUGHTS ABOUT IS THAT THE MOST CRUCIAL NEED GIVEN THE BIG PICTURE OF WHO WE'RE CURRENTLY EMPLOYING AND WHO YOU WOULD LIKE TO EMPLOY MOVING FORWARD. I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM HIM FIRST.

YES, LET'S LET THE CITY MANAGER ANSWER THE QUESTION DIRECTED TO HIM.

YES, MY RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE THE POSITION KNOWING IT WILL REQUIRE REDUCTIONS EARLY WHERE IN THE CITY BUDGET. AND THE REASON FOR THAT IS I BELIEVE PUBLIC SAFETY IS LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S TOP PRIORITY, AND I BELIEVE THAT OUR CURRENT STAFFING IS NOT MEETING THE FUNDAMENTAL BASICS OF OUR OBLIGATIONS. THIS DOES NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM, BUT IT'S A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. I SAY THAT ALSO RECOGNIZING, AND SINCE I DRAFTED THE REPORT OR WORKED WITH THE COMMITTEE THAT MEASURE H IS IN JEOPARDY, AND AT THIS POINT TO MEASURE H AS AN ONGOING FUNDING SOURCE. THE FLIP SIDE IS THAT'S A FULL COUNCIL DECISION TO BE MADE, AND I HAVE NOT THOROUGHLY COMPLETED THE ANALYSIS OF THE BUDGET, SO I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE. [ CAPTIONER TRANSITIONING ] COUNCIL NUMBER HOW IMPORTANT IS THIS POSITION AND WHAT IMPACT COULD OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUE TO HAVE ON IT IF WE DON'T FILL IT? TURN ON THANK YOU. WE ARE ALREADY WITNESSING THE IMPACTS. ONE LEVEL OF SERVICE MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY WITH THE CURRENT ENGINEER, WHICH IS BASICALLY THE GUARANTEED PERSON THAT IS CERTIFIED AND QUALIFIED TO DRIVE AND OPERATE THE FIRE ENGINE. FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, WE DO NOT. OFTEN TIMES WE SEE A MARKED DIFFERENCE IN RESPONSE TIME SPEED AND WINDOW OF RESPONSE ON THOSE OFF DAYS. ADDING THE SECOND ENGINEER AT EIGHT GUARANTEE. FIRST HAVING A QUALIFIED DRIVER AND OPERATOR SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. IT ALSO EASES THE BURDEN ON VOLUNTEERS. AS I MENTIONED BEFORE, ON TRACK TO EXCEED 1400 CALLED THIS YEAR. MANY OF THOSE ARE BACK-TO-BACK. POTENTIALLY UP TO 250 OF THOSE. AS INDICATED BY THE CITY MANAGER, IT IS JUST THE NEXT STEP. IF THINGS MOVE FORWARD AS PLANNED WITH RECOGNIZING THAT THERE ARE CONCERNS WITH THAT. THIS POSITION WILL BE PUT OF THE ULTIMATE STAFFING. IT IS NOT IN ADDITION TO THE PLAN, IT WOULD BECOME ONE OF THE THREE FULL-TIME ENGINEERS IF THE FUNDING IS ADEQUATE FOR THE LONG RUN. THANK YOU.

I JUST HAD A FOLLOW-UP.

GO AHEAD.

CAN YOU SPEAK TO THE FACT OF WHAT YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED IN THE LAST WEEK OR SO?

THERE HAVE BEEN A COUPLE --

I DON'T WANT TO PREACH, BUT I THINK I'D

Agenda Item Number: 2

City Council Meeting Packet of: May 7, 2024

Page 42 of 57

IN GENERAL TERMS, THERE IS ONE EXAMPLE. ON A THURSDAY WE HAVE OUR CURRENT 40 HOUR ENGINEER THERE. THE VOLUNTEER WITH LOW STAFFING ON THAT FIRE ENGINE. A COUPLE OF CAPTAINS WHO ARE VOLUNTEERS MEETING IN MY OFFICE. HAD TO RESPOND FOR A HEART ATTACK VICTIM. THE OUT THE DOOR TIME WAS 11 SECONDS. FOUR PEOPLE RESPONDED IN THAT WAS A SUCCESSFUL SAVE. I AM NOT A DOCTOR, SO I'M NOT GOING TO DEBATE THE OUTCOME OF THESE INCIDENTS. I AM SPEAKING TO THE SPEED OF THE RESPONSE. PRIOR TO THAT ON A FRIDAY, SAME SITUATION. SEVEN, ALMOST 10 MINUTES OUT THE DOOR WITH TWO PEOPLE. DIFFERENT CONSEQUENCES, BUT I DON'T WANT TO CONVEY THE CONSEQUENCES COULD I DO NOT HAVE THAT QUALIFICATION. THAT IS ONE. WE HAVE HAD BACK-TO-BACK CALLS. A MATTER OF FACT I ALMOST MISSED THE BEGINNING OF THE DAY WITH OUR MAYOR. BECAUSE I HAD TO GO TO A CALL BECAUSE OF SHORT STAFFING. I HAVEN'T HAD INSURANCE. I HAVEN'T HAD THAT DRIVER REALLY HELPING THE VOLUNTEERS THAT WE DO HAVE WITH GUARANTEED RESPONSE. THOSE RESPONSES WITH ONE PERSON, WE HAD ONE RECENTLY WITH ONE PERSON THAT SHOWED UP, ONE PERSON FOR A VOLUNTEER FOR MEDICAL AID. SO, IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN TODAY'S WORLD OR INDUSTRY STANDARDS TO DO THAT. QUITE FRANKLY, OTHER THAN PEOPLE IN OVERHEAD POSITIONS, SUCH AS MYSELF, HAVING PEOPLE RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES BY THEMSELVES AND WAITING SEVEN TO 10 MINUTES FOR THAT SECOND RESOURCE IT IS VERY UN-COMFORTING FOR ME AS A FIRE CHIEF.

OKAY, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. COUNCILMEMBER MAURER, ANY QUESTIONS? I DO HAVE A QUESTION. I AM LISTENING TO THE CONCERNS HERE. CLEARLY THERE IS HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS THAT HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED IN OUR AD HOC COMMITTEE AND THEY EXPRESSED SPECIFICALLY BY YOU. I AM ALSO AWARE THAT WE SIT HERE AT THE MOMENT. I PERSONALLY FEEL THAT I HAVE INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION. IMPERFECT INFORMATION ABOUT WHETHER MEASURE H WILL BE AVAILABLE TO COVER THESE EXPENSES. WE TALKED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL AT THE BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE INITIATIVE THAT IF IT IS PASSED, IT MAY TRIGGER LITIGATION WHICH WOULD EITHER DELAY THE COLLECTION OF TAXES OR WHAT ACTUALLY PUT THEM ON HOLD. EITHER WAY, IT IS A PROBLEM. THERE IS A QUESTION, WILL WE HAVE MEASURE H FUNDS TO COVER THIS POSITION LONGTIME? THE OTHER QUESTION THAT IS SITTING HERE FOR ME IS WHAT OTHER REQUESTS WILL WE FACE AS A CITY COUNCIL FOR OUR VERY LIMITED FUNDS. I DON'T YET KNOW, FOR INSTANCE, IF I AM GOING TO BE ASKED OR IF ANY OF US WILL BE ASKED TO MAKE A DECISION BETWEEN A PLANNING DIRECTOR AND A FIRE ENGINEER. IF THE MEASURE H MONEY DOES NOT COME THROUGH AND WE ARE LOOKING AT GENERAL FUND MONEY FOR THESE POSITIONS, THAT IS THE SORT OF DECISION THAT WE MAY BE FACING. I DON'T FEEL LIKE I HAVE SUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO ANSWER THAT YET. I HEAR THIS CLEAR MESSAGE OF CONCERN. SO, THIS IS MY QUESTION. MY QUESTION IS WHETHER THERE IS A WAY FOR US TO FUND, TO ALLOCATE FUNDS TO THIS POSITION FOR A SUFFICIENT PERIOD OF TIME THAT WOULD ALLOW THE HIRING OF A FIRE ENGINEER BUT STILL ALLOW US TO REASSESS THIS POSITION IN TERMS OF OUR FUTURE FUNDING OF IT DURING THE BUDGET PROCESS. I TALKED TO JIM ABOUT THIS. IT I THINK THERE WAS A LIMITED TIME WHERE THERE WAS A POSITION TITLE. WOULD THERE BE A WAY TO SHORT TERM ALLOW THE COVERAGE OF THESE NEEDS WITH THE FIRE ENGINEER POSITION THAT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED IN THIS DOCUMENT. BUT, STILL GIVE US THE ABILITY TO REASSESS IT DURING THE BUDGET PERIOD.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THAT UP. FROM MY EXPERIENCE FROM PREVIOUS EMPLOYERS, THERE IS A METHOD. NOT NECESSARILY A LONG-TERM REVENUE STREAM. I UNDERSTAND THAT. A LITTLE BIT OF EXPLORING AND THERE IS A METHOD THAT WE CAN ESTABLISH. AN ELIGIBILITY LIST FOR EMPLOYMENT. EMPLOYMENT COULD BE OFFERED WITH LIMITED TERM BASIS OR A TERM LOAN. ESSENTIALLY, AN EMPLOYEE IS HIRED FOR THE DURATION OF NEED. I RAN THAT BRIEFLY OVER A PHONE CONVERSATION WITH HR AND IT WAS AFFIRMED THAT THAT TYPE OF ARRANGEMENT COULD BE MADE. HOWEVER, I AM YOUR FIRE CHIEF, I AM NOT YOUR HR. THOSE ARE MY EXPERIENCES WITH THE BETTER AGENCIES IN THE RESEARCH THAT I HAVE FOUND WITH THE CONCERN OF LONG TERM COMMITMENT. OKAY. THANK YOU. CITY MANAGER, DID YOU HAVE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS TO THAT? WHEN I DON'T. I DON'T HAVE IN-DEPTH EXPERIENCE WITH OUR CURRENT SYSTEMS HERE.



IF THE CALLINGS HERE DO. IT WOULD BE HARD PRESSED TO FIND TWO PEOPLE WITHOUT LESS EXPERIENCE WITH THESE SYSTEMS. Agenda Item Number: 2

DOES THE CITY ATTORNEY HAVE ANYTHING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT ANSWER?

I HAVE NOT DISCUSSED THIS WITH OUR INTERIM FIRE CHIEF AND I AM NOT DISCUSSED IT WITH THE CITY MANAGER. BUT WHATEVER BASIS YOU CHOOSE TO HIRE A PERSON. HIRE A PERSON, IT COULD BE HIRED ON A TEMPORARY BASIS WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE POSITION WILL BE LOOKED AT UNDER A PERIOD OF TIME. THERE SHOULD BE ANOTHER OF OPTIONS TO HANDLE IT IF THE COUNCIL HAS CONCERN ABOUT THE LONG-TERM FUNDING ABOUT THIS POSITION VERSUS THE SHORT TERM FUNDING.

OKAY. THANK YOU. YES, GO AHEAD.

IN THESE DIFFERENT DISCUSSIONS THAT WE HAVE HAD OVER THESE MONTHS. ONE THING THAT I HAVE HEARD CONSISTENTLY THAT RECRUITING IS GOING TO BECOME INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT WITH THE NUMBER OF RETIREMENTS SO PEOPLE ARE GOING TO MOVE FORWARD. MAYBE SOMEONE WILL BE MORE CONSERVATIVE. BUT THAT IS WHAT I HAVE HEARD A LOT. IT SEEMS TO ME, COULDN'T THAT PUT US IN A POSITION WHERE WE ARE NOT IN AN IDEAL PLACE FOR SOMEONE TO COME LOOK FOR A JOB IF THEY HAVE GOT ALL OF THESE OTHER PLACES LOOKING FOR FIREFIGHTERS? IN ADDITION, EVEN THOUGH WE ARE TALKING LET ME GATHER MY THOUGHTS HERE. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT WE HAVE ALREADY APPROVED EXPLORING THIS WITH COLD RIDGE. WHETHER WE DO OR DON'T, WHATEVER WE DO, WE STILL NEED A FIREFIGHTER. SHORT-TERM, LONG-TERM. IF WE GET THROUGH THE PROCESS AND WE MERGED, IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT SUDDENLY -- BEANIE JUST DOESN'T EXPIRE. SO I AM JUST WONDERING. I GUESS MY QUESTION TO YOU, AS FAR AS THE CHALLENGING PART OF FINDING SOMEONE FOR A SHORT-TERM VERSUS JUST HIRING THEM.

YEAH. THAT IS A REAL CONCERN WITH PASSING MEASURE H IF IT STANDS. FIREFIGHTING JOBS IN SONOMA COUNTY. EVEN OUTSIDE OF OUR COUNTY, THE BAY AREA, I DON'T REMEMBER THE NUMBERS OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD, BUT THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO IS BEHIND AN EXTRAORDINARY NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTERS. SO, IN THE INTERIM, WHAT I HAVE BEEN DOING ON MY OWN, SOMEWHAT IN-HOUSE IS ASKING OUR CURRENT VOLUNTEERS WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED, CAN WE PULL FROM OUR OWN AND STILL HAVE EXPERIENCE, QUALITY AND DIVERSITY IN THE WORKFORCE MOVING FORWARD? THE TWO CHIEFS AND MYSELF, WE HAVE BEEN DEBATING THIS. WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING IT. THERE IS VALUE IN HAVING LOCAL TALENT. THERE IS VALUE FOR PEOPLE OUTSIDE. ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, A GOOD OPTION TO START WITH WOULD BE TO INQUIRE WITH THE OFFICIAL HIRING PROCESS AND WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED. I RECEIVED A NUMBER OF RESUMES INTERNALLY. I HAD A HALF A DOZEN APPOINTMENTS OF PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT ASKING ME IN TERMS OF HIRING. I WOULD THINK THAT THE NEXT STEP, I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE CRAZY THAT A NEXT STEP WOULD BE TO DO A RECRUITMENT TO ESTABLISH AN ELIGIBILITY LIST. TRADE WENT TO ANSWER THE QUESTION, THE CHALLENGES WE MIGHT FACE IF WE WERE GOING SHORT-TERM. I AM NOT SURE THAT WOULD BE A CHALLENGE, GETTING A NUMBER OF RESUMES FOR PEOPLE IN THE DEPARTMENT. I DIDN'T WANT TO EXPAND THAT DISCUSSION BEYOND MY SCOPE. LOOKING FOR INTEREST. BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST I SEE, I FEEL LIKE WE WOULD HAVE SOME INTEREST IN PEOPLE FOR THAT JOB.

OKAY. QUESTION FROM COUNCILMEMBER HINTON.

I AM NOT A LAWYER, BUT I'M GOING TO ASK HER LAWYER. WE ALREADY VOTED ON THIS. WE TOOK A VOTE AND IT PASSED. WE ARE BRINGING FORTH AN ITEM TONIGHT THAT IS REALLY ABOUT THE COUNTY BACKFILLING US ON FUNDING. SO, AM I MISTAKEN? BECAUSE WE ARE GOING DOWN WHAT SEEMS LIKE A RABBIT WHOLE. WHEN WE TOOK A BOAT WHICH PASSED AS PART OF OUR BUDGET HEARINGS TO FUND THIS POSITION IN ITS ENTIRETY AND IT IS NOT MY FAULT THAT OUR FORMER FIRE CHIEF DID NOT FILL THE POSITION. BUT, IT FEELS LIKE THIS HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED. SO I WOULD LIKE THE LEGAL STANDING ON IT AND YOUR LEGAL OPINION.

WELL, THE POSITION WAS FUNDED IN THE FISCAL YEAR BUDGET IN THE CITY MANAGER INDICATED THAT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS YEAR IT IS FUNDED IN THE BUDGET BUT THAT IS SEPARATE FROM THE DECISION AS TO IF YOU HIRE Agenda Item Number: 2 ALWAYS POSSIBLE FOR INSTANCE TO FUND A POSITION City Council Meeting Packet of May 17, 2024 POSSIBLE TO FIND A POSITION AND OTHER PHYSICAL IMPACTS HAPPENING IN THE CITY THAT Page 44 of 57



YOU NO LONGER CAN AFFORD THAT POSITION. SO, FUNDING SOMETHING DOES NOT MEAN THAT IT IS NOT AUTHORITY TO ACTUALLY HIRE A PERSON. IT IS AUTHORITY THAT THE MONEY IS THERE WHEN YOU HIRE THE PERSON. IT IS BUDGETED, BUT IT IS NOT. THAT DECISION CAN ALWAYS BE REVISITED.

OKAY. SO, QUESTIONS. WE SHOULD GO TO THE PUBLIC. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS? ONE MORE QUESTION . SO WE HAVE INCIDENTS WHERE WE ARE NOT ABLE TO RESPOND, RESPONDING WITH ONE PERSON, VERY DELAYED RESPONSES. WHAT KIND OF LIABILITY IS THAT FOR THE CITY?

THAT IS A DIFFERENT QUESTION THAN WHAT I WAS JUST ASKED. MY COMMENT ON THAT IS I AGREE WITH THE CITY MANAGER, THAT PUBLIC SAFETY SHOULD BE THE PARAMOUNT CONCERN. MY SUGGESTION WITH ANY CLOSE BUDGET OPTIONS WHERE TWO MATTERS ARE IN COMPETITION FOR THE SAME MATTER. PUBLIC SAFETY SHOULD BE A PRIMARY CONCERN.

THANK YOU.

CAN WE GO TO PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE?

THANK YOU. THIS IS PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING FOR RECRUITMENT OF A SECOND FIRE ENGINEER. HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, I WILL GO TO IN CHAMBERS FIRST. SEEING NONE, I WILL GO OUT TO ZOOM. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND. PLEASE UNMUTE YOUR TELEPHONE OR GET MY ATTENTION.

LINDA, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF, PLEASE?

THANK YOU. GO AHEAD WITH YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT, LINDA.

WE ARE ALL IN AGREEMENT THAT SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT. YOU KNOW. THAT MEANS PRIMARILY, OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT AND OF COURSE, OUR HELPFUL VINE -- VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. WHAT I AM LOOKING AT HERE IS THE OTHER THINGS THAT WOULD COME IN REALLY HANDY TO FUND THIS POSITION, RIGHT NOW. FOR EXAMPLE, THE \$1.3 MILLION THAT WAS WASTED ON THE RV VILLAGE IT IS A TSUNAMI OF COMPASSION AND MONEY WITH A CRIME WAVE WITH MY NEW NEIGHBORS HERE THAT ARE STILL THERE, BY THE WAY AND THEY ARE DIGGING IN THEIR HEELS AND THEY ARE STILL THERE RIPPING UP THE ELECTRICITY. I THINK THE CITY IS PROBABLY PAYING FOR THE ELECTRICITY AND WATER. THEY ARE STILL THERE AT THE RV VILLAGE. THEY HAVE NOT MOVED. YOU KNOW, MANY OF THE OTHER RVs ARE STILL SCATTERED AROUND TOWN. ALSO, ANOTHER SOURCE OF MONEY THAT WE COULD HAVE HAD OUR VICE MAYOR HAD FOR OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT, THAT USELESS ARTISTS -- AUDITS THAT WASTE TIME AND MONEY. TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS RIGHT THERE THAT THE IMPACT WAS THAT SHE BULLIED KILGORE INTO QUITTING -- 25 SECONDS.

ALL OF THESE USELESS CONSULTANTS ARE A WASTE OF MONEY IT WOULD COME IN HANDY. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, LINDA, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. I WILL COME BACK TO CHAMBERS. JUST QUICKLY, ERNIE COMPETENT OR, ECONOMIC BUTTER OF SEBASTOPOL. I CANNOT HELP BUT INTERPRET WHAT I HEARD. IT IS A THREE VOTE ITEM. IF YOU WANT THE POSITION, IT TAKES THREE VOTES. YOU CAN ALWAYS UNDO THAT AT THE NEXT BUDGET OR PROBABLY ANY OTHER TIME AND THE CHIEF SAYS HE CAN WRITE THE CONTRACT THE WAY YOU WANT IT. THE FIRST MEETING I CAME TO, YOU DECLARED AN ECONOMIC EMERGENCY BUT YOU HIRED A POLICE SERGEANT BECAUSE HE NEEDED HIM OR HER AND YOU REALIZE THAT BASICALLY PUBLIC SAFETY WAS THE NUMBER ONE ISSUE. SO, MONEY IS IN THE BUDGET. IT IS A THREE VOTE ITEM. I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO STAY WITH THAT PUBLIC SAFETY MOTTO.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT I WILL GO ABOUT ZOOM. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF RECRUITMENT FOR A SECOND FIRE ENGINEER. PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND VIRTUALLY OR GET MY ATTENTION IN THE GALLERY. SEEING NONE, I WILL COME BACK TO THE CHAMBERS.

GOOD EVENING. FOR SOME REASON CITY COUNCIL CHOOSES NOT TO SUPPORT THE SECOND POSITION AT THIS TIME I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO THINK ABOUT ADDING MONEY BACK INTO SUPPORT MORE SHIFTS SO THEY CAN TRAVEL COVERAGE IF FOR SOME REASON YOU DON'T HAVE MORE CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET OF MAY 20 2024

THIS TIME OR LIMITED TERM, WHICH IS SOMETHING THAT CAL FIRE USES QUITE REGULARLY. Agenda Item Number: 2

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT I WILL GO BACK OUT TO ZOOM. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF THE RECRUITMENT FOR A SECOND FIRE ENGINEER. PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND VIRTUALLY OR PLEASE GET MY ATTENTION. SEEING NONE. I WILL COME BACK INTO THE CHAMBERS. THERE IS ANYONE IN THE CHAMBER THAT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT? SEEING NONE. PUBLIC COMMENT IS CLOSED.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE ARE NOW BACK HERE WITH THE COUNCILMEMBERS. I SEE COUNCILMEMBER MAUER REACHING FOR HER MICROPHONE. GO AHEAD.

I FULLY SUPPORT THE HIRING OF THE FIRE ENGINEER. I SUPPORTED IT LAST YEAR WHEN WE VOTED FOR THE BUDGET AND I STILL SUPPORT IT. I THINK WE NEEDED TO HIRE THIS POSITION LAST FALL. OR BEFORE LAST SUMMER. WE NEEDED THIS POSITION. SO, ALTHOUGH I RESPECT THE CONCERN ABOUT THE LONG-TERM BUDGET I WOULD NOT WANT TO STIPULATE THIS AS A TEMPORARY OR IN PERMANENT POSITION. I THINK IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO GET THE HELP THAT WE NEED AND GIVE THEM SOME SECURITY. I MEAN, UNLESS WE HAD A CALAMITY OR SOMETHING FINANCIALLY. WHICH I THINK WE ARE HEADING IN A BETTER DIRECTION NOW. SO, I AM IN FULL SUPPORT. THAT IS IT.

THANK YOU.

WHO IS NEXT?

GO AHEAD.

KNOW. AND I DON'T WANT THIS TO SEEM LIKE I AM ANTI-SAFETY. HOPEFULLY WE CAN ALL AGREE TO THE FACT THAT WE ARE PRO-SAFETY. BUT I DO HAVE CONCERNS CONTRARY TO COUNCILMEMBER MAUER ABOUT HOW THE FINANCES ARE ULTIMATELY GOING TO SHAKE OUT. SINCE OUR INTERIM CHIEF SAYS THAT HE HAS EXPERIENCE DOING THE INTERIM TYPE POSITION AND DOESN'T THINK THAT IT WILL BE CHALLENGING TO DO THAT, THAT WOULD BE, OF COURSE, MY PREFERENCE IN THE FACT THAT IT WILL NOT DELAY SAFETY IN MY MIND IF WE GO OUT FOR A PERMANENT POSITION OR AN INTERIM POSITION. IF WE CAN GET AN INTERIM POSITION, WE WILL HAVE MORE TIME TO GO THROUGH THE BUDGET AND PRESENT THE BEST BUDGET THAT WE CAN TO THE COUNCILMEMBERS. THAT IS MY POSITION.

COUNCILMEMBER HINTON? I THINK I SAW YOUR HAND.

WELL, I THINK THERE ARE TWO ISSUES I WANT TO SPEAK TO. ONE, ESPECIALLY AS A MEMBER OF THE FIRE AD HOC COMMITTEE AND BECAUSE THEY VOTED FOR IT LAST SUMMER, I THINK PUBLIC SAFETY AND HAVING THE WHOLE WEEK COVERED BY PERMANENT POSITIONS IS VITAL. GOT IT LAST SUNDAY. I CONTINUE TO THINK EVEN MORE SO WITH SERVING ON THE AD HOC COMMITTEE. I REALLY WANT TO ADDRESS, THAT IS THE COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS ASK FOR MONEY DURING THE YEAR, IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE FULLY VETTED BY THE BUDGET AD HOC COMMITTEE. I AM AN ELECTED PERSON WITH CONSTITUENTS IN THIS COMMUNITY. I THINK IF SOMETHING IS IMPORTANT TO THE COMMUNITY, I CAN BRING IT UP GOING TO THE COUNCIL AT ANY TIME, EVEN IF IT IS A MONEY ASKED. I THINK THAT IS THE WAY IT WAS SET UP. THERE ARE BROWN ACT REASONS WHY IF I AM WITH SOMEONE ELSE, AS THE CITY MANAGER POINTED OUT, WE WOULD BREAK GROUND BY ROLLING POSSIBLY THROUGH THE BUDGET COMMITTEE. WHEN I VOTED FOR AN AD HOC COMMITTEE WITH A SPECIALTY IN BUDGET, I IN NO WAY WANT TO CENSOR MY ABILITY TO BRING FORTH AND ASK TO THE FULL BODY. SO, I WANT TO JUST MAKE SURE THAT I AM NOT MISUNDERSTANDING. IF NEXT WEEK I DECIDED SOMEONE TALKED TO ME ABOUT AN URGENT NEED, I WOULD GO AND SUBMIT A BUDGET AGENDA ITEM. WE HAVE AN AD HOC FOR THAT. WE CAN DETERMINE IF HE CAN GET ON OUR CALENDAR. THAT IS THE WAY I HAVE ALWAYS OPERATED WHEN I WAS MAYOR. I DON'T THINK IF THERE IS A BUDGET NUMBER ATTACHED TO THAT, IT WOULD HAVE TO BE PRE-RUN AND PREAPPROVED BY THE AD HOC COMMITTEE. I WANT TO ADDRESS THAT. ON THIS ITEM I WILL BE FULLY IN SUPPORT, AGAIN, OF FILLING THIS POSITION FOR THE LONG-TERM, NOT FOR THE SHORT TERM. THANK YOU.

I'M GOING TO CHIME IN HERE . FULLY IN SUPPORT OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN PRESENTED HERE. IN TERMS OF THIS POSITION I HAVEN'T YET SEEN FULL BUDGET NUMBERS AND I HAVE HAD CONCERNS ABOUT THE CITY MANAGER ABOUT IF HE FEELS LIKE HE IS FULLY INFORMED ENOUGH ON THE VARIOUS POSITIONS Agenda Item Number: 2  
City Council Meeting Packet of May 7, 2024  
Page 46 of 57

AND DECISIONS WE MIGHT NEED TO MAKE AS A FULL CITY COUNCIL, CONSIDERING ALL OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. SO, THAT IS WHY FOR ME, ESPECIALLY HAVING HEARD WHAT OUR INTERIM CHIEF SAID IN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION OF WELL, WILL THERE BE A CHALLENGE FOR RECRUITING? HE IS NOT CERTAIN ABOUT IT, BUT I THINK WE CAN TRUST HIS INSTINCTS. HE HAS RECEIVED A LOT OF INTEREST. SO, THAT IS MY THOUGHT. WE GET THE HEALTH AND SAFETY NEEDS COVERED. WE ALLOW IT TO BE REASSESSED DURING THE BUDGET PROCESS WHEN ALL OF US CAN CONSIDER AS COUNCILMEMBER HINTON WAS PROPOSING THAT WE ALL CONSIDER ALL OF THE INFORMATION AS A GROUP. SO, TO ME, THAT SEEMS LIKE A SOLUTION THAT ALLOWS US TO COVER THE HEALTH AND SAFETY NEEDS AND ALSO BE FULLY INFORMED IN THE MIDST OF A CRISIS OF THE IMPLICATION OF OUR DECISIONS. SO, THAT IS MY POSITION HERE. IN TERMS OF THE BUDGET BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT UP, THE BUDGET VERSUS FIRE AD HOC COMMITTEE ISSUES, WHICH ISSUES GO TO WHICH? I HAVE ALWAYS FELT AND EXPERIENCED ON THIS COUNCIL THAT THE SUBJECT OTHER ISSUES GO TO THE SUBJECT MATTER AD HOC. THAT WOULD BE THE FIRE AD HOC IN THIS CASE. BUT THE FIRE AD HOC IS NOT TASKED WITH UNDERSTANDING OR TRYING TO ASSESS A PARTICULAR BUDGETARY ITEM WITHIN THE BIGGER BUDGETARY CONCERNS OF THE CITY. SO, THE PRIOR AD HOC SAYS THAT THE FIRE ENGINEER IS SUPER IMPORTANT, AS -- AS YOU HAVE CLEARLY ARTICULATED. IT BECOMES CAN WE AFFORD IT? HERE WE ARE. IF IT HAD GONE THROUGH THE BUDGET COMMITTEE, I WOULD HAVE BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS. INSTEAD I JUST HAVE TO MAKE MY BEST DECISION. SO, I DON'T FEEL THAT I AM PERSONALLY IN A DIFFICULT DECISION, BUT I DO FEEL THAT THE BUDGET COMMITTEE WILL BENEFIT FROM IT. SO, YES. COUNCILMEMBER Mc LEWIS.

I AM FINISHED. THAT IS FINE. THANK YOU.

SO, MY COMMENTS ARE THE CITY HAS A DUTY TO ALL RESIDENTS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SAFETY. I MEAN, IN MY MIND THAT IS TOP PRIORITY. SECONDLY, AS A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST FOR 30 YEARS, I WILL ALWAYS VOTE FOR SAFETY ABOVE ANYTHING ELSE. I UNDERSTAND THE IMPLICATIONS OF NOT ARRIVING IN TIME TO DO CPR. YOU HAVE ABOUT THREE MINUTES BEFORE YOU START TO HAVE AN ANOXIC EVENT AND PEOPLE BECOME ALTERED FOR LIFE. SO, I WILL ALWAYS VOTE FOR SAFETY. I AM IN SUPPORT OF THIS AND I AM ACTUALLY MAKING A MOTION RIGHT NOW THAT WE PASS IT WITH THE FULL-TIME POSITION, OPTION ONE, I BELIEVE. THE FULL-TIME POSITION. I AM MAKING A MOTION RIGHT NOW TO PASS THAT AS SUGGESTED.

I WILL SECOND THAT.

OKAY. ANY DISCUSSION AT THIS POINT? IF YOU COULD PLEASE HANDLE THE VOTE.

THANK YOU. SO MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER McLEWIS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAURER. STAFF TO REVIEW AND FILL THE VACANT FIRE ENGINEER POSITION IMMEDIATELY TO ENSURE THAT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IS STAFFED WITH -- DURING THE DAY SEVEN DAYS A WEEK.

COUNCILMEMBER HINTON? COUNCILMEMBER MAURER? VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN? DIANA GARDNER RICH?

MOTION PASSES 4-1 WITH COUNCILMEMBER HINTON, COUNCILMEMBER MAURER, DIANA GARDNER RICH , AND VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN IN OPPOSITION.

WE ARE IN OUR NEXT ITEM. I AM ASTOUNDED WE ARE ACTUALLY GETTING INTO. THIS WOULD BE THE ITEM NUMBER EIGHT. THE ZOOM OR IN-PERSON DISCUSSION. I BELIEVE THAT IT IS SUSPENSION OF ZOOM VIRTUAL FORMAT FOR CITY MEETINGS. THIS IS BEING BROUGHT FORWARD BY ME. SO, I WILL TAKE THE LEAD WITH DISCUSSION ON THIS ITEM. THIS ITEM HAS BEEN BEFORE US A COUPLE OF TIMES. I THINK WE ARE ALL FAIRLY WELL INFORMED OF THE OPTIONS HERE. IN A THUMBNAIL SKETCH, MY SUMMARY IS THAT I BELIEVE WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS AND FREE SPEECH. I ALSO THINK THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE PROTECT THOSE RIGHTS FOR THE INDIVIDUALS WHO LIVE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY. MEETING SEBASTOPOL AND THE GREATER WEST SONOMA COUNTY COMMUNITY AND PROVIDE A SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS. MY CONCERN IN THE ZOOMBOMBINGS THAT WE HAVE SEEN RECENTLY IT HAS HAD SUCH A DISRUPTIVE IMPACT ON OUR MEETINGS THAT IT ACTUALLY HAS RESULTED, AS I'VE BEEN HEARD BY MANY PEOPLE, THAT MANY PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY ARE BEING PREVENTED FROM BEING HERE TO SHARE THEIR OPINIONS AND IN FACT, A NUMBER OF THEM HAVE DECIDED THAT



THEY WILL NOT BE HERE IN PERSON TO SHARE THEIR OPINIONS. SO THE QUESTION WE HAVE BEFORE US TONIGHT IS WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THAT? WE HAVE ADDRESSED THIS ISSUE MANY TIMES IN THE PAST. BUT THE RECENT ZOOMBOMBINGS I THINK ARE PARTICULARLY -- HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY DISTURBING AND DISRUPTIVE. SO, WHAT I HAVE ASKED IS FOR A DISCUSSION ABOUT WHETHER WE SHOULD CONTINUE ZOOM, THAT WOULD BE ONE OPTION. ZOOM PARTICIPATION. LET ME BE CLEAR. EITHER WAY, WE CONTINUE LIVE STREAM. THAT IS NOT A QUESTION. WE CONTINUE THE ABILITY OF OUR PUBLIC TO OBSERVE OUR MEETINGS IN REAL TIME. WHAT IS BEING ASKED HERE IS IF THEY SHOULD ALSO BE ALLOWED TO MAKE COMMENT DURING MEETINGS VIA ZOOM. SO, THE ONE OPTION IS YES. THEY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENTS VIA ZOOM AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST. SHE HAS DONE EVERYTHING SHE CAN TO PROTECT US FROM THE UNEXPECTED. THE SECOND WOULD BE THAT WE SAY NO. WE ARE NO LONGER GOING TO HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT VIA ZOOM, PERMANENTLY. WE ARE DONE WITH IT. THE THIRD ONE IS THAT WE SAY THAT WE ARE NOT GOING TO ALLOW PUBLIC COMMENT VIA ZOOM FOR A MINUTE PERIOD. FOR EXAMPLE, I CANNOT REMEMBER WHAT I PUT IN HERE. SIX MONTHS? ANYWAY. FOR SOME LIMITED AMOUNT OF TIME. THOSE ARE THE THREE OPTIONS. ANY QUESTIONS ON THOSE OPTIONS FOR THIS ITEM? OKAY. THEN I THINK WE GO OUT TO PUBLIC COMMENT.

THANK YOU, MAYOR. AS STATED, THIS IS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF SUSPENSION OF ZOOM VIRTUAL FORMAT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT IN THE CHAMBERS.

THE INTERESTING THING. I ACTUALLY HAVE A COMMENT , NOT FOR U.S., BUT FOR THE TECHNICAL GUY. IN OTHER SITUATIONS I HAVE BEEN IN, OTHER PLACES HAVE MUTED EVERYONE AND ALLOWED NO ONE TO UNMUTE THEMSELVES UNLESS MAYBE MARY CAN DIRECT THE PERSON TO UNMUTE IT WILL PROTECT THIS ORGANIZATION FROM BEING BOMBED. THAT SEEMS LIKE A VERY SIMPLE PROCESS. I WOULD LIKE TO BE CORRECTED IF I AM WRONG IN THAT PROCESS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT. I WILL GO OUT TO ZOOM. THE FIRST SPEAKER I HAVE IS LINDA. LINDA, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF, PLEASE?

I HAD THE MISFORTUNE OF TRYING TO ATTEND THE MEETING WHERE YOU ADDRESS THE BUDGET. WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED. THE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS AND BY THE GENTLEMAN IN THE CHAMBERS, THAT IS WHAT YOU DO. YOU UNMUTE US ONE AT A TIME. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT WE ARE GOING TO SAY. ONE WOMAN STARTED OUT WITH A VERY CLEAR THING ABOUT BEING TRANSGENDER AND SHE SOUNDED LIKE SHE WAS GOING TO SAY SOMETHING USEFUL AND THEN SNUCK IN WITH THESE AWFUL COMMENTS. BUT, I STILL OPPOSED TO GOING ZOOM. THE REASON IS, I DON'T DRIVE AT NIGHT. LOOK WHAT TIME IT IS. DARK AS HECK. IT IS 9:30. SO, I CANNOT ATTEND PERSONS IN MEETINGS. I DID NOT REALIZE YOU WERE HAVING THEM ON YOUTUBE OR SOMETHING SO THAT WE CAN WATCH THE STREAMING VERSION OF IT. BUT I THINK THAT IT TAKES AWAY THOSE WHO DON'T DRIVE AT NIGHT OR DON'T DRIVE AT ALL OR DON'T WANT TO DRIVE FROM ATTENDING MEETINGS. WE HAVE USEFUL COMMENTS FROM SOMEBODY FROM BODEGA BAY. IT EVEN ALLOWED SOMEONE FROM OUR WEST COUNTY TO MAKE A COMMENT THAT WAS A USEFUL COMMENT. NOT A RUDE COMMENT. YOU ARE PROTECTING THOSE PEOPLE'S FREEDOM OF SPEECH. IN A WAY YOU ARE ALLOWING THEM TO WIN.

THANK YOU, LINDA FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT I WILL COME BACK AND CHAMBER. IF THERE IS ANYONE IN CHAMBERS I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS ITEM? I WILL GO BACK OUT TO ZOOM. GO AHEAD, PLEASE.

MY NAME IS MARTIN REED. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT MAYBE THIS IS NOT A BINARY ISSUE THAT MAY BE PEOPLE WHO ARE PREAPPROVED, SUCH AS GLINDA. PEOPLE THAT WE KNOW WHO LIVE IN THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL COULD HAVE THE ABILITY TO WATCH A ZOOM LIVE AND ALSO COMMON. I HAVEN'T SEEN A LOT OF THE RECENT ZOOMBOMBINGS. BUT MY UNDERSTANDING IS THESE ARE PEOPLE THAT DO NOT EVEN RESIDE WITHIN SONOMA COUNTY. SO, MAYBE THERE IS A MIDDLE GROUND WHERE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PREAPPROVED AND THEY ARE ABLE TO DO SO BECAUSE THEY CANNOT DRIVE AT NIGHT. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT I WOULD **Agenda Item Number: 2** COM .

LORETTA, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF, **City Council Meeting Packet of May 7, 2024** TIMER? YES, I CAN. THANK YOU.



I ALWAYS WATCH ON ZOOM . I AM IN FAVOR OF KEEPING IT. **Agenda Item Number: 2**  
I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOU, CAN YOU RESET HER TIME, MARY. WE CANNOT HEAR YOU. YOU ARE VERY MUTED.

YOU CANNOT MUTE A VIDEO WHILE SOMEONE'S HAND IS RAISED. MAYBE SPEAK LOUDER. CAN YOU HEAR ME BETTER?

I AM SOME SORT OF KEEPING ZOOM AND I ALWAYS MAKE A COMMENT. IT WAS INTERESTING A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO WHEN THERE WAS THAT GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO WERE THERE TO PROTEST. ONE OF THE GENTLEMAN THAT HAPPENED TO TALK TO ME SAID LAST WEEK WHEN WE WERE IN SACRAMENTO AT THE MEETING. OBVIOUSLY, THESE PEOPLE WERE NOT FROM OUR AREA. AS LONG AS WE KEEP THE TOPIC ON OUR AGENDA THAT PERTAINS TO THE BUSINESS OF SEBASTOPOL I THINK THE PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE OF OUR AREA WON'T BE INTERESTED IN THEY WILL LEAVE US ALONE. WE ARE ALL ADULTS. AS NASTY AS IT IS, THAT IS PART OF WHAT HAPPENS AND GO ON TO THE NEXT PERSON. I AM IN FAVOR OF KEEPING ZOOM. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT SPEAKER I WILL COME IN CHAMBERS. ALL OF HER?

YEAH. I AM IN FAVOR OF KEEPING ZOOM BUT I THINK I SAID THIS BEFORE HERE . COLLABORATION ALL INTERACTION IS ONE OF THE COOLEST THINGS IN OPPORTUNITY AS IT SAYS ON THE WEBSITE. THE CITY WEBSITE. IF YOU JUST HAVE PEOPLE WATCHING ON TELEVISION THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO COMMENT, THAT IS NOT PARTICIPATING AT ALL. WE HAVE A LOT OF ELDERLY PEOPLE HERE WHO CANNOT DRIVE AT NIGHT AS WE ALREADY HEARD. WE HAVE PEOPLE THAT ARE INVALIDS, SO ON AND SO FORTH. PEOPLE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN. IT GOES ON AND ON AND ON. WE HAVE A REMARKABLY SMALL NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM TONIGHT WHICH SPEAKS VOLUMES. NOT MANY ON ZOOM EITHER. IF YOU PUT INTERNATIONAL CONFLICTS ON THE AGENDA, YOU CAN EXPECT TO HAVE PEOPLE SAYING SOME PRETTY AGGRESSIVE THINGS THROUGH THE INTERNET. IT IS LIKE BREAD AND BUTTER. THEY GO TOGETHER. SO, I AGREE WITH WHAT LORETTA JUST SAID. IF IT IS CITY BUSINESS, YOU WILL HAVE KIDS MAKING PARTING NOISES AND QUOTING JAMES BOND OR WHATEVER. ONCE YOU START INVITING PEOPLE'S OPINIONS ABOUT GEOPOLITICAL EVENTS ON THE PLANET AND TRAGEDIES AND SO ON AND SO FORTH, IT GETS ROUGH REALLY, REALLY QUICKLY. THAT WAS A VERY RISKY THING TO DO. IT IS CERTAINLY NO EXCUSE TO CUT AWAY PEOPLE'S FREE SPEECH. I AM BARELY STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF FREE SPEECH AND I AM STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF MORE PARTICIPATION BY LOCAL PEOPLE AND MORE ENGAGEMENT. THIS WOULD BE A HUGE STEP BACKWARDS FOR THAT. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT AND I WILL GO OUT TO ZOOM. ROBERT, CAN YOU UNMUTE YOURSELF, PLEASE? THANK YOU. CAN YOU SEE THE TIMER?

I CAN. CAN YOU MAKE?

I CAN.

GO AHEAD WITH YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE. TRY TO BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE LAST AGENDA CHANGE BUT THE FIRST AGENDA YOU PUT UP FOR THIS MEETING I HAD THE COMPLETE RATIONALE FOR WHY YOU CAN'T STOP DOING THIS. YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THERE MAY BE MORE PEOPLE AT THIS MEETING THE AND CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IN THE FACILITIES THAT WE HAVE. YOU INVITED PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ZOOM. THAT IS AN OPTION THAT YOU HAVE THAT YOU WOULD NOT HAVE IF YOU CHOSE TO MOVE FORWARD AND AND MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION. I THINK IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS, WATER AND SEWER BUDGET AND FURTHER DISCUSSIONS AROUND THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. BOTH OF THOSE ACTIONS, THE POPULATION OF SEBASTOPOL CAN BLOCK THOSE WITH A PROTEST AND PUT YOU INTO A VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION OF HAVING TO GO WITH A FORMAL VOTE TO THE EXTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ZOOM. YOU SHOULD START A MARKETING CAMPAIGN ON THAT. THE MORE PEOPLE I CAN HEAR ABOUT IT AND TALK ABOUT IT AND RAISE ISSUES AND CONCERNS. THE LESS LIKELY YOU ARE TO FIND YOURSELF FACED WITH PROTESTS ON ISSUES THAT YOU MISSED BECAUSE THE COMMUNITY WASN'T PARTICIPATING. I THINK WRITTEN COMMENTS ARE GREAT. THE MAYOR HAS SUGGESTED THAT IS A WONDERFUL SOURCE, EVEN AFTER THE MEETING DECISIONS ARE MADE, **Agenda Item Number: 2**  
I HAVE TO SAY, I WRITE A LOT AND IT RARELY **City Council Meeting Packet of Mex 7, 2024**  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR ANYTHING BACK OTHER THAN FROM COUNCIL MEMBER MAURER. **Page 49 of 57**

DOESN'T GIVE YOU THE SAME FEELING OF PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION YOU GET WHEN YOU MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT . I THINK THAT IS GOING TO BE IMPORTANT INTO THESE ISSUES THAT ARE REALLY BIG BECAUSE THE PUBLIC CAN PROTEST AND PUT YOU IN A BIND WHERE YOU HAVE TO GO OUT AND PUT IT ON THE BALLOT. NOW IS THE TIME TO START GETTING MORE AND MORE PEOPLE TO SAY WHAT THEY FEEL AND HOW THEY FEEL AT THESE MEETINGS. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, ROBERT, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. I WILL COME BACK INTO CHAMBERS IF THERE IS ANYONE IN CHAMBERS I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT. SEEING NONE, I WILL GO BACK OUT TO ZOOM. CAN YOU AND YOURSELF, PLEASE?

THANK YOU. GO AHEAD WITH YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT.

-- CORDED LANDLINE PHONE TO HOOK ME UP AND PARTICIPATE IN THESE COUNCIL MEETINGS AND ZOOM. WE HAD PREVIOUS COLORS THAT WERE ALL WONDERFULLY ARCTIC. THE REASON FOR KEEPING ZOOM IN THE COMMUNITY EVEN MORE. THAT IS IMPORTANT. BUT THEY PUT THIS BACK ON THE AGENDA AND IT HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED, MONTHS AGO, IF I RECALL CORRECTLY. TO KEEP ZOOM ALIVE AND WELL AND AVAILABLE. I'M TELLING YOU, HER STUPIDITY AGAIN IN TRYING TO ME AND OTHERS. THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND THE SOUND IS PRETTY GOOD TONIGHT, MOST OF THE TIME EXCEPT FOR PEOPLE AT THE MIC SOMETIMES. I RELY ON ZOOM FOR PARTICIPATION. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT AND I WILL COME BACK INTO ZOOM. THERE IS ANYONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS ITEM. SEEING NONE, I WILL GO TO ZOOM. MARY, CAN YOU AND YOURSELF, PLEASE?

YES.

CAN YOU SEE THE TIMER?

NO. I WILL JUMP IN WHEN YOU HAVE THAT 30 SECONDS LEFT.

I AGREE WITH ROBERT, LORETTA, LINDA. THIS HAS BEEN VOTED ON BEFORE AND I THINK IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO LEARN ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE WATER AND SEWER. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE BUDGET. ALL OF THAT NEEDS TO BE OPEN TO PEOPLE TO LISTEN TO WHAT THE COUNCIL IS TALKING ABOUT AND THEN HAVE THEIR OPINION. IT DOESN'T WORK TO JUST WRITE SOMETHING BEFORE THE MEETING AND THEN WRITE SOMETHING AFTER THE MEETING. SO, I REALLY THINK THIS NEEDS TO BE KEPT THE WAY IT IS. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, MARY, FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. AGAIN, I WILL GO ONE MORE TIME TO CHAMBERS. SEEING NONE. I WILL GO ONE MORE TIME OUT TO ZOOM. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HEAD VIRTUALLY OR GET MY ATTENTION. BEING A PUBLIC COMMENT, PUBLIC COMMENT DISCLOSED.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE ARE BACK AT THE COUNCIL TABLE FOR DISCUSSION. ANYONE WANT TO START HERE?

JUST A QUESTION . DOES THE CITY MANAGER ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER OR THE ATTORNEY HAVE AN OPINION ON THIS? YOU HAVE A RECOMMENDATION?

IF I MIGHT CHIME IN, ALSO. CAN WE ANSWER THE VARIOUS QUESTIONS THAT WERE RAISED ABOUT OUR POLICIES.

I HAVE MY THOUGHTS. BUT REALLY, THIS IS A VALUES JUDGMENT CALL FOR THE COUNCIL WITHOUT A REAL CLEAR RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. THAT IS MY TAKE ON IT. MY PERSONAL OPINION. BUT FROM A PROFESSIONAL OPINION, IT IS REALLY A JUDGMENT CALL FOR THE COUNCIL. IN TERMS OF THE EXPERTISE ON ZOOM IN THOSE WITH MORE EXPERIENCE AND THOUGHT, I WOULD DEFER TO THAT ON MARY. I HAVE A LOT OF RESPECT FOR HER THINKING ON THIS.

THE QUESTIONS WERE MAYBE YOU COULD JUST DO A QUICK SUMMARY OF ALL OF THE VARIOUS EFFORTS THAT WE HAVE ALREADY ENGAGED IN IN ORDER TO CONTROL THESE SORTS OF INCIDENTS.

I HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH MULTIPLE CONSULTANTS FROM ZOOM. I HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THEIR EXECUTIVE TEAMS. WE HAVE EVERY PROTOCOL IN PLACE FOR SECURITY MEASURES. WE MUTE PEOPLE. WE DON'T ALLOW THEM TO BE UN-MUTED UNLESS I UNMUTE THEM FROM HERE. WE DON'T ALLOW PEOPLE TO USE THEIR VIDEOS. SO, WE HAVE CHANGED OUR AGENDA SO THAT WE DON'T IN  
City Council Meeting Packet of May 7, 2024  
Page 50 of 57

SETTINGS. YES, SOMEBODY CAN COME ON AND BE AS SWEET AND ALL OF A SUDDEN THE COMMENTS ARE GOING TO CHANGE. WE CANNOT CONTROL THAT PART OF IT. BUT WE HAVE EVERY PROTOCOL IN PLACE ACCORDING TO ZOOM.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

QUESTIONS?

SOME OTHER COMMENTS TO CLARIFY. THERE ARE LAWS ABOUT WHAT WE CAN AND CAN'T REQUIRE PEOPLE TO TELL US WHEN THEY GET UP THERE. CORRECT?

RIGHT. YOU CAN ASK SOMEONE TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES OR PROVIDE INFORMATION, BUT YOU CANNOT ORDER THEM TO DO THAT OR MAKE IT A REQUIREMENT. THAT IS ONE THING. YOU CANNOT HAVE PEOPLE PREAPPROVED, FOR EXAMPLE.

WE CANNOT REQUIRE THAT ONLY RESIDENTS YOUR

YOU CANNOT REQUIRE JUST PRESENTS. ALL OF THE INFORMATION THAT PEOPLE DO GIVE IS CONSIDERED VOLUNTARY.

I'M SORRY, COUNCILMEMBER HINTON HAD A QUICK --

I HAVE A COMMENT WHENEVER YOU ARE DONE.

GO AHEAD, COUNCILMEMBER McLEWIS COULD FINISH IT.

ARE YOU SURE?

I JUST WANT TO CLARIFY FOR PEOPLE, NOT EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS THAT WE HAVE RESTRAINTS AROUND WHAT WE CAN AND CAN'T DO. MY COMMENT IS I HAVE ALREADY WEIGHED IN ON THIS BEFORE IN MY MIND HASN'T CHANGED. I FIND SOME IRONY IN ALL OF THIS. ALL WEEK WE HAVE BEEN ASKING PEOPLE TO GET ON ZOOM BECAUSE WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE ROOM CAPACITY. BUT HERE WE ARE TALKING ABOUT GETTING RID OF ZOOM IN THE SAME MEETING. IT IS IRONIC. THE OTHER ITEM AND THOUGHT THAT I HAVE IS I DIDN'T KEEP CLOSE TRACK BUT I MEAN, WE HAVE HAD HOW MANY PUBLIC COMMENTS TONIGHT? 10, 20? I DON'T KNOW. I UNDERSTAND THAT SOME PEOPLE CAN COME DOWN HERE, BUT TO THE POINT OF THOSE WHO SPOKE, THERE ARE LIMITATIONS. WE DO HAVE A POPULATION WITH MORE ELDERLY THAN MOST. I THINK THEY HAVE A LOT OF LIMITATIONS AND I THINK IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO TAKE THOSE VOICES AWAY. WE HAVE MORE PEOPLE IN THE ROOM TONIGHT THAN WE TYPICALLY DO. YOU KNOW, SINCE WE HAVE HAD ZOOM, I FEEL THAT WE HAVE MORE PARTICIPATION. I HAVE BEEN PARTICIPATING IN COUNCIL FOR YEARS, EVEN WHEN I WASN'T ON COUNCIL. SO I DON'T WANT TO TAKE THAT AWAY. I UNDERSTAND. I FIND IT APPALLING WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING, BUT I AM STILL NOT WILLING TO TAKE AWAY THE ABILITY FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO PARTICIPATE AND WE DO HAVE BIG-TICKET ITEMS COMING UP. WE HAVE HAD THEM. I FEEL LIKE IT IS EVERY MEETING. WE NEED TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO HEAR THIS WHATEVER WAY THEY NEED TO HEAR IT AND BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE. I DON'T WANT TO HAVE THIS ONE-WAY COMMUNICATION WHERE WE ARE PUTTING STUFF OUT AND TAKING AWAY THE ABILITY FOR PEOPLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH US. IT DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT. AT THE END OF THE DAY. SO, I WILL ALWAYS SAY THAT WE NEED TO KEEP ZOOM. WE NEED TO KEEP THAT FLOW OF INFORMATION GOING BACK AND FORTH BOTH WAYS. I JUST FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT PEOPLE'S ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE. SO THAT IS MY COMMENT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I FEEL SO OLD. I WAS HERE BEFORE ZOOM. BEFORE COVID. BEFORE ZOOM. IT WAS A DIFFERENT WORLD. ANYWAY, I AM GOING TO CHANGE MY MIND TONIGHT. I JUST HAVE TO SAY I DON'T THINK IT IS FAIR FOR OUR POOR CITY CLERK OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO HAVING TO BE ON THE TRIGGER AND TAKING THIS AND IT IS UGLY. THEN YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW THE RULES. THINK GOSH IT DIDN'T HAPPEN WHEN I WAS MAYOR BECAUSE THERE IS LIABILITY FOR THE CITY. WE COULD BE SUED. THE MEMBERS THAT TALKED TONIGHT USED TO COME TO OUR COUNCIL MEETINGS. I HAVE SEEN THEM THERE. BOTH LINDA BYRD AND LORETTA HAVE COME TO OUR COUNCIL MEETINGS. SO, I FEEL LIKE THERE ARE A LOT OF OPTIONS TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND ALSO, I JUST HAD TO MENTION BECAUSE I ALWAYS HAVE MY TRUSTY COMPUTER APPEAR. I HAVE 2200 EMAILS IN MY CITY COUNCIL EMAIL AND I JUST SEARCHED ROBERT BUT OF COURSE I CANNOT ASK ROBERT'S LAST NAME OR ANYTHING ABOUT HIM, BUT I ONLY HAVE ONE ROBERT EMAIL AND IT WAS FROM TWO YEARS AGO AND IT WAS REGARDING OUR SIDEWALK BLACK LIVES MATTER PROJECT. I SAID I RESPONDED TO A LOT OF EMAILS AND YOU CAN CONTACT ME BY MY PERSONAL CELL PHONE ON THE WEBSITE. I ALMOST ALWAYS ANSWER THE PHONE FOR



ANYONE THAT HAS CALLED ME. AND I JUST FEEL LIKE MOST OF THE OTHER BODIES FOR THE VERY SAME REASON ARE BRINGING THIS BACK HAVE GONE TO A DIFFERENT FORMAT BECAUSE OF THESE BOMBINGS THAT ARE REALLY UNCOMFORTABLE AND HE WILL. OUR CITY IS IN THE LIABILITY SITUATION. AND I CAN HANDLE ANY MORE LAWSUITS. LET ME BE FRANK. I WILL BE CHANGING MY VOTE TONIGHT AND GOING AHEAD AND FILING A RECOMMENDATION ON THIS AGENDA ITEM. SO I NEED TO SAY THAT. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU. ANY INPUT HERE? THEN I AM HAPPY TO CHIME IN AT SOME POINT HERE. I JUST WANTED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT NOT ONLY ARE WE HAVING THE DISRUPTIONS WITH THE ZOOMBOMBINGS, BUT THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN OTHER SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE SOUND AND TECHNICAL ISSUES THAT HAVE THREATENED TO SHUT DOWN OUR MEETINGS, AT LEAST A HALF-DOZEN TIMES LAST YEAR. ALTHOUGH NO MEETING WAS SHUT DOWN, WE WERE THREATENED WITH IT MANY TIMES. I WAS ACTUALLY VERY HAPPY WHEN WE HAD RESOLVED THIS A COUPLE MONTHS AGO AND I WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU TO OUR ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER. SHE DID A LOT OF WORK TO MAKE ZOOM SAFER. I WANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT WE DID NOT HAVE ANY ZOOMBOMBINGS TONIGHT. I DON'T THINK WE HAD ANY LAST WEEK EITHER. OR MAYBE HE HAD ONE BEER THERE WAS ONE. YEAH, LAST WEEK. I DO RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE IMPACTS TO OUR ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER. THERE ARE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND THERE ARE IMPACTS TO OUR MAYOR WHO HAS TO NEGOTIATE THIS. LITERALLY, IT IS A REAL HASSLE. WE HAVE TO DISCERN IS THIS A ZOOMBOMB? CAN I SHUT THIS PERSON OFF? ARE THEY GOING TO COME BACK AND TRY TO SUE US? IT IS A REAL HASSLE. I ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT WE NEED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND A LOT OF IMPORTANT DECISIONS ARE COMING UP. THE BUDGET IS HUGE. SEWER AND WATER, GARBAGE SERVICE CONTRACT. I WANT TO VOTE TO KEEP THE ZOOM. THAT IS WHERE I STAND.

THANK YOU, META-MAYOR. YES. IT IS DEFINITELY A CHALLENGE. I DO UNDERSTAND THE PRESSURES OF BEING THE MAYOR AND TRYING TO ANTICIPATE WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN AND INSTRUCTING MARY TO DO WHAT SHE CAN BY STOPPING TIME AND MONITORING TIME. EVERYTHING ELSE. IT IS NOT GREAT TO HEAR HORRIBLE THINGS BUT IT IS NOT GREAT TO HEAR HORRIBLE THINGS IN GENERAL WALKING AROUND. SO, THERE IS THAT. AND THE FACT THAT THERE IS THE LIABILITY PART. BUT ON THE BALANCE, I DEFINITELY WANT TO KEEP HEARING FROM PEOPLE BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW IF SANDY CAN VERIFY OR NOT BUT WITH THE BUDGET THING, WITH THE NEXT DATES. SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT TO SAY. I REALLY DEVALUE THAT BECAUSE I THINK THAT WHAT WE CONTRIBUTE ALLOWS PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT CONCEPTS AND THEN IF THEY HATED OR DON'T HATE IT. AT LEAST THEY HAVE HAD TIME TO CONTEMPLATE IT AND I DON'T WANT TO REMOVE THE ABILITY TO HAVE PEOPLE DIAL IN AND SAY WHAT THEY WANT TO SAY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROCESS. SO, I AM VOTING TO KEEP IT.

OKAY. I WILL CHIME IN HERE. I'M GOING TO BE REALLY BLUNT ABOUT THIS. I THINK WE ARE FORGETTING HOW DISRUPTIVE IT WAS. WE HAVE COMMENTS FROM PEOPLE IN THE ROOM TODAY SUPPORTING ZOOM WE ALL HAVE RECEIVED MULTIPLE EMAILS FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE STATED THAT THEY -- THEY DON'T WANT TO TELL THEM THAT THEY WANT TO BE HERE AT OUR MEETINGS ANYMORE BECAUSE OF HOW DISRUPTIVE IT WAS. IT WASN'T JUST FREE SPEECH. THESE PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO IN SECONDS, AS I WAS TRYING TO REACH THE MUTE BUTTON, SAY THINGS, SAY WORDS THAT I DON'T WANT IN MY HEAD. THEY WERE IN MY HEAD. I WAS SITTING THERE AND ALL OF US WERE SITTING HERE LISTENING TO THOSE NASTY WORDS THAT NONE OF US WANT TO BE LISTENING FOR. BY ALLOWING ZOOM AND ALLOWING THEM TO USE US AS A PLATFORM, WE ALLOWED THEM TO GET INTO THE HEADS OF EVERYONE. WITH THOSE REALLY, REALLY NASTY WORDS. BECAUSE OF FREE SPEECH RIGHTS, WE HAD TO SIT THROUGH THE WHOLE PROCESS. SO, THAT IS WHAT WE ARE INVITING CARE AND WE ARE EXCLUDING PEOPLE JUST AS MUCH AS WE MIGHT BE INCLUDING THEM. I MUST HAVE 25 OR MORE EMAILS FROM PEOPLE WHO EXPLICITLY SAID THIS HAS A CHILLING EFFECT ON ME. IT IS NOT JUST THE FREE SPEECH. THIS HAS A CHILLING EFFECT ON ME AND MY ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE. I AM YOUR WEST COUNTY PERSON. YOU HAVE GOT TO STOP THIS. I ALSO THINK THE LIABILITY IS REAL. I SIT HERE, I AM NOT TRAINED TO TELL WHEN THAT MOMENT IS THAT IT MIGHT BE FREE SPEECH, IT MIGHT BE DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT. THAT IS THE EDGE OF THE LINE OF ENGAGING THE PUBLIC. I HAVE COMMITTED TO SERVING THE PEOPLE OF WEST COUNTY, APPOINTED CITIZENS, CITIZENS THAT LIVE IN OUR TOWN WHO SERVE FOR ME TO



HAVE SAID, YOU KNOW, I AM NOT GOING TO WANT TO BE ON A COMMITTEE OF THIS IS WHAT I AM SUBJECTED TO. WE ARE LOOKING UP TO OPEN UP AND RECRUIT ADDITIONAL COUNCILMEMBERS. I'M SORRY, FOLKS. THIS IS NOT WHAT PUBLIC SERVICE IS ABOUT. GOING THROUGH THIS PROCESS. I NEED TO HAVE MY SAY. I ALLOWED YOU TO HAVE YOUR SAY. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT. I SEE THAT I AM IN THE LOSING VOTE HERE. BUT I THINK THIS IS A HORRIBLE MISTAKE FOR OUR CITIZENS AND I THINK IT IS A DISSERVICE TO OUR CITIZENS AND STAFF AND TO OUR BUDGET. SO, THAT IS ALL I HAVE TO SAY ON IT AND COUNCILMEMBER A BENTLEY OF THEM AND TO SAY. TURN WHEN I'M DONE. THANK YOU.

I JUST WANT TO MAKE A MOTION TO KEEP ZOOM THE WAY IT IS RIGHT NOW. SO, WE ARE LOOKING FOR A SECOND.

I WILL SECOND THE MOTION.

IF YOU COULD PLEASE TAKE THE VOTE.

YOU, MAYOR. SO MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER McLEWIS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAURER TO DIRECT THE CITY COUNCIL CONTINUE TO USE IN PERSON AND ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING FORMAT.

NO.

COUNCILMEMBER MAURER QUESTION MARK

YES.

COUNCILMEMBER McLEWIS?

YES.

VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN? DIANA GARDNER RICH? THE MOTION PASSES 3-2 WITH MAUER, MICK LEWIS AND VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MY COMPUTER HAS GONE DOWN. SO, THE NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA, MAYBE YOU CAN HELP ME OUT. IT IS THE ADDITIONAL SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. YES. SO, LET'S GO TO PUBLIC COMMENT, IF WE COULD.

THIS IS THE SECOND ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD. THIS IS FOR ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA . IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO SPEAK AT THE FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT AND HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME, THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY. I WILL GO TO IN CHAMBERS FIRST.

HELLO. MY NAME IS TONYA AND I LIVE HERE IN SEBASTOPOL WITH MY FAMILY. I AM A PALESTINIAN AND A CHILD OF A SURVIVOR. THEY BECAME STATELESS REFUGEES IN LEBANON AFTER THEY WERE FORCIBLY KICKED OUT OF THEIR HOMES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AT GUNPOINT IN PALESTINE IN 1948. ALTHOUGH MY FATHER WAS ONLY FOUR YEARS OLD WHEN THIS HAPPENED, TODAY, MORE THAN 70 YEARS LATER IS STILL HAUNTED AND RAVAGED BY THE IRREPARABLE EFFECTS OF WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT. A PAINFUL TEACHER I KNOW THAT THE CHILDREN OF GAZA WILL THEMSELVES FACING 70 YEARS FROM NOW. I WILL NOT GET INTO ALL OF THE OTHER WAYS THE OCCUPATION AND HIS GENOCIDE HAS AND CONTINUES TO AFFECT THE FAMILY AND IN AND OUT OF PALESTINE, BUT WHAT I WILL GET INTO IS THE DEEP LEVEL OF DISAPPOINTMENT I CARRY THAT THE CITY HAS SIDELINED SILENCE AND EFFECTIVELY SQUASHED THE CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION. WHO ARE WE TO CALL OURSELVES PEACE IF WE -- THE KIND OF BRUTAL KILLING YOU ONLY SEE IN THE DARKEST MOMENTS OF MY HUMAN HISTORY IS CONTROVERSIAL. WHO ARE WE TO CALL OURSELVES PEACE TOWN WITH WOMEN, CHILDREN AND MEN BECAUSE PALESTINIAN MEN ARE CAPABLE OF BEING INNOCENT TOO. WE ONLY ADVOCATE FOR PEACE IF IT IS PALATABLE? IT DOESN'T RUFFLE FEATHERS OR FORCE OTHERS TO LOOK IN THE MIRROR AND FACE HARD TRUTHS? DO WE ONLY ADVOCATE FOR PEACE IF IT DOESN'T COME WITH THE ADDITIONAL COSTS OF JUSTICE AND LIBERATION? WHILE WE HAVE BEEN THROWING AROUND THE IDEA OF THIS RESOLUTION, A SHEET OF PAPER THAT HOLDS NO WEIGHT, NO TEETH AND IS SIMPLY A SYMBOLIC STATEMENT FOR PEACE AND HUMAN LIFE, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PALESTINIANS HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN MURDERED.

20 SECONDS.

SHOT, BURNED, BURIED ALIVE, STARVED AND FAR WORSE. NEXT TIME WE ARE PUT IN A POSITION TO CONSIDER THE VALUE OF ANY HUMAN LIFE, I LIVE UP TO IT. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU.

NEXT I WILL GO OUT TO ZOOM. AGAIN, THIS IS FOR THE SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD. IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO SPEAK DURING THE FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD , THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY.

PLEASE, LET'S NOT RESPOND TO COMMENTS. LET'S MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE RESPONSIVE TO ALL OF THE COMMENTS NO MATTER WHAT THEY ARE. THANK YOU, MAYOR.

THANK YOU. SEEING NO ONE ON ZOOM I WILL COME BACK TO THE CHAMBERS .

HELLO AGAIN. MY NAME IS MARTIN REED. ONE OF THE THINGS I LOVE MOST ABOUT LIVING IN SEBASTOPOL, IT IS A REALLY LONG LIST IT AS A COMMUNITY, WE DECIDED WAY BACK IN 1989 TO CALL OURSELVES PEACE TOWN. SINCE OCTOBER 7th, I HAVE SEEN A LOT FEWER PEOPLE PROTESTING AT THE CORNER OF MAIN AND BODEGA. WHY? WELL, THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX POSTING DOUBLE-DIGIT GAINS SINCE OCTOBER 7th. BOEING, DESPITE A PR NIGHTMARE RELATED TO THEIR COMMERCIAL AIRPLANE IS UP 26% BECAUSE THEY MAKE MISSILES, AS WELL. IN 1961, EISENHOWER, A DECORATED HERO WARNED OF THE INFLUENCE OF OUR MILITARY AND FOR-PROFIT DEFENSE COMPANIES. I WOULD IMAGINE AND HOPE MANY OF YOU HERE THIS EVENING MAY HAVE PROTESTED THE VIETNAM WAR AT SOME POINT AND IT IS NO COINCIDENCE THAT YOU ARE SERVING A TOWN THAT WANTS TO BE KNOWN FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND AS ANCHOR OF THE HOUSE ONCE SAID, ALL POLITICS ARE LOCAL. HIGHLIGHTING THAT EVEN INTERNATIONAL GEOPOLITICS IMPACT LOCAL COMMUNITIES. YOU SHOULD NEVER SHY AWAY FROM STANDING UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT BY ANY REASON. AT LEAST -- AS A BUDDHIST MIGHT SAY, THE WAY YOU DO ANYTHING IS THE WAY YOU DO EVERYTHING. A CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION IS A TOKEN NONBINDING STATEMENT OF SUPPORT AGAINST THE ACT OF FIRE THAT HAS KILLED TENS OF THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

25 SECONDS.

AS A COMMUNITY IN SEBASTOPOL IS THE EXACT SAME WAY THAT WE AS A COUNTRY REFUSED TO END OUR SUPPORT OF THIS GENOCIDE AND CONTINUE TO PERPETUATE OUR MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX THAT IS HAD AMERICA AT WAR FOR ALL BUT 26 YEARS OF OUR 250 YEAR HISTORY. THAT IS 90% OF OUR NATIONS HISTORY AT WAR. WHY? LOTS OF REASONS. THE BIGGEST IS PROFIT. LET'S DO BETTER. LET SUPPORT PEACE AT HOME. LET'S SUPPORT WORLD PEACE.

THAT IS TWO MINUTES.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT I WILL GO BACK TO ZOOM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT. PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND VIRTUALLY. PLEASE GET MY ATTENTION. SEEING NINE GOOD I WILL COME BACK INTO THE CHAMBERS. ERNIE?

YES, I HAVE A LITTLE PIN THAT IS AN AMERICAN FLAG AND THE ISRAELI FLAG HERE. I SUPPORT ISRAEL, I SUPPORT THEM WITH PASSION. ISRAEL WAS CREATED AS A DEMOCRACY BY THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1948. THEY HAVE BEEN INVADED SIX TIMES BY ARAB ARMIES. THE LAST TIME WAS ON OCTOBER 7th BY HAMAS WHICH IS LOOSELY AN ARMY. IN 1957 THEY INVADED BECAUSE THEY HAD AN INVASION THAT WAS IMMINENT. IN 2005, ISRAEL LEFT GAZA. THEY PICKED UP AND THEY LEFT. HOWEVER, THEY DID NOT HONOR ANY OF THE AGREEMENTS THAT THEY SIGN. THEY COMPLETELY MILITARIZED GAZA WITH THE TUNNELS AND TOOK THE MONEY THAT CAME TO THEM FROM IRAN AND RUSSIA AND PLACES LIKE THAT AND BUILT UP A MILITARY. GAZA HAS BEEN IN RACES FOR 25,000 TO 3000 YEARS. SEVERAL INVASIONS CAME THROUGH THERE INCLUDING WELL, FORGET IT. IT WOULDN'T BE SUCH AN OASIS NOW FOR THE PEOPLE, BUT THAT IS WHAT HAMAS WANTS TO DO. THEY WANT TO PUSH ISRAEL INTO THE SEA AND ERADICATE THE JEWISH PEOPLE. ISRAEL IS THE ONLY DEMOCRACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT IS A JEWISH DEMOCRACY AND IT IS A DEMOCRACY. THERE IS NOT STARVATION AND PALESTINE. THERE IS NOT STARVATION IN GAZA. IT COULD BE SUCH AN OASIS IF THE PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT KILLING THE JEWISH PEOPLE BUT ONLY COME TOGETHER IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY WANT PEACE.

YOU HAVE ABOUT 20 SECONDS.

THANK YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NEXT I WILL GO BACK OUT TO ZOOM. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND VIRTUALLY OR GET MY ATTENTION. SEEING THEN I WILL COME BACK INTO THE CHAMBERS.

I AM A RESIDENT OF SEBASTOPOL. I WAS NOT PLANNING TO SPEAK TODAY. SO I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING WRITTEN AS WELL AS THOSE TWO DID. BUT ACCORDING TO THE BUREAU OF EUROPEAN, MEDITERRANEAN HUMAN RIGHTS, MORE THAN FAITH TEEN THOUSAND CHILDREN HAVE BEEN KILLED AND SIX MONTHS IN GAZA. THAT INCLUDES THE CHILDREN THAT ARE STILL MISSING AND PRESUMED DEAD UNDER THE RUBBLE. THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH FOR US TO CALL FOR A CEASE-FIRE. IF THIS WAS ANY OTHER PLACE, IF THESE WERE WHITE CHILDREN, WOULD WE BE UPSET? WOULD WE BE SILENT? I DON'T THINK WE WOULD. A QUICK REMINDER THAT ISRAEL MAY HAVE LEFT THE GAZA STRIP, BUT THEY BUILT A BARRIER AROUND THE GAZA STRIP. THEY CAN ONLY LEAVE IF THEY ARE GIVEN PERMISSION BY ISRAEL. THIS IS NOT AN OPINION, THIS IS A FACT. MY SHIRT, THE SHIRT, ISRAEL HAS RECEIVED MORE U.N. CONDEMNATIONS THAN ANY, THAT ALL OF THE COUNTRIES COMBINED. ALL OF THEM COMBINED. ARE WE JUST GOING TO IGNORE THAT? ARE WE AS A CITY GOING TO BE ONE OF THE MANY, ONE CITY ALONE IS CALLING FOR A CEASE-FIRE. THEY CANNOT DO MUCH. BUT IF WE ALL DO IT TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

THANK YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT. NEXT I WILL GO BACK OUT TO ZOOM. IF THERE IS ANYONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THE SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD. SEEING NONE, I WILL COME BACK INTO THE CHAMBERS. THERE IS ANYONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT. SEEING NO FURTHER PUBLIC COMMENT, PUBLIC COMMENT IS CLOSED.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE ARE NOW AT CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT. CITY MANAGER AND/OR CITY CLERK REPORTS. WE HAVE ANY?

I HAVE GOT A COUPLE THAT I WAS WANTING TO MENTION. THE FIRST ONE THAT JUST CAME UP TODAY AND THE OTHERS BUT I'VE HAD A CHANCE TO DISCOVER THE JEWELS OF SEBASTOPOL LATELY, WHICH IS REALLY NICE. SOMETIMES YOU DO THAT IN THE OFFICE. THAT IS THE PROMOTION OF MICHAEL THOMPSON TO THE FIRST SERGEANT IN THE HISTORY OF SEBASTOPOL. I THINK THAT IS A TREMENDOUS STEP FORWARD FOR A I WILL RECOGNIZE AND HONOR HER AND THAT ACCOMPLISHMENT FOR HER COLLEAGUES. IT WAS A GOOD TURNOUT IN THAT MEETING. ANOTHER ONE, ALL RECENT MONTHS FOR ME. THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET. I AM SO IMPRESSED WITH THE COMMUNITY LEADERS THE FRIENDS OF THE PARK, THE SENIOR CENTER AND THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD. THE COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD, AS WELL. WITH SO MANY COMMITTED, DEDICATED PEOPLE TO MAKE THE COMMUNITY BETTER AND SETTING THE PRINCIPLES OF SEBASTOPOL IS HOW I THINK ABOUT IT THAT I WANTED TO SHARE THAT AND THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE IN SUCH AN INCREDIBLE PLACE.

THANK YOU.

I THINK WE ALL AGREE . OKAY. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS, YOU GO. OKAY. OKAY.

THANK YOU TO THE CITY MANAGER FOR SHARING THAT. IT REALLY TOUCHES MY HEART. SO, THANK YOU. WE HAVEN'T REPORTED OUT FOR A WHILE, SO, KEEPING A RUNNING LIST. I WILL TRY TO MAKE IT BRIEF. UNANIMOUSLY OPTED ZERO RESOLUTION. THIS IS MODELED BASED ON SIMILAR RESOLUTION THAT WAS PASSED BY SONOMA COUNTY. THAT WILL BE COMING TO COUNCIL SOON. THE LAST MEETING WE DISCUSSED HOW TO CHANGE OR IMPROVE OTHER MEDIUMS INCLUDING LIMITING THE MEETING TO ONE STOP AND ILLUMINATING ZOOM AND THAT WAS NOT VOTED ON THAT WE WERE VOTING ON IT IN MAY. AGAIN, REUSABLE AND WASHABLE TRASH BAGS FROM STREETS TO CREEKS. THESE ARE TO PREVENT TRASH FROM GOING INTO THE STORM DRAINS AND OUR CREEKS. THERE WAS A WORLD FRIENDS MEETING. THAT WAS REALLY SPECIAL. A FIRE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATION DINNER WHICH WAS REALLY SPECIAL. I WROTE THAT THE INTERIM FIRE CHIEF GAVE A HEARTFELT SPEECH AND I EXPRESSED MY HOPE THAT SOMEDAY THE CITY WILL HAVE THE APPROPRIATION AND WE CAN DO THAT. I DID ATTEND THE SWEARING-IN OF THE POLICE SERGEANT AND REALLY QUITE AN IMPRESSIVE LIST OF HER ACCOMMODATIONS. I HAD COFFEE WITH A COUPLE OF PEOPLE MET AT CALF -- COFFEE AND MORE IN THE BACK ROOM. I WANTED TO RUN DOWN THROUGH THE TOPICS. REDUCING PLASTIC USE. THESE ARE THE THINGS THAT

PEOPLE BROUGHT AND WANTED TO TALK ABOUT. REDUCING PLASTIC USE. HOW TO CALM TRAFFIC ON LELAND ON WASHINGTON AVENUE. IT WAS MENTIONED THAT VERTICALLY USE SPEED BUMPS AND SEBASTOPOL . SPEED CAMERAS, A SPEED SURVEY. WE TALK ABOUT THE BUDGET. THE VACANCY TAX, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, POOREST PARKING FOR THE FREE SHUTTLE. TO CHARGE PEOPLE FOR SETTING OFF A FALSE ALARM LIKE OTHER PEOPLE DO. HOW IN GERMANY, THEY WOULD USE A BASKET IN THE STORM DRAINS TO COLLECT TRASH. PUBLIC WORKS WOULD GO AROUND AND CLEAR OUT THOSE STORM DRAINS. FINALLY, COVERS ON STREETLIGHTS TO ADJUST LIGHT POLLUTION. WE HAVE TWO BUDGET COMMITTEES. AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC ON JUNE. SEVERAL BUSINESSES DOWNTOWN WHERE WE RENEWED MY SENSE OF INSPIRATION ABOUT OUR TOWN. THAT WITH ARTISANS AND ARTISTS. I WILL LET THEM TALK ABOUT IT A LITTLE BUT IF THEY WANT TO. FINALLY, THE COUNCILMEMBERS DINNER, THE PRESENTATION. THAT IS MY REPORT. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

GO AHEAD. I THINK THAT IS GREAT. ANOTHER PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING WHERE AGAIN, THERE IS A GROUP THAT IS NOT ENDORSING OUR KIDS OR OUR FUTURE BECAUSE THE PROMOTERS OF THAT ARE NOT ABLE TO STAY HOW MUCH THE WAGES WOULD INCREASE FOR THOSE PROVIDING QUALITY PRESCHOOL. SO, NOT EVERYBODY IN THE COUNTRY OR COUNTY IS RUNNING AROUND RAISING OUR KIDS OR FUTURE. NOT ONLY THE LIBRARY, BUT THE SERVICE CORRIDOR WITH THE SENIOR CENTER AND DOWN TO THE POST OFFICE. WE ARE HOPEFULLY GOING TO GET ON THE AGENDA SO THAT WOULD BE GREAT. SO THE VOTERS, CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE, DISCUSSING VARIOUS ISSUES IN THE COUNTY ATTENDED ALONG WITH THE MAYOR IN THE IFT MEETING. I WILL NOT SPOIL THE SURPRISE WHAT WE FIND ACCOMPLISHED, VERY EXCITING. THE VARIOUS NONPROFITS, THE SENIOR CENTER IN THE MUSEUM. WE DID SIT DOWN WITH THE DIRECTOR IN THE SENIOR CENTER WITH EVERYTHING THAT THEY ARE REQUESTING IS MAY BE BASED UPON -- IT PUTS MORE EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO COLLABORATE. ALL NONPROFIT WITH THE MISSION STATEMENTS. ATTENDED UNIVERSAL PK WITH THE COUNCIL TO HAVE ADVOCACY IN OUR COUNTY. WE DID OBTAIN THE BUDGET. IT IS ONLINE AND IT IS FASCINATING TO SEE THE DIRECTION THAT IS PROVIDED FOR US. JUST IN CASE THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS OF WHO IS DRIVING THE SHIP, I KNOW I SAID I AM NOT. ARE THEY DRIVING THE SHIP OR THE BUDGET? I JUST WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR.

THANK YOU.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. OKAY. WHO IS NEXT?

LET'S SEE. I HAVE ATTENDED QUITE A FEW. THE COUNCILMEMBERS MEETING THIS WEEK. JUST TRYING TO CLICK ON THE CALENDAR HERE. ALSO COMMUNITY CENTER MEETING OUR LEGISLATIVE MEETING HAS RESCHEDULED UNTIL THE 26th. I DID ATTEND THAT LAST MONTH. I DON'T THINK WE HAVE REPORTED ON IT AND SPEND. WE DID IT LAST MONTH, BUT IT WAS A VERY BRIEF MEETING. SO, CURIOUS TO LEARN WHAT IS GOING ON IN SACRAMENTO ON THE 26th AND HOW THAT MAY IMPACT US LOCALLY HERE. THOSE ARE THE MAJORITY. I MEAN, THOSE ARE THE MAJORITY.

SAME THING WITH FIRE. WE ATTENDED A LOT OF THE SAME MEETINGS, THE THREE OF US. VICE MAYOR ZOLLMAN DID SOME EXTRA STUFF WITH THE GROUP WHICH WAS GREAT. HE DID VERY WELL SPEAKING IN JAPANESE TO WELCOME THEM. GOOD FOR YOU. I NEVER WOULD HAVE ATTEMPTED THAT. ANYWAY. I DID JUST WANT TO SAY THAT WE HAVE HAD A DINNER FOR OUR -- SO MANY CHALLENGES. FIREFIGHTERS, RIGHT? THE PLACE THAT GOT FLOODED DOWN THERE AFTER THE FIRST FIRE, THEY HOSTED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS FOR A FREE DINNER. I CANNOT REMEMBER THE NAME, BUT THEY MOVED OUT. IT WILL COME TO ME. ANYWAY, I FORWARDED, BUT THERE WAS SOME NEWS FROM OUR CTA, SONOMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY. WE HAVE GOT SOME MONEY AND I JUST SENT IT ON EMAIL WITH THE RECAP WHICH WE ARE DOING NOW. SO, THAT IS SOMETHING THAT I CAN SUBMIT TO CITY STAFF TO MAYBE POST SOMETHING ON OUR WEBSITE. I JUST SENT THE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST MEETING AND SEBASTOPOL IS GETTING SOME ADDITIONAL FUNDING I CAN'T QUITE PULL UP ON MY FINGERTIPS HERE. I HAVE ALSO BEEN APPOINTED TO AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. WITH S CTA. ALSO TO THE CLIMATE

AD HOC. SO, FOR THAT ORGANIZATION I AM REPRESENTING. I AM APPOINTED TO THE AD HOC TO STUDY THE LOW RATE INCREASE. THE FULL CITY COUNCIL IS BASED ARE



READY TO PRESENT THAT. I DID SUGGEST OUR CITY MANAGERS WAY OF PUTTING IN THOSE NUMBERS LIKE WE DID IN OUR FINANCIAL PROJECT BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU CALL IT, LIKE ESTIMATES FOR THEM. THE ORGANIZATION THAT IS GOING TO USE THAT TO HELP PRESENT DIFFERENT OPTIONS TO THE BOARD. IT WORKED FOR US, IT IS WORKING FOR THEM. ELDERBERRY COMMONS, ATTENDED THAT WITH A COUPLE OF COUNCILMEMBERS, AS WELL. WE APPENDED THE DRILL NIGHT LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT. THEN THE COUNCILMEMBERS. THAT I THINK IS THE LOWDOWN.

GREAT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WHAT A BUSY CITY COUNCIL. OKAY?

YES BUT I FEEL LIKE I AM JUST SAYING ME TOO. SO, THE WALK WAS GREAT. BUSINESSES BEHIND THE SCENES. LEARNING ALL NEW DETAILS LIKE THE GUY WHO OWNS GROWTH FINCH. HIS FATHER OWNED THE LOCATION OF MICHAEL'S CURRENT FOOD SHOP. SO, REALLY SMALL TOWN. IT IS FABULOUS TODAY, I HAVE TO SAY. THE IFT, WE MANAGED TO GET SUBSTANTIAL HELP WITH THE RFP ISSUED. THAT HAS GONE OUT IN THE CONSULTANT, WE ARE ASKING FOR RESPONSES BACK, THE END OF THIS MONTH, I THINK. SO, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE COUNTS. TO THE COUNCIL, A LOT OF CLOSED SESSIONS, WE KNOW THAT. THAT WAS REALLY INFORMATIVE, SUPER INTERESTING. IT SHOULD OPEN IN OCTOBER AS A PERMANENT HOUSING FACILITY WITH 29 UNITS IS WHAT THEY ARE DOWN TO. I THINK THEY ARE GOING TO REMOVE THE SOAKING TUBS BUT WE WILL FIND OUT. THE ONE COMMITTEE IS THE CONTROL DISTRICT AND THEY HAVE AN OPEN HOUSE COMING UP ON MAY 4th AND I WOULD GET THAT INFORMATION TO STAFF BECAUSE IT IS SUPER INTERESTING AND HANDS-ON. BUGS, BERMAN'S, MOSQUITOES AND BUGS. HE AND ON EXPERIENCES. I WILL SEND IT TO THE SEBASTOPOL TIMES. I HAVE COFFEE WITH A COUNCILMEMBER COMING UP ON THE 24th WHICH IS NEXT WEDNESDAY FROM 10:00 TO 11:30. COME AND CHAT WITH ME. WHO KNOWS WHAT WE WILL COME AWAY WITH GIVEN WHAT WE JUST HEARD FROM COUNCILMEMBER MAURER. THOSE WILL BE THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH GOING TO DECEMBER. I THINK THAT IS ALL I HAVE. WHAT DOES THAT LEAVE US WITH? I NOW OFFICIALLY ADJOURNED THE MEETING. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR BEING HERE. CAN THIS BE WRITTEN DOWN? IT IS EARLY.