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**Homelessness Subcommittee
Work Session Meeting Minutes**

**December 20, 2021
Zoom Community Auditorium**

Minutes approved as presented by the Subcommittee 2.23.2022.

1. CALLED TO ORDER:

Police Chief Henry Reimann called the work session meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Formal introductions were made.

ROLL CALL: Kristy Kottkey, City Councilor; Timothy Rippe, City Councilor; Peter Truax, Mayor.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Henry Reimann, Police Chief; Jesse VanderZanden, City Manager; Jaime Zaik, Executive Assistant.

GUEST PRESENTERS: Simone Brooks, Assistant City Manager, City of Hillsboro; Mandy Gawf, Homelessness Outreach/ Community Services Coordinator, City of Hillsboro; Megan Cohen, Homeless Program Administrator/Community Services Coordinator, City of Beaverton.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Schimmel, Centro Cultural.

2. WORK SESSION: HOMELESSNESS

VanderZanden facilitated the work session, noting the City Council formed a Homeless Subcommittee to define the City's role and responsibility in addressing homelessness, as well as examine how other cities are funding projects and addressing homelessness. Simone Brooks, Assistant City Manager, City of Hillsboro, shared historical information regarding funding of programs and services. Brooks reported Hillsboro is currently supplementing nonprofits using general funds and recently purchased a building for use as a proposed shelter, noting the Hillsboro is working on funding sources to staff the shelter. Councilor Kottkey requested clarification regarding Hillsboro's role in the shelter, to which it was confirmed that the intent was to provide shelter space only and no direct involvement in the day-to-day operations. Mandy Gawf, Homelessness Outreach/ Community Services Coordinator, City of Hillsboro, reported on the success of "The Woodstreet Project", noting the site is owned by the City of Hillsboro and provides a maximum of 30 sanctioned tent camping sites, hygiene stations, and a safe place for people to congregate. The project faced challenges related to the extreme weather conditions faced during 2021. Hillsboro continues to search for a permanent shelter solution. "The Woodstreet Project" was funded by Community Action and Washington County. Lastly, questions were raised about whether shelter sites would require rezoning. It was pointed out that House Bill 2006 (2021) states that zoning rules do not apply to shelter sites during this time, however applications and permitting processes must be at completion before the Bill sunsets on June 30, 2022. Megan

Cohen, Homeless Program Administrator/Community Services Coordinator, City of Beaverton, to the need for Beaverton to staff a position dedicated to coordination with other agencies and nonprofits, fund sourcing, City code review, and homelessness outreach in order to achieve cohesion with other agencies. Discussion ensued regarding the feasibility of alternative housing and shelter possibilities within the City of Forest Grove. The next meeting topics of discussion include next steps, case worker coordination, Washington County Supportive Housing Services (SHS), other funding matters, and review of the Forest Grove camping ordinance. Guest speakers will include representatives from Open Door and Washington County.

No formal action nor formal decisions were made during the work session.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2022.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.