

MINUTES OF THE SAN ANSELMO TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 11, 1987

Mayor Cordingley convened the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Councilmembers Chignell, Sharp, Walsh and Wooliever present.

2. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Bill Bandy, President of the Chamber of Commerce, reported that the Downtown Merchants Association was sponsoring a Red Tag Sale on August 29.

Michael Krasny, 133 Humboldt, said he was beleaguered by phone calls, mail and people coming to his home soliciting money. While many of the solicitors represent worthwhile causes, he is bothered by the infringement and interruptions. Staff was asked to provide the Council with information on the Town's solicitation ordinances.

Sacheen Littlefeather, Mill Valley resident, was present to respond to a recent article in the San Francisco Chronicle regarding San Anselmo "skinheads", a name given youths who dress in a particular style and who are purported to commit acts of violence, vandalism and racism. Ms. Littlefeather inferred from the article that that racism on the part of the skinheads was tolerated in San Anselmo. She commented on how racism and its violence hurts individuals and society and expressed concern about it being allowed to exist. Her purpose this evening was to attempt to form a solidarity among the Council and people of San Anselmo to rid the community of racism. She wanted to see a task force develop a re-education proposal to present to the Council that addresses the issues of racism and oppression.

A woman identified as Stephanie said that incidents against disabled or minority people scare and anger her, the youths here need to have structure and guidance, and supported working with Ms. Littlefeather to combat racism.

A woman who declined to identify herself except as being a Mill Valley resident and Jewish explained that people are trained to act in certain ways, and those who have been hurt, including the skinheads reported to have committed racist acts, discharge tension as a result of being hurt. She supported working with Ms. Littlefeather to re-educate people.

Cordingley noted that the issues being discussed usually fall beyond the purview of local government, but supported the Councilmembers working as individuals with Ms. Littlefeather to develop a proposal to combat racism. He noted that the Town has already been addressing the problems created by the skinheads.

Bill Jelinek, 53 Florence, a member of the Creek Park Planning Committee, said that the Town is not a bad town, implied that more incidents happen with youths in the street than in the Park, and added that Creek Park is dedicated to all the people in the community.

Nancy Olson, 1329 San Anselmo Avenue, said there is a group of more than three people who threaten many people, not just minorities or the disabled, and who she felt did not belong in San Anselmo.

Bill Bandy, 730 San Anselmo Avenue, said the remarks attributed to him in the Chronicle article were taken 3 to 4 weeks ago and were out of context. He said he sees some problems and some misguided youths, but that he does not see hate festering in San Anselmo.

Stephanie Kramer, 211 San Anselmo Avenue, said she grew up in San Anselmo with kids of all kinds of ethnicity, one would be hardpressed to find a more neighborly community and that San Anselmo has a very long history of anti-racist efforts.

Chignell said the Councilmembers all agree they do not countenance racism or oppression and supported anything that could be done to eliminate it. He said that next to Fairfax, San Anselmo was the most progressive community in the County and one would not find people in San Anselmo reluctant to join in an effort to fight racism and oppression. He asked Police Chief Del Santo for information on the activities of youths in the downtown and the Police Department's course of action.

Del Santo reported that number of incidents of assault and vandalism in the downtown has risen, the owners of Kaufman's and Gunning's Hobbies periodically paint over offensive graffiti on the outside of their buildings, tables and benches in Creek Park have been vandalized, hypodermic needles have been found in Creek Park, and there is extensive litter in the creek. He said that police officers were issuing citations for blocking the sidewalk, standing in the street, and curfew violations, and have stepped up patrols in Creek Park.

Sharp commented that San Anselmo does not condone discrimination, the Police Department is working on the problem with youths, and he expressed interest in hearing a proposal from Ms. Littlefeather and seeing something concrete implemented. He added that he had trouble with picking out youths with a particular haircut and that the problem is more widespread than San Anselmo.

Walsh said said all the Councilmembers were elected on a platform of preventing racism and she supported working to prevent any form of discrimination. She recalled her own experience of youths dressing in a particular fashion to get attention and expressed apprehension in discriminating against youths who may wear a particular hair or clothes style.

Wooliever expressed concern about creating undue attention to a small group of people, many of whom do not reside in San Anselmo. She speculated that perhaps its was because San Anselmo is so tolerant that the youths are in this Town. She said she agreed with the efforts to develop a proposal for combatting racism and discrimination.

Cordingley said he felt the number of extent of youth activities had been blown out of proportion by the media and that the Town has done a great deal to work on this problem, adding that people have a right to be here as long as they do not break the law.

3. APPOINTMENTS

(a) Planning Commission - Eight applications have been received for the two vacancies on the Planning Commission. It was the consensus of the Council to interview all eight applicants on September 22, prior to their regular meeting.

(b) Open Space - An application has been received from Evan Kraus for the one vacant seat. It was the consensus of the Council to contact the Open Space Committee to ascertain whether it wishes to make an endorsement.

4. DISCUSSION REGARDING CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAM - INCREASING PICKUP FREQUENCY TO WEEKLY

The Council has already adopted a Resolution requesting the County seek an exemption to the recent state legislation requiring beverage container recycling redemption centers within a certain radius of supermarkets on the grounds that successful curbside recycling programs already exist in the County. San Anselmo currently has a bi-weekly recycling schedule. Cordingley suggested the Town might consider changing to a weekly schedule in order to help improve the County's chances of obtaining an exemption. Based on the information he had obtained today from state officials, a weekly recycling would have to be in place within the next month in order for it to have any

affect on the state's exemption decision. Cordingley noted that some redemption centers will be required even if the exemption is obtained.

Ray Forest, San Anselmo Garbage Disposal, said that while the new legislation partially goes into affect October 1, penalties will not be levied until January 1, 1988. He said certain areas of the County did not have an adequate curbside recycling program and was skeptical that the County would obtain an exemption. He was agreeable to changing to a weekly program, but felt that in terms of the exemption decision, the Town has done all it needs to do by urging the County to seek the exemption.

Acting Town Administrator Dickens advised that the Town may choose to have a weekly recycling program even if it does not affect the exemption decision, but whatever decision the Council makes, it should be final.

Wooliever said that whether the County qualifies for a exemption is secondary to whether the Town wants weekly recycling. She said she was more inclined to take the time to ask the people of the community whether they want the extra expense of a weekly program or whether they are satisfied with a bi-weekly program. She noted that Regeneration, 211 San Anselmo Avenue, has suggested recycling education programs in the schools.

Chignell and Sharp wanted community input into the recycling schedule decision and requested a report back from the Town Attorney concerning the deadlines under the new legislation.

Sarah Nome, 77 Alder, asked whether San Anselmo Garbage could use the recycling plant in San Rafael. Mr. Forest responded that the plant is used by San Anselmo when the price is right. He said San Anselmo's recycling rates are less expensive than other areas in the County.

It was the consensus of the Council to wait on deciding whether to implement a weekly recycling program.

5. ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING SELECTION OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Cordingley announced that the Council had unanimously decided to appoint Ernie Dickens to be Town Administrator in its closed session of July 28.

6. DETERMINATION OF COMPENSATION OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Cordingley noted that the factors taken into consideration when setting the salary of the Town Administrator included the salary of the previous administrator, the cost of living in this area - particularly housing, and the salaries paid to administrators in other Marin towns and cities. Given these factors, the Council proposed to continue the acting town administrator salary of \$4,000 per month through August 31, set the salary at \$4,500 per month between September 1, 1987 and February 29, 1988, and set the salary at \$5,000 between March 1 and June 30, 1988.

Town Treasurer Sheldon asked if these figures include benefits and a pension plan. Cordingley responded that these were additional costs, set at the same rate as the previous administrator.

Nome said the Town could not afford the salary or car allowance being proposed, objected to raises in the future being laid out now, and suggested that instead the Town might offer the administrator raises to come in the future. In comparing salaries with other administrators in Marin, she said San Anselmo should not be compared to towns that have excesses in sales tax as this town is fighting an uphill struggle for sales tax revenue.

Chignell commented that he was not enthusiastic about salary and benefit costs in light of the Town's budget constraints, but in looking at the Town's needs and how Dickens fits those needs, he felt he has done an admirable job of running the Town. He felt it was a justified and prudent compensation level at this point in time, adding that the benefits are not substantial and have not been enhanced and the salary is average for someone who is an administrator.

Sharp felt it would be irresponsible for the Council not to hire a competent administrator and said the compensation package is average or below that given other town administrators.

Walsh stated that she did not oppose the selection of the Town Administrator but she did not support salaries of the magnitude being proposed for the Administrator.

Cordingley said he thought the salary and benefit package was appropriate and commensurate with the person filling the position. He commented that the Town cannot skimp on paying an administrator and expect him to come through like the Council would expect him to.

Bill Bandy, 730 San Anselmo Avenue, expressed support for changing the town administrator position to a town manager position.

M/S, Sharp/Wooliever, to approve Resolution No. 3026 setting the monthly salary of the Town Administrator to be \$4,000 through August 31, \$4,500 beginning September 1, and \$5,000 beginning March 1, 1988. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Chignell, Sharp, Wooliever, Cordingley

NOES: Walsh

M/S, Wooliever/Sharp, to approve the benefit package, including retirement, insurance, vacation leave, sick leave, administrative leave, car allowance, conference fees, at the same rate as the previous administrator, and a one-time relocation allowance of \$2,000. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Chignell, Sharp, Wooliever, Cordingley

NOES: Walsh

7. REPORT ON FAIRFAX REDEVELOPMENT

Sharp reported that in a meeting with the Mayors, Vice-Mayors and Town Administrators of Fairfax and San Anselmo, Fairfax agreed that San Anselmo should be involved in the planning process of projects that could impact that town, such as redevelopment. This agreement will be put into a memorandum of understanding between the two towns.

8. REPORT ON SB 878 - ENDORSEMENT OF PROPOSED PROCESS FOR THE COMMITTEE

SB 878 allows counties to ask voters to adopt a sales tax increase of up to 1¢ for transportation and road improvement purposes. The ballot measure must detail criteria for expenditure of this tax revenue. Sharp, a member of the committee, reported that the committee is seeking input from each jurisdiction on if and how they feel municipalities should participate in the decision making process for allocation of the tax revenue, and whether they support establishing a task force to develop an expenditure plan that may be placed on a ballot measure. Sharp noted that a Town's participation in the task force does not necessarily mean that it endorses a tax proposal.

It was the consensus of the Council to continue to participate in the SB 878 planning process as well as looking at other funding mechanisms,

but in no way did this indicate the Council's support of a sales tax increase.

9. DISCUSSION OF AUGUST 6 ROSS VALLEY FIRE SERVICE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Cordingley reported on the actions taken by the Fire Service Board at its last meeting, including proposals by Fire Chief Mollenkopf to improve communications between the Fire Board and the Town Councils.

Chignell asked that the issue of rotating Council representation to the Board of Directors be placed on a future Council agenda.

10. COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, COMMENTS AND DIRECTIONS TO STAFF; STAFF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Lincoln Avenue - Chignell asked for information on whether another group home for mentally handicapped individuals is being proposed in the Lincoln Park neighborhood.

Future meeting attendance - Cordingley and Wooliever will not be present at the August 25th meeting. Chignell will not be present at the September 8th meeting.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- (a) Approval of Warrants Nos. 1819 - 1886, 6202 - 6275, and 63,000 - 63,095, in the amount of \$726,902.97.
- (b) Approval of Minutes of July 23 and 28, 1987.
- (c) Resolution establishing the appropriations limit for fiscal year 1987-88. CONTINUED TO AUGUST 25, 1987.
- (d) Resolution adopting budget for fiscal year commencing July 1, 1987. CONTINUED TO AUGUST 25, 1987.

Chignell asked the purpose of the \$200,000 check to Wells Fargo. Staff responded that this was a fund transfer.

Nome said checks over a certain amount of money should require more than one signature and a signature of a Councilmember, and objected to no cash flow chart being posted. Town Treasurer Sheldon noted that the two signature check practice was already in place.

Walsh corrected the minutes of July 28 as follows: on page 1, under item #4, at the end of the third paragraph add: "without a townwide vote."

M/S, Sharp/Chignell, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

12. ADJOURNMENT to closed session on personnel matters (discussion/direction re: employee negotiations), and thereafter to next regular meeting of August 25, 1987.