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Council expected to approve downtown mission

Paulette Tobin Staff Writer

Mayor Keith Carlyle and some other city officials say they believe the common council Monday night will approve locating a shelter for the homeless in downtown Rapid City.

The council meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall. Carlyle said he believed the council would support a one-year use on review for Community Care Center Inc., the organization that wants to buy the city hall building at 22 Main St.

Community Care Center submitted the lone bid of \$301,050 when the city hall building was advertised for sale. The organization wants to make the building headquarters for Cornerstone Rescue Mission, the Salvation Army Feeding Program, Church Response and Black Hills Regional Food Bank.

Carlyle said some opponents of the proposed shelter location had asked whether Aldermen Carole Hillard and Gale Holbrook would excuse themselves from the vote Monday night.

Hillard, a member of the Community Care Center board, said she would excuse herself from the vote.

But Holbrook, a member of the Salvation Army board, said he planned to take part.

"The Salvation Army is not the main issue," Holbrook said Friday. "The mission is the main issue." A use on review was not required for the Salvation Army to move into the building, he said.

About the vote, Holbrook said, "I would have to be persuaded to vote against it."

Another supporter of the proposed mission location, Alderman Joe Bailey, said he thought the council would approve the use on review and award the bid to Community Care Center.

"This is going to require very good management or it's not going to be in operation the second year," Bailey said. "I've got great faith in the group that is administering this progam and I expect it to work. But I also realize the fears of the adjacent property owners."

The mayor and Aldermen Harold Weiland, Alvin Albrecht, Vicky Powers and Delores Coffing have indicated support for the mission in the past.

Alderman Jerry Shoener said he opposed the mission moving to downtown.

"It's wrong for the community and it's bad for the mission clients in the long term," Shoener said. "I feel it will pass the city council. I think there's been a lot of political pressure. But I think it's just the wrong location."

Alderman Guy Edwards also has opposed the move. but he won't attend Monday night's meeting.

Alderman Don Kellar said Friday he was still making up his mind.

"I know we need a facility," Kellar said. "I'd really rather see it some place else, but I don't think that's going to happen ... I haven't fully decided. I want to hear some more (testimony) Monday night, I guess."

The city planning commission last week approved a one-year use on review, which would allow the mission to move into the building.

After the council votes on the use on review, it will vote on whether to award the bid on the building.

Some property owners and business managers in downtown Rapid City object to having the mission in their neighborhood. They say it will lower property values.

scare away their customers and endanger them and their employees.

Also on Monday night's agenda:

· Second reading of an ordinance that would allow the city to create platting moratoriums.

• First reading of an amendment to the city's liquor ordinance. It would require a store employee to be in the liquor sales department, allow liquor leaving the liquor display area to be placed in an opaque bag and eliminate the requirement that liquor be priced prior to leaving the liquor display area.

 Second reading of an ordinance on the mayor's proposal to enact a half-cent sales tax beginning Jan. 1, 1989.

• First reading of an ordinance that would delete the reference to airplanes from the city's uniform building code. That would allow the airport to use a private hangar policy drawn up by a special hangar committee.

· A resolution declaring a moratorium on the subdivision of land within the area over which the city has jurisdiction.

• A vote on whether to appropriate another \$1,650 to kill unwanted animals at the city animal shelter.