

donor to the Butte County Board of Supervisors with the intent of funding an additional sheriff's deputy for three years.

**The night also included another** historically contentious topic for Chico: homelessness. City Manager Mark Orme was directed to work with service providers, the county and other stakeholders to develop guidelines for a "code blue" emergency shelter program, to determine how to take in homeless folks temporarily during extreme cold weather conditions.

This topic was brought up in the context of the closure of the American Red Cross shelter at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds at the end of the month (see "Shelter no more," page 8).

The stakeholders aren't set to meet until Feb. 8, the earliest everyone could get together, Orme said. In the meantime, it's not clear where the hundreds of people at the fairgrounds will go. "This code blue thing is life or death," Councilman Scott Huber said. "I'd like to see the city take a bigger ownership of this."

**In an interesting twist just before** the meeting adjourned to closed session, Councilman Karl Ory made an announcement that a Fair Political Practices Commission complaint was filed against him, allegedly by former Councilman Mark Sorensen upon his departure from office. The complaint alleged that Ory had a conflict of interest when it came to Chico Scrap Metal, Ory said. He added that the FPPC rejected the complaint.

Later, he told the CN&R he brought this up to further his argument with the City Attorney's Office that he is capable of voting on issues related to Chico Scrap Metal, which is currently the subject of three active cases against the city. Deputy City Attorney Andrew Jared told him at a previous meeting not to vote on matters related to the recycler, but Ory said he has received no written, detailed explanation from the City Attorney's Office.

"I think it's yet one more example of a wrong-headed movement by the city attorney," he said. "It's disturbing that any elected official could be disallowed from his duty by a corporate attorney from Los Angeles."

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