

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF LOCAL EMERGENCY STATUS – DECEMBER 26, 2013

SOURCE: Administration

COMMENT: In its adoption of the Resolution of Local Emergency on December 26, 2013, the City Council declared the existence of a local emergency as a result of a significant fire event that occurred at the Porterville Hotel (14 N. Main Street) during the early morning hours of December 26, 2013, and found that the remaining damaged structure posed a serious threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public and as such required immediate safety mitigation of the structure. In accordance with the Resolution and per the Council's authorization, a Contractor (Bowen Engineering & Environmental) was secured to perform the emergency demolition of the burned structure sufficient to mitigate the immediate threat to public safety.

Due to the damaged structure's proximity to public right-of-way, the adjacent roadways and intersection of Main Street and Olive Avenue were closed to the public. With the demolition and mitigation of the threat to public safety, the intersection and roadways were opened to the public by approximately 6:00 PM on December 26, 2013. City staff continued its coordination with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and the Contractor on additional mitigation measures to protect the safety of the public, and minor additional demolition work subsequently occurred in an effort to open affected pedestrian walkways.

The property owner has continued his coordination with his insurance company toward the removal of the existing debris, as well as paying the costs of mitigation from December 26, 2013. The property owner solicited bids from qualified contractors, with his selection of local firm Valley Cleaning & Restoration, Inc. (VCR) as the lowest bidding contractor. VCR began the debris removal on Monday, May 5, 2014, and is anticipated that completion of the removal of debris will be certified by the end of the month.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council receive the status report and review of the designated local emergency.

ATTACHMENT: Resolution No. 85-2013



Dir



App/Fund



CM

Item No. 18

RESOLUTION NO. 85-2013

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTERVILLE
DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

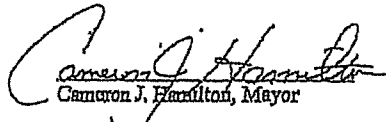
WHEREAS, the Porterville Hotel, 14 North Main Street, sustained major damage in a fire that occurred in the early morning hours of December 26, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the remaining structure poses a serious threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public due to the remaining damaged structure's proximity to public right-of-way at a major City intersection and as such requires immediate demolition to remove that threat; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has found that the aforementioned conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a local emergency so as to take immediate actions to remove said threat.

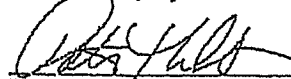
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Porterville does hereby declare the existence of a local emergency as a result of a significant fire that occurred at the Porterville Hotel, 14 North Main Street, during the early morning hours of December 26, 2013, and that the remaining damaged structure poses a serious threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public and as such requires immediate safety mitigation of the structure, which includes demolition of the remaining standing structure, potential removal of asbestos, and fencing of site to secure the property.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 26th day of December, 2013.


Cameron J. Hamilton, Mayor

ATTEST:

John D. Lellis, City Clerk



By: Patrice Hildreth, Chief Deputy City Clerk