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From: Brad Friske <bsfriske@yahoo.com>
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To: ZZ Council Members
Subject: agenda item 24-1068.

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Dear La Crosse City Council Members,

I am writing this to you as a resident of the Town of Campbell concerning agenda item 24-1068.

I am concerned about several aspects of your interest in moving the homeless population of La Crosse City to the Town of Campbell, specifically the Norwood Inn.

First as I am sure you are aware, there is no bus service to the Island on the weekends and the last buses to and from the Island are between 6am and 6pm with no service on weekends. Housing homeless with no other transportation is stranding them on the island.

Your plan seems to indicate that the homeless only occupy the building during certain times, where are they to go the other 12 hours they will not be in the hotel, especially on weekends when there is no transportation off the island?

This hotel is not near any social services, everything is off the island. Will social services be provided at the hotel location since transportation will be an issue?

The town of Campbell does not have enough police to handle the population of the Town AND the homeless population of the Norwood Inn should that be the plan. Will the City of La Crosse supply dedicated additional police services to the hotel?

The hotel has mold issues from a burst pipe of several years ago that have not been completely remediated (if at all). A look at reviews on most any travel website will show this hotel to be riddled with issues including mold, smells and security issues. Many of the reviews are titled Do Not Stay Here, or something similar. Mold remediation would be necessary and the cost is hefty. The City of La Crosse could possibly find itself the target of a lawsuit should one or more of the residences become ill due to the unhealthy situation. Additionally, we already have a contaminated water supply. This hotel was condemned before and I understand it's in the process of being condemned again.

Treating the Homeless issue as a collective problem is never going to fix the issue. The homeless are individuals with different situations that should be addressed on an individual level.

The homeless population seems to increase with each new shortsighted plan from the City of La Crosse. This looks like just another one. The old KMart building is not even on the list of options, yet it would be much better located for transportation, food, and other needs of the homeless.

Dumping people in a rundown hotel in another community seems like an out of sight, kick the can down the road response.

Brad Friske
Town of Campbell