

COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

**March 30, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.
Council Chamber – City Hall**

A Council work session was held via conference call to discuss COVID-19.

Attending: Mayor Bill McMurray and Councilmembers Brenda Blessing, Madison Davis, PJ Kovac, Russell Moore, Brian Meyers, Marty Novak, Kent O'Dell and Gary Roach.

J. Bruce Woody, City Manager; Bryan Carter, City Attorney; Chuck Kempf, Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities Director; Amy Cohorst, Human Resources Director; Debra Bradley, Health Director; Chris Connally, Police Chief; Mary Robertson, Asst. to the City Manager/Communications & Public Relations Manager; Ed Schilling, Multi-Media Planner; and Paula Heyde, City Clerk.

Mayor Bill McMurray called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken.

Mayor McMurray asked Bryan Carter, City Attorney, to provide a summary of the proposed changes to the Declaration and Order.

Mr. Carter said there has been discussion on extending the existing Declaration and Order until April 24, 2020 and rewording it so that it doesn't necessarily expire on April 24 but that a decision on the continuing need will occur before April 24. To address the enforcement component, they are looking at adding a due process that would require a letter to be sent to businesses that are open but that are "non-essential" businesses and give them a chance to be heard and to hold a hearing before a citation is actually issued. The Dept. of Homeland Security also reissued its guidance on Friday. It has a couple of minor differences from what the City's current Declaration and Order has and we would add those items as well.

Discussion followed on the following: 1) keeping the City's list of essential businesses consistent with the Dept. of Homeland Security's list; 2) April 20 will be the date the decision will be made to extend the declaration and order; 3) pawn shops fall under essential businesses; 4) price gouging should be reported to the Attorney General hot line; 5) bars that have package liquor licenses can allow people to call and place an order to pick up liquor from their establishments as long as it's in the original package; 6) the Chamber is providing information to businesses about any state or federal programs they might be able to access for assistance; 7) smoke shops and CBD shops fall under essential businesses; 8) parks are open but playgrounds are closed and school playgrounds are closed; 9) churches can be open if they maintain the six foot distance between people but they are strongly encouraged to televise or live stream their services; and 10) should there be a curfew.

Linda Bahrke, Mosaic Life Care, said the Mosaic physicians feel strongly that the social distancing is critical at this point. If we stop the social distancing prematurely, we will be in a situation where we will have community contact and community transmission.

Mayor McMurray said they are contemplating extending the Declaration and Order that expires on April 2 until 11:59 p.m. on April 24, 2020 with the changes outlined by Mr. Carter at the beginning of the meeting and asked if there were any objections. No objections were expressed.

Mayor McMurray said it will be re-evaluated 14 days from April 1 (April 15, 2020).

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paula Heyde". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Minutes transcribed by Paula Heyde, CMC, City Clerk.