

MINUTES OF THE MISSION SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 13, 2020

The Mission City Council met virtually via ZOOM for a Special City Council Meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Appletoft. The following councilmembers participated virtually: Trent Boultinghouse, Ken Davis, Sollie Flora, Kristin Inman, Debbie Kring, Arcie Rothrock, Nick Schlossmacher and Hillary Thomas.

The Mayor stated that because of the COVID-19 social distancing recommendations, this meeting is being held virtually via ZOOM. City Councilmembers and staff joined remotely. While the Mayor, City Administrator, Laura Smith and City Clerk, Audrey McClanahan, participated from their own work stations at City Hall. The public was invited to participate in the meeting by using the instructions included in the City Calendar item listed on the front page of the website. The public may join or just listen, or join with audio and/or video using a webcam or smartphone. The public will be allowed to make comments through the "chat" feature and should note that comments are visible by the group. Members of the public are asked to state their name and city of residence when making a public comment. Mayor Appletoft also asked all to be conscientious of others trying to speak and to speak clearly and slowly.

Amendment to State of Emergency / Disaster Proclamation

Ms. Smith presented on the proposed extension of the City of Mission's State of Emergency/Disaster Proclamation related to COVID-19 through July 15, 2020. Although the current stay-at-home orders issued by the State and Johnson County have now expired, the City of Mission desires to extend the current emergency declaration through this date in order to gauge the success of various reopening and recovery plans. The Proclamation was originally issued on March 13, 2020 and previously amended on March 18, 2020, April 1, 2020 and April 15, 2020 respectively.

By extending the proclamation, it will allow the City to keep the umbrella protection of the emergency declaration while also maintaining a greater degree of flexibility in reacting and responding to changes in public health information and gating criteria to manage the appropriate reopening schedules for City facilities or programs. Ms. Smith stated that it will keep the City in a position to be eligible for potential reimbursement from FEMA, if the State and County criteria are also met. She clarified that there is no harm by extending the Proclamation and it will help protect the City financially.

The City Council may revoke the extension sooner if conditions warrant. Ms. Smith added that July 15 was selected because it coincides with the Council's regular

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legislative meeting, and if additional action is needed there are opportunities to call a special meeting or be addressed at the June legislative meeting. By July, the City should be in a position to have moved through a couple of the State's reopening plan phases and will be positioned to either extend the proclamation or allow it to expire.

Ms. Smith clarified that the specific implications and impacts to City facilities are not included because the Council is being asked to consider a separate Resolution which details that information individually and more specifically.

Councilmember Davis agreed that this was the right approach at this time and it will allow flexibility for the City until July 15, he added that this was justified and that the Council should proceed with the approval.

Moved by Davis, seconded by Flora to approve the extension to the City of Mission's State of Emergency / Disaster Proclamation related to COVID-19 through July 15, 2020 to gauge the success of various reopening and recovery plans. Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Davis, Flora, Inman, Kring, Rothrock, Schlossmacher, Thomas. **Motion carried.**

Resolution Outlining COVID-19 Reopening Plan for Mission

The second item on the agenda was the COVID-19 Reopening Recommendations. This item allows the City Council to review and adopt a Resolution which outlines the reopening recommendations for various City facilities, programs and services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In April, both Governor Laura Kelly and Johnson County issued stay-at-home orders as a public health mitigation strategy to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). In anticipation of the orders expiring, staff reviewed and evaluated impacts on various City facilities, programs and services.

At the May 6, 2020 Community Development Committee meeting, a memorandum and accompanying matrix outlined recommendations designed to assist Mission in reopening responsibly in order to continue to protect the health and safety of the community and our employees. It was determined that staff would formalize the recommendations and bring them back for specific Council consideration and approval. The only difference in the materials included in the packet from what was presented on May 6 is a move of in-person court dockets from June 9 until at least July 1, 2020.

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The proposed reopening recommendations are as follows:

- City Hall, the Police Department and Public Works will reopen to the public no sooner than June 1, 2020.
- Municipal Court's first in-person docket will not be scheduled until at least July 1.
- City meetings, including City Council, Board and Commission meetings, will be conducted remotely through June 30.
- In-person City meetings, if appropriate, can resume July 1.
- City Hall, the Police Department and Public Works' non essential events (i.e. tours, retirement celebrations, etc.) can resume with the introduction of Phase IV of The Plan.
- Mission Family Aquatic Center will remain closed through the 2020 season.
- Mission Summer Camp will not be operated for the 2020 season.
- Playgrounds and park restrooms (permanent and portable) will remain closed through the conclusion of Phase III of The Plan.
- The Community Center will open no sooner than June 1, 2020, allowing the staff to appropriately communicate with users of the facility. The facility will be open during its regular days and hours, with the exception of Sunday, which is recommended due to an inability under normal circumstances to cover staffing needs with low demand.
- The Community Center's facility rentals are recommended to resume with Phase III and at least one week following the reopening of the Center for fitness activities. The gathering size will be limited to 90 people.
- The Mission Market will reopen on June 4 with on-line shopping only. The Market will resume in Phase IV and will include modifications such as one shopper allowed per family, mask use encouraged, spacing of vendor tents, one-way traffic guidance and hand-washing stations. There will be no hot prepared foods or the beer and wine garden. Music and other special events will not be scheduled as well.
- Mission Summer Family Picnic has been postponed from July 11th to September with the possibility it could be completely cancelled.
- Sunflower Festival will be cancelled for 2020 with plans to bring back recommendations for an event beginning in 2021.
- Mission Police Department Citizens Academy has been cancelled and rescheduled for the first quarter of 2021.

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Generally, the City's reopening plan will follow the phasing recommendations outlined in the State's [Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen Kansas](#). Where the City differs, it will proceed in taking a more cautious and slower approach based on our desire to open all facilities as safely as possible. Mission formally entered Phase I of the plan on May 11, following the expiration of Johnson County's extension of the stay-at-home order.

Each reopening phase is to be reviewed and analyzed on a rolling 14-day cycle. All dates connected with the State's plan are "best case scenario" and subject to extension. Councilmember Flora clarified, and expressed her preference, while Ms. Smith affirmed that if the Resolution is passed that staff would not have the discretion to move dates earlier without Council's consent.

Councilmember Davis addressed that the public understands this document pertains solely to City functions and activities, it will not be relevant to the business openings in the City. Ms. Smith confirmed that is correct and stated that anything on the private side would be governed by the State's recovery plan.

Councilmember Thomas asked Ms. Smith to address how the staff and Council thoughtfully evaluated and concluded the cancellation of the Mission Family Aquatic Center for the 2020 season. Ms. Smith stated that the approach by the City and Council has been to be very deliberate in looking at the ability to not only provide access and use to the facilities, programs and services as safely as possible but also in a way that maintains the quality of service delivery that residents have come to expect from the City.

In making a recommendation regarding outdoor aquatics, the City assessed various public health recommendations as well as stayed in communication with NE Johnson County neighboring communities and others in the metropolitan area. It was concluded that there would be significant challenges with respect to social distancing and recruiting, hiring and staffing guards for the aquatic facility. With fluidity in the dates applied to the gating criteria, the recommendation was to not open the Mission Family Aquatic Center for the 2020 season.

Following discussion, Section II of the Resolution was amended to add language stating that final reopening plans and timelines, for the Community Center and Municipal Court, will require City Council approval of a specific operating plan for each.

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Also, to provide clarity, Section 3 of the amendment wordage will be changed to read that 'any dates included in this Resolution or subsequent communication materials are estimates only and may be moved later (but not earlier) as needed to align with public health recommendations.'

Councilmember Kring asked if additional information would be available on our website and offered to provide any assistance needed. Ms. Smith said that information would be made available through the City's website (missionks.org), social media pages as well as the Mission magazine. Councilmember Thomas suggested a one sheet layout of the matrix reopening plan to provide more easily accessible information for residents.

Moved by Davis, seconded by Boultinghouse to adopt a resolution with the amendment which outlines the reopening recommendations for various City facilities, programs and services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Voting AYE: Boultinghouse, Davis, Flora, Inman, Kring, Rothrock, Schlossmacher, Thomas. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Appletoft announced that the public video from tonight's meeting will be available through a link on the City's website - missionks.org.

Moved by Davis, seconded by Boultinghouse to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. All present voted AYE. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by Audrey McClanahan, City Clerk.

Ronald E. Appletoft, Mayor

Audrey M. McClanahan, City Clerk