

MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 26, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jacob Mercurief at 9:07 AM. Councilmembers present were Daniel Porath, Richard Warner, Robert Owens, Dimitri Zacharof, Jason Bourdukofsky, Raymond Melovidov. A quorum was established.

CALL TO ORDER

Clmbr Porath moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Clmbr Bourdukofsky. Motion carried by voice vote.

AGENDA
APPROVED

Mgr Zavadil gave his report: There have been many changes and meetings about the coronavirus. A local emergency planning committee was held on March 12th in the City Council Chambers to discuss the pandemic and what measures each entity is taking. The City Incident Command System has been meeting regularly to discuss COVID-19 and the steps that are taken to ensure the staff is taking precautions and still continuing services to the community. The Finance Department has changed the hours and changed all the AMPY cards to friendly. The Public Works Department will not allow public access to their building during this pandemic. The new gas station protocol has been put into place. The gas station attendant will fuel all vehicles while the customers keep this distance. The City is encouraging community members to have a card on file to limit cash exchange. The City Hall is limited to access to one entrance, located on the North side located by the Public Safety entrance. Each person entering must stop in the restroom and wash their hands before continuing to the cashier window. The first Unified Command meeting will be held on Friday, March 27th.

CITY MANAGER
REPORT

Nurse Practitioner, Becky Biersbach gave her COVID-19 report: This is new virus, no person has had it or has immunity to this, there is not vaccine. The main symptoms are a fever, cough and shortness of breath. The body can have the virus but not show symptoms for 14 days. Therefore the 14-day isolation period is very important. Becky has been researching and following all the information released about COVID-19 and charting the numbers. She made estimates for the community of St. Paul with information gathered from the CDC. Positive cases in Alaska jumped from 9 cases to 59 in a week. That's a 50 case increase in a week but that is also a 650% increase. That is high percentage in our state. The testing is a week behind since the tests take a week to receive results. Following the 80/20 concept that is the common breakdown of people being sick to very sick around the world. With a population of about 400 people this means about 80 people will contract the virus, and of those 80 people 16 people will possibly die from the virus. The Health Center doesn't have the proper medical supplies that are needed to care for that many people. The Health Center would be immediately overwhelmed with patients and limited staff.

SPHC BECKY
BIERSBACH, NP
REPORT

Clmbr Porath asked why the whole community cannot be tested. Becky stated that there is a very limited tests available around the world and is just not an option at this time. If you are sick do not come to the Health Center, call first and speak to a provider. There are some tests available right now, but it is a very limited amount for the population.

Clmbr Melovidov moved to approve Emergency Ordinance 20-90, Revising section 2.15.120, Participating by Teleconference, seconded by Clmbr Warner. This Ordinance will ensure that the council can continue to meet via teleconference and a will count towards a quorum. This Ordinance will be in place for 60 days.

EMERGENCY
ORDINANCE
20-90, REVISING
SECTION 2.15.120,
PARTICIPATING
BY
TELECONFERNCE

A roll call vote was held: Ayes- Bourdukofsky, Owens, Melovidov, Zacharof, Porath, Warner, Mercurief.
Motion carried unanimously.

Clmbr Owens moved to approve Emergency Ordinance 20-91, First Revision of the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, Adding Fund 536, COVID-19 Incident, seconded by Clmbr Warner. The AMLIP fund interest is at 0%, this will be moved to fund 536 to respond to COVID-19 Pandemic. This fund will be for COVID-19 supplies such as cleaning supplies, PPE and laptop for employees to work from home when needed. Clmbr Melovidov asked about the travel fund in 536. This would be for something like a charter in case it is needed for an emergency. Not for regular travel.

EMERGENCY
ORDINANCE
20-91, 1ST BUDGET
REVISION

A roll call vote was held: Ayes- Porath, Warner, Owens, Melovidov, Zacharof, Mercurief.

No-Jason.

Motion was carried by roll call vote.

A break was held between 10:20 and 10:40

Clmbr Owens moved to approve Resolution 20-06, Declaration of Emergency and Banning Non-Essential Travel, seconded by Clmbr Porath. This is a joint effort after meeting with the Tribe and SCF it was agreed that the City Council should do the Resolution. This would require everyone to self-isolate once they return to St. Paul after traveling.

RESOLUTION
20-06,
DECLARATION
OF EMERGENCY
AND BANNING
NON-ESSENTIAL
TRAVEL

Clmbr Zacharof asked about people who are Anchorage for medical and if they would be allowed to return. Mgr Zavadil stated yes, they will be allowed to travel back. Clmbr Zacharof said it should be written to reflect essential medical travel.

Clmbr Zacharof moved to amend the Resolution to state “Essential travel includes emergency and essential medical travel”, seconded by Clmbr Melovidov. Motion carried by voice vote.

Clmbr Melovidov moved to amend the Resolution to read “There is also an exception to allow non-resident, seasonal employees to enter and leave Saint Paul Island, provided they follow the pandemic response plan they provided to the State pursuant to appropriate State of Alaska Health Mandates and Alerts”, seconded by Mayor Mercurief. Motion carried by voice vote.

A roll call vote held: Ayes- Warner, Bourdukofsky, Porath, Owens, Melovidov, Zacharof, Mercurief.

Motion carried unanimously.

Clmbr Porath moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Clmbr Bourdukofsky. The motion carried by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED:

Monique Baker, City Clerk

Date