

CITY OF MANZANITA
May 15, 2020
COVID-19 SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order Friday May 15, 2020 at 10:00 am via Zoom.

ROLL: Members present: Mike Scott, Steve Nuttall, Thomas Aschenbrener, Hans Tonjes, and Linda Kozlowski

Staff Present: Cynthia Alamillo, Kristin Grassest, Nina Jarvis, Dan Weitzel, Erik Harth, and Dan Haag

May 15, 2020 COVID-19 SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP:

Mayor Scott stated that the County has begun phase one of reopening. He encourages the community to follow guidelines of wearing masks and social distancing whenever possible. Other facilities such as public restrooms and City parks continue to remain closed, but efforts are being made on a coordinated reopening of both.

City Manager Alamillo stated that she continues her work on the preparation of the 2020-21 budget, the first draft of which was presented to the committee this week. She will also be coordinating efforts on how/when to reopen the City parks and restrooms. It is with great sadness that she reports Council voted to cancel the 2020 4th of July Parade due to COVID-19.

Assistant City Manager Kristin Grassest stated that her focus has been on reopening City Hall and making any necessary adjustments to ensure that social distancing is observed as much as possible in the small space. Building and Planning will be moving into the same office in order to streamline Customer service as the departments continue to remain very active.

Public Works Director Dan Weitzel stated that utility workers continue to focus on mowing, brushing and park maintenance. His focus has been on preparations for reopening the public restrooms and parks.

Dan Haag from the Visitors Center stated that most businesses are remaining closed despite phase one reopening of the County. Retailers are working on best practices for regulating mask usage among customers and ways to keep only one-two shoppers in stores at a time. Haag has been working with the Hoffman Center on mask signage for the community.

Chief of Police Erik Harth stated that there will be a protest in Seaside this weekend, and he has scheduled an extra officer to be on-call incase any activity makes it way to our community. Last weekend he noticed many people not wearing masks out in the community. Although officers cannot enforce the use of masks, they are trying to send positive messages into the community to encourage people to comply with these guidelines.

Nehalem Bay Fire & Rescue Chief Chris Beswick stated that the office is scheduled to reopen with normal business hours on June 1, 2020. There will be a planning drill next week, with volunteers in small groups and maintaining a six-foot distance from one another. The COVID-19 antibody tests arrived, and so far, 40 volunteers and family members had been tested.

Ben Cox from Oregon State Parks stated that conversations continue to focus on the reopening of state Parks. Decisions are still made on a by County basis, with Clatsop and Tillamook both unready yet. Arcadia, Manhattan and hug point will likely be the first parks to reopen, with Oswald West and

Nehalem Bay State Park not opening until after May.

Councilor Kozlowski stated that the EVCC continues to remain active in their efforts to address COVID-19. She has been working with the Hoffman Center on their signage about the encouragement of masks and reports that retailers have really stepped up to help raise awareness about this important issue. A member of our community generously donated 100 disposable masks, which will be available to visitors. Cloth masks have also been donated which will be available for residents.

Councilor Nuttall stated that it was decided Short-Term Rentals will reopen May 29, 2020 at a 50% capacity. All the cleaning documents for the Short-Term Rental Ordinance Oversight Workgroup have been completed and will be available on the website soon. The workgroup will continue to work on best practices as we move forward with the reopening. He encourages the community to be kind and accepting as we begin to allow visitors back to our small city.

Councilor Tonjes has no new updates to report.

Councilor Aschenbrener stated that Farmers Market was a huge success and is encouraged by the results. he continues to monitor food scarcity both nationwide and locally and reports that our community has been able to fulfill demands. He also had his first meeting with the ‘beach cluster’ unity of EVCC, and urges leaders not to forget the ability to connect through Zoom, even after this crisis is over. Councilor Aschenbrener suggested that we make wearing masks fun and fashionable to encourage their use.

Mayor Scott adjourned the meeting at: 10:54 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVED THIS

3rd Day of June, 2020

Michael Scott, Mayor

Attest:

Cynthia Alamillo, City Manager/Recorder