CITY OF MANZANITA April 3, 2020 COVID-19 SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order Friday April 3rd 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 Grasseth, Nina Jarvis, Dan Weitzel, Erik Harth, and Dan Haag

APRIL 3, 2020 COVID-19 SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP:

Mayor Scott stated that City Council will hold a weekly Special Council Workshop each Friday through April to discuss the status of the COVID-19 closure. At each meeting we will hear updates from each department, including updates from Chief Beswick at Nehalem Bay Fire & Rescue. Mayor Scott also stated that he has been on daily calls with the County Leadership Team. This week's discussions focused on a budget reduction strategy to address financial effects of the business closures, as well as how to address the issue of personal protective equipment for citizens.

City Manager Cynthia Alamillo stated that the City has taken several steps to address the state of emergency that our City is now operating under. This includes the cancelling of all public meetings, the closure of all City facilities, as well as a resolution to address the closure of all short term rentals. Despite the closures, all City functions continue to operate. Alamillo also stated that the Mayor is doing daily update videos during the week, which can be found on the City of Manzanita Facebook page. Citizens can also visit the City website to sign up for email updates as well.

Public Works Director Dan Weitzel stated that he has changed the scheduling for his utility workers to have them working on separate shifts in order to maintain social distancing practices. He asks that the public help to ensure adequate social distancing as well by contacting his department via email for any questions or concerns. Weitzel also stated that he has updated his emergency response to include procedures for a pandemic.

Dan Haag from the Visitors Center stated that he continues to be active with the Oregon Coast Visitors Association to strategize ways to help our small business owners during this time of financial uncertainty. He has created a Facebook page called '3 villages small business support' to help business owners connect and find valuable resources. He also posts regular updates to the Explore Manzanita website.

Chief of Police Erik Harth stated that his department continues to operate on the same schedule. He has initiated a new practice of requiring officers to take their temperature prior to their shift, as as well as a strict policy to notify management of any symptoms of illness.

Chief Beswick of Nehalem Bay Fire and Rescue stated that all full-time employees have been moved to ten hour shifts in order to minimize contact with one another and maintain adequate social distancing. He has also limited volunteer responses to a maximum of four volunteers at a time. Chief Beswick also stated that his department has received authorization to obtain one hundred finger prick tests which will test for immunity to COVID-19.

Councilor Kozlowski stated that the EVCC continues to remain active in their efforts to address COVID-19. The Tillamook County Health Department has activated a community response team which will help the to track illness and administer more testing. The Medical Reserve Core is also working to track those who have been exposed to the virus. EVCC continues to also work towards obtaining more PPE and making it available for citizens in need.

Councilor Nuttall stated that he has been working with the Short-Term Rental Oversight Work group after the immediate shut down to the industry. The City has received great compliance with the order to shut down, and he plans to work with the group moving forward to help address STR needs, and to plan how they will reinstate rentals when the time comes.

Councilor Tonjes stated that the Off-Season Tourism Promotion Work Group has been granted approval to use the money from a recent grant to help small business owners during the shut down. He also stated that some merchants have also started funds to help struggling business owners as well.

Councilor Aschenbrener stated that food security during this time is of the utmost importance. He stresses that this is not a short-term problem, but rather a long-term one that will need to be addressed as citizens in the community continue to experience financial hardship as a result of the shutdown.

Mayor Scott adjourned the meeting at: 10:49 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 6th DAY OF MAY, 2020

Attest:

Michael Scott, Mayor

Cynthia Alamillo, City Manager/Recorder

The City of Manzanita is an equal opportunity provider and employer.