

**CITY OF MANZANITA
SEPTEMBER 11, 2020
COVID-19 SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order Friday, September 11, 2020 at 10:00 am via Zoom.

ROLL: Members present: Mike Scott, Thomas Aschenbrener, Hans Tonjes, and Steve Nuttall. Linda Kozlowski was absent and excused. Staff Present: Cynthia Alamillo, Dan Weitzel, and Nina Jarvis.

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Mayor Scott stated that Tillamook county continues to be threatened by wildfires. The main concern is the Pike Rd. fire, which currently has 180 firefighters working to contain it. Lincoln county is also experiencing widespread fires, and highway 101 has just reopened through Tillamook county. People and animals displaced from the fires are currently sheltering at the fairgrounds. Smoke is also a threat to public safety, with over 1,000 miles of smoke extending out over the ocean creating hazardous air quality. The Tillamook county watershed has also been impacted, and power was lost for several days throughout the county. There are currently no evacuation orders in place, and everyone is encouraged to stay inside as much as possible to avoid the hazardous air. The County burn ban has been expanded to include recreational fires, and mowers, chainsaws or anything that can create a spark are not recommended.

City Manager Cynthia Alamillo stated that this will be her last meeting as City Manager. She would like to thank everyone who has participated and helped to make these meetings possible. Alamillo recommends that the name of the meeting be changed to ‘Special Council Workshop’, so that it can include a wide range of topics instead of just topics related to COVID-19.

Dan Weitzel stated that the fires in Lincoln county are continuing to spread quickly, and its estimated that over 100 homes have been lost already. There has been little availability for outside assistance, and local jurisdictions have been left to battle the fires without state resources. Weitzel would like to encourage anyone with downed trees or limbs to leave them until the extreme fire danger has passed as chainsaws can create sparks and start new fires.

Dan Haag from the Visitors Center stated that the Tillamook Chamber of Commerce is accepting donations for those who have been displaced from the fires. No food donations are needed at this time, but cash donations are encouraged and appreciated. Haag has reached out to the Lincoln City Visitors Association to offer assistance, but he has not been able to get in contact with anyone.

Victoria Holt from the Health and Safety Advisory Committee was present on behalf of Linda Kozlowski. Holt stated that messages of poor air quality and fire prevention need to be spread to the public; and the City email list, website, and Facebook page can all be used as effective tools for doing so. Holt also stated that publicizing the necessity for flu vaccines to our community members is also important. The best time for flu vaccines is between Halloween

and Thanksgiving.

Councilor Tonjes stated that he has been in contact with his clients to put together a list of second homes that are not being occupied and could be used as a temporary shelter for those displaced from the fires. He will continue to monitor the situation.

Councilor Nuttall stated that many Short-Term Rental firms are experiencing cancellations due to poor air quality, but many are also seeing an increase in new reservations as people try to get away from areas that are more severely affected by smoke. Nuttall would like to encourage anyone with vehicles parked outside to be aware of ash accumulation as this can cause damage to paint.

Councilor Aschenbrener stated that the Oregon Health Authority and Oregon State University are beginning to make individual testing more accessible for high risk areas. All members of the Health and Safety Advisory Committee have resources in the healthcare community and he believes that if everyone worked together, they may be able to access testing for our community. Aschenbrener also stated that he anticipates food security may become an issue as people remain displaced from the fires. The North County Food Bank was closed this week due to the power outage but will resume their normal schedule next week. The food bank is currently looking for volunteers and members of the same household are preferred.

Mayor Scott adjourned the meeting at: 10:51 a.m.

**MINUTES APPROVED THIS
7th Day of OCTOBER 2020**

Michael Scott, Mayor

Attest:

Kristin Grassetth, Assistant City Manager