

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

MARCH 14, 2020

JACKSON, WYOMING

The Jackson Town Council met in a special/emergency session with an eight-hour notice, in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall located at 150 East Pearl at 11:00 A.M. Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

TOWN COUNCIL: Mayor Pete Muldoon, Vice-Mayor Hailey Morton Levinson, Arne Jorgensen, Jim Stanford, and Jonathan Schechter.

STAFF: Larry Pardee, Roxanne Robinson, Tyler Sinclair, Lea Colasuonno, Carl Pelletier, Todd Smith, Michelle Weber, and Roger Schultz.

OTHERS: Dr. Travis Riddell, Teton County Health Officer, Jodie Pond, Director of Teton County Public Health, Rich Ochs Emergency Management Coordinator, and Teton County Commissioner Chair Natalia Macker. Dr. Paul Beaupre, Chief Executive Office of St. John's Health, joined the meeting by telephone.

Mayor Muldoon asked for a motion to start with. In order for the Town Council and the Town of Jackson to be able to conduct needed and immediate business during the evolving situation around COVID-19, Hailey Morton Levinson moved, and Arne Jorgensen seconded a motion to suspend Section 3. Quorum in Chapter 2 of the Town Council's Rules and Procedures to temporarily allow Elected Officials to fully participate and vote; and to temporarily allow key staff members to fully participate in any regular, special, or emergency meetings through June 14, 2020. Mayor Muldoon called for the vote. The vote showed all in favor and the motion carried for the Town.

COVID-19 and Local Government Measures. Mayor Muldoon stated this meeting was called to allow the Town Council an opportunity to discuss potential immediate actions, as well as, triggers for more stringent actions to further protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Larry Pardee made staff comment on limiting mass gatherings of more than 100 people on both public and private property, indoors and outdoors. Jodie Pond, Director of Teton County Public Health provided an update on confirmed cases in Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, and Colorado, and efforts underway by the health department. Dr. Paul Beaupre made comment on the use of the hospital's hotline. Rich Ochs provided a situational report, continuity of operation plans, and went over community plans that were in place. Teton County Commissioner Chair Natalia Macker made comment on volunteer opportunities being set up.

The Council held discussion with Rich Ochs and Dr. Travis Riddell, Teton County Health Officer on schools, exposure, vulnerability, Governor Gordon's emergency declaration, disaster funding, emergency management coordination with other entities and partners, and benefits of reducing mass gatherings.

Discussion turned to the process, need, and length of an emergency ordinance. Lea Colasuonno discussed points made in a draft ordinance. Todd Smith made staff comment.

Public comment was given by: Gavin Fine, Colby Cox, and Jim Waldrop.

The Council held further discussion on an ordinance, resolution, or proclamation related to limiting gatherings to preserve and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Mark Newcomb made public comment.

Mayor Muldoon proposed an ordinance that limited occupancy at gatherings. Discussion was held on the general operation of Town government and council meetings.

A motion was made by Arne Jorgensen and seconded by Jim Stanford to direct the Town Manager to make the Community Development and Community Outreach positions available to Rich Ochs to assist as needed. Mayor Muldoon called for the vote. The vote showed all in favor and the motion carried.

Lea Colasuonno presented a revised ordinance limiting gatherings as they relate to 50% of the building's capacity as determined by the Fire Marshal.

A motion was made by Hailey Morton Levinson and seconded by Jim Stanford to suspend the requirements for three (3) public reading of ordinances under W.S. § 15-1-115(c). Mayor Muldoon called for the vote. The vote showed all in favor and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Hailey Morton Levinson and seconded by Jim Stanford to read the Emergency Ordinance in short title. Mayor Muldoon called for the vote. The vote showed all in favor and the motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance 1247: AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO LIMIT MASS GATHERINGS TO IMMEDIATELY PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TIME FOR TERMINATION.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JACKSON, WYOMING, IN REGULAR SESSION DULY ASSEMBLED, THAT:

A motion was made by Hailey Morton Levinson and seconded by Jim Stanford to approve the Emergency Ordinance 1247 as amended today implementing a temporary moratorium on mass gatherings of as defined in the ordinance within the Town limits for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety or welfare to: 1) to prevent and slow the potential spread of COVID-19; 2) significantly reduce likelihood of overwhelming the strain on the local health care and emergency service systems; and 3) declaring an emergency, and providing for an effective date and time for termination. Mayor Muldoon called for the vote. The vote showed all in favor and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Hailey Morton Levinson and seconded by Jim Stanford to direct the town attorney to review and prepare a motion that enables the Town Council to continue to meet in a closed meeting to the physical attendance of the public, but still accessible to public to view and participate. Mayor Muldoon called for the vote. The vote showed all in favor and the motion carried.

Adjourn. A motion was made by Hailey Morton Levinson and seconded by Jim Stanford to adjourn. The vote showed all in favor and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. minutes:spb

TOWN OF JACKSON

ATTEST:

Pete Muldoon, Mayor

Sandra P. Birdyshaw, Town Clerk

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