

WESTFIR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 6, 2020

Audio/Video Teleconference, 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Matt Meske called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Councilors D'Lynn Williams and Randy Stark were present.

MAYOR'S MINUTE:

The mayor commented that online meeting was a new environment for everyone, and we'd do the best we can with it.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There were no citizen comments.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There were no Councilor comments.

RESOLUTION 488 DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY:

Mayor Meske confirmed that the terms of the resolution state that the City Council President will serve as the "acting in capacity" mayor in the Mayor's absence during the State of Emergency.

Mayor Meske made a motion to pass Resolution 488 to declare a State of Emergency in the City of Westfir, pursuant to the Governor's declaration and to City Ordinance No. 127. Councilor Randy Stark seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.

AYES: Meske, Williams, Stark **NAYS:** 0 **ABSTENTIONS:** 0

COVID-19 RESPONSE:

As authorized under Resolution 488, the Mayor issued an order to place a moratorium on shutting off residents' water service for non-payment for a period of 90 days. Councilor Stark and Councilor Williams agreed with the order.

Councilor Edward Johnstone and Councilor Thalia Lerin joined the meeting at around 5:36 p.m.

VARIANCE APPLICATION FOR THREE DOGS, CHRISTOPHER BALL:

Councilor Stark stated that he did not feel comfortable approving the variance without more details about the animal and situation. The Mayor asked Nicole to contact the owners for information.

APPROVE MINUTES:

Councilor D'Lynn Williams mentioned two items in the minutes that needed to be followed up: The 5-year temporary use permit for the Bridge Lighting, and the Ballard's variance application for the dog Maze. Councilor D'Lynn Williams made a motion to approve the minutes from March 2, 2020. Mayor Matt Meske seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

AYES: Meske, Williams, Johnstone, Lerin, Stark **NAYS:** 0 **ABSTENTIONS:** 0

WATER / SEWER REPORT:

Jackson Stone was not present by phone at this point in the meeting. He joined later but was not able to deliver the report due to the abrupt termination of the meeting.

POLICE / FIRE REPORT:

Captain of the Oakridge Fire Department, Aric Higdon, summarized an activity report for February and March for the service area. Westfir had five EMS calls, four of which were transported. Westfir had no fires. He reported that the Oakridge Fire Department had not seen an increase in calls due to COVID-19 and had transported one potential case but no confirmed cases. He stated that they are using Personal Protective Equipment, but their stock is low due to the items being back-ordered. Councilor Randy Stark asked how many people can be transported to hospital in a day. Captain Higdon said Oakridge Fire has three medic units (one volunteer) and the roundtrip is about three hours. He stated that they can call a mutual aid ambulance from Springfield if necessary.

<At 32:04 minutes into the meeting, there was an incursion of several unknown people making strange noises and talking over the meeting. City Recorder Nicole Tritten, who was managing the meeting, removed the disruptive parties.>

The Council did not review the police report.

PAVING PROJECTS AND SOLAR SPEED SIGN:

Mayor Meske stated that he still needed to follow up with a contact about the paving project. Councilor D'Lynn Williams said that she would like the City to go ahead with the purchase of one solar speed sign and Councilor Thalia Lerin agreed.

<At 35:42 minutes into the meeting, there was a second incursion of disruptive people saying rude or offensive words, showing inappropriate images, and talking over and insulting the Council. Nicole removed many from the meeting, but she accidentally removed Councilors Williams and Stark in the process.>

CITY RECORDER REPORT:

Nicole was too busy removing disruptive elements to give the report.

CITY FINANCIAL REVIEW:

As there was still a quorum present, the Council reviewed the expenditure sheet for April. Mayor Matt Meske requested that \$1,600.00 be added to expenditures for an excavator to move the boulders at the water plant.

<Disruptions escalated while the Council attempted to review and vote on April expenditures. As it was no longer possible to continue, with Mayor Meske's agreement, Nicole abruptly terminated the meeting.>

CITIZENS CONCERNS NOT ON AGENDA:

Citizen concerns were not solicited.


COUNCILOR CONCERNS NOT ON AGENDA:

Councilor concerns were not solicited.

ADJOURN MEETING:

The meeting was not adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Matt Meske, Mayor



ATTEST:
Nicole Tritten, City Recorder

5/6/20
DATE: