

SPECIAL MYRTLE BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
9:00 A.M., THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020
TED C. COLLINS LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Mike Lowder, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.

9:03 A.M.

1. Mayor and Council Welcome and Statement of the Special Meeting Purpose

- Mayor Bethune welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that the meeting was originally a regularly scheduled Workshop meeting but because of COVID-19 the meeting is now a Special Council Meeting. Mayor Bethune introduced the first item on the agenda, the Advanced Downtown Master Plan Presentation. This will be the first of many presentations and will be done in long term phases. The City is very excited for the advancement of the Downtown area and the future of Myrtle Beach for our community.

2. Reports and Updates from City Staff

a. Advanced Downtown Master Plan Presentation and Discussion

- Lauren Clever gave an overview of the Advanced Downtown Master Plan and the work that has already been completed.
- Mr. Jim Hubbard of LS3P gave a detailed presentation showing and stating the different 'neighborhoods' within the Downtown area and the phases of the Advanced Downtown Master Plan.
- Mr. John Pedersen provided a brief summarization to Council of the presentation reiterated that this plan will bring more people to the downtown area.

b. Covid-19 Update

- Statistical Report
 - Bruce Arnel reviewed the COVID-19 statistics for our employees, the county and the state along with local hospital census statistics and nursing home statuses in our area.
- Epidemiological Matters

- Tom Gwyer explained the importance of wearing a face mask or cloth covering and safe social distancing.
- Compliance Issues
 - Chief Prock stated that over 500 compliance checks have been performed at businesses.
- Effect of City Staffing and Operations
 - Fox Simons gave an update that the summer camps have been cancelled and that more hours will be available at the Recreation Centers for member use.
- Extent of Council's Authority
 - Will Bryan clarified that the State Attorney General just last week had allowed cities to recognize face masks and that local government laws would not have allowed cities to put the wearing of face masks in effect prior to.

c. Law Enforcement Matters:

- Update
 - Chief Prock presented the Public Safety update.
- July 4th Crowd Management Plans
 - Chief Prock discussed the increased staffing and deployment for the weekend along with a messaging and communication plan. A traffic management congestion plan is also in place to clear Ocean Blvd. during heavy traffic periods.
- Proposed Resolution to Extend Extraordinary Event To Labor Day
 - Mr. John Pedersen explained to Council the proposed resolution R2020-32 and the five implement management tools reserved for extraordinary events.
- Proposed Amendment to Extraordinary Event Ordinance
 - Mr. John Pedersen reviewed a few of the changes to 2020-34 Extraordinary Event ordinance and the use of temporary business closures and curfews.
- "Clemson" Ordinance Presentation
 - Mr. John Pedersen presented an ordinance that Clemson uses for Council's consideration. The ordinance is to enforce a rental permit requirement and annual inspection for owners who operate a residential rental unit. He outlined the permit requirements and the violations of occupancy regulations.
- Proposed Amendment to Business License Ordinance
 - Mr. John Pedersen explained the purpose of the proposed business license ordinance amendments and the change of

allowing flexibility for the License Official and the proposed additions to license suspension or revocation.

3. Motion 2020-85 - Motion to direct the City Manager to issue an Executive Order to Require the Wearing of Facemasks in certain situations.

Motion: To Approve, with the change of days to be in effect from 60 to 67, **Moved by Michael Chestnut, Seconded by John Krajc.**

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Mike Lowder, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.

4. City Council Discussion Items

- a. Zoning of LM Property located off Shine Avenue
 - Councilman Krajc presented his proposal and recommendations of the zoning in the light manufacturing district for a particular property near Shine Ave.
- b. 911 Memorial/Charter of Freedom Discussion and Direction
 - Lisa Wallace discussed the Charters of Freedom for the 911 Memorial along with three important historic documents to be displayed as well; The Declaration of Independence, The United States Constitution and The Bill of Rights. The discussion will be furthered continued when Dr. Render can be back on the phone.

5. Public Input (3-minute limit per speaker, 30 minute max).

- City Resident, Scott Eagle stated that the face masks spread the virus, they don't help at all and the wearing of face masks should not be implemented. He said if the City does mandate the wearing of face masks they are waiting for a lawsuit.
- City Resident, Mike Basmagy complained that Wispering Pines Golf Course is not following any City or Health Guidelines. They are charging double the fee if a golfer wants their own cart.
- Karen Riordan with Chamber of Commerce stated that a survey revealed that 70% of the business community is in favor of the implanting of face masks.
- Non Resident, Joe McVay apologized for his behavior last meeting and suggested that the City make masks with the City logo and also give away vacations to Myrtle Beach for life or a certain duration of time.
- Non Resident, Michael T. also stated that face masks will not help with the virus and should not be mandated to be worn.

6. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn, **Moved by** Mike Lowder, **Seconded by** Jackie Hatley.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Mayor Brenda Bethune, Michael Chestnut, Mike Lowder, Philip N. Render, Gregg Smith, Jackie Hatley, John Krajc.

12:41 P.M.

Minutes prepared by Lindsey Haring

BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JENNIFER ADKINS, CITY CLERK