

COUNCILMEMBERS

Position No.

1. Tod Gunther
2. John Kelly
3. Tony Belot
4. John Williams
5. Gregg Bradshaw
6. Greg Hogan
7. Scott Drennen



ORTING CITY COUNCIL

Virtual Study Session Meeting Minutes
Orting, WA
April 15, 2020, 6PM.

ORIGINAL

CHAIR, DEPUTY MAYOR GREG HOGAN

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, PLEDGE AND ROLL CALL.

Deputy Mayor Hogan called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Councilmember Belot led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmembers Present: Deputy Mayor Greg Hogan, Councilmembers Tod Gunther, John Kelly, Tony Belot, John Williams, and Scott Drennen.

Absent: Gregg Bradshaw (had technology issues and was actively attempting to access the meeting at roll call. Joined at approximately 6:20pm)

Staff Present: Mark Bethune, City Administrator, Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, Scott Larson, Treasurer/Assistant City Administrator, Charlotte Archer, City Attorney, JC Hungerford, Engineer, Greg Reed, Public Works Director, and Chris Gard, Chief of Police.

2. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Staff Reports.

Greg Reed, Public Works Director

Director Reed briefed on the following:

- Storm Ponds cleared and cleaned;
- NPDES program continuing;
- Bushes in parks trimmed;
- Assessing sidewalks;
- Working with ACTIVOV on GIS;
- NPDES reports submitted;
- SOP for well startups;
- Working with Frost Landscape to keep up on landscaping;
- WWTP maintenance updates;
- Transfer switch repaired at Village Green pump station.

Jane Montgomery, City Clerk

Clerk Montgomery briefed that her department is focusing on the following:

- Application for a records management grant;
- New City Website.

Chris Gard, Chief of Police

Chief Gard briefed on the following:

- Status of new hires, Officer Ashley Rose and Connor Powers-Hubbard;
- Status of third new hire;
- Purchase of new department pistols from Big J's;
- Purchase of safety items for COVID19;
- Attendance at Homeland Security Conference in June via a grant.

Scott Larson, Treasurer/Assistant City Administrator

Treasurer/Administrator Larson briefed on the following:

- Working on the annual report;
- Staff continue to work from home and assist other departments;
- Utility billing process updates.

Mark Bethune, City Administrator

Administrator Bethune briefed on the following:

- City Hall Project.

Mayor Penner

Mayor Penner briefed on the following:

- Working with community partners regarding COVID19 issues;
- Working with Orting School District, Century Link, and Comcast for reliable access to the internet;
- PPE's were delivered to the Soldiers Home;
- Trails remain open and appear they are being used by families;
- Social distancing complaint calls;
- Phased local re-open plan; to return to business as usual;

B. AB20-39- Ordinance No. 2020-1060- Pertaining to Enforcement of Emergency Orders.

Charlotte Archer briefed on the proposed ordinance which would adopt by City code, provisions that would deal with violations of the Governor's order, and the Mayor's proclamation. Examples of how other cities are approaching this were cited. If Council were to adopt by reference the statute, violations would have to be a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor, and they would not be allowed to deviate from these penalties. Chief Gard provided insight as to how this would work from an operational standpoint, and stated that he did not have any compliance issues at this time. Possible options were laid out by the City Attorney. Council discussion followed relating to possible options to pursue. Based on Council discussion, Mayor Penner suggested option #3 with a civil infraction, to keep the authority within the City of Orting.

Council by consensus; would like to bring this back to the next meeting and they proposed:

- No adoption by reference of RCW 43.06.220, which would make a violation of the Governor's order a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor;
- Make amendments to OMC Chapter 1-8, pertaining to the Mayor's authority to issue a Proclamation of Civil Emergency, including a penalty provision for violations of the Mayor's Proclamation starting with a civil infraction and use of a graduated approach after the first offense.

C. COVID 19 DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mayor Penner stated he has a growing concern about the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation and the date that the Governor will declare as the gradual re-opening of some of the stay at home and business restrictions. He stated that the Governor seems to be signaling that he may extend the order beyond May 4th, 2020. The Mayor stated there may come a time when the local position may deviate in part from the Governor's orders. Likely in a month or two, if the Emergency order persists, he may be bringing forward a local plan that allows the City to do normal business, the most basic items that make the City better. Council shared their individual opinions on the matter relating to how the City might proceed in the future.

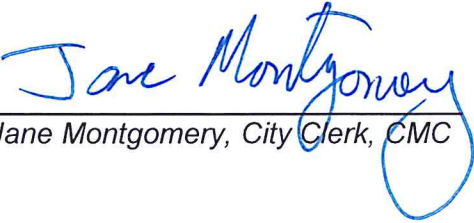
Councilmember Gunther mentioned that other Cities have been doing celebrations for first responders. He would like to put up lights in the bell tower. Director Reed informed Council that at the direction of the Mayor his crew have already put blue lights up on the bell in the bell tower and

tomorrow they will be putting blue lights across the highway on Main Street. Mayor Penner stated that he was pleased with the work that had been done by the Public Works crew through donations provided by Community members.

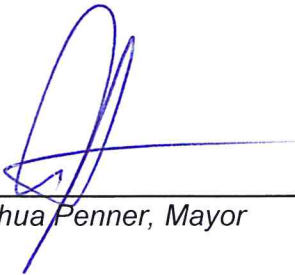
3. ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Hogan adjourned the meeting at 7:14pm.

ATTEST:



Jane Montgomery, City Clerk, CMC



Joshua Penner, Mayor

***The City utilized remote attendance for Councilmembers and City employees. Please note: OPMA rules regarding provision for the public in a space have been suspended by proclamation of the Governor. The meeting is however, available for the public to hear by a calling in to a number provided on the City website.**