

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 3/23/2020
Mayor Ryan Smathers
12:00 Noon

Council Members: Jennifer Dunaway, Mark Swayne, Sean Simmons, Shannon Schrader, Josh Tilley and Doug Donner

Staff: City Administrator-Rick E. Laam, Clerk-Janet R. Montambo, Treasurer-Donna Wilson, Water/Wastewater Supervisor-Michael Martin and Police Chief-Jeff Wilson

Media: Elizabeth Morgan

Emergency Special Council Meeting

Mayor Smathers opened the meeting by thanking Councilmembers for their attendance given the short notice of the meeting. The Mayor indicated that the regular council meeting is still cancelled, but felt compelled to call a Special Meeting to consider Resolution 20-490, which is declaring a State of Local Emergency due to the Coronavirus. He indicated the virus is spreading much faster than anticipated, with Clearwater County already declaring their own emergency. It's not a matter of "if", but a matter of "when" it hits Orofino. The Mayor indicated he would like to see the Orofino City Council be proactive, rather than inactive, in trying to slow the spread of the virus.

Councilmember Dunaway commented the only way to stop the virus is for businesses to be mindful of their customers. It was noted that some restaurants in town have already established call-in orders where restaurant employees would deliver the meals at a curb side. Some restaurants are also having their patrons sparsely seated and spread out throughout the restaurant creating special distance between patrons.

Resolution 20-490 was discussed in detail which describes the city's role in mitigating the coronavirus. All parks, basketball courts, tennis courts and public restrooms will be closed until further notice. City Hall will be closed to the public and those individuals wishing to pay their utility bill can pay over the phone or utilize the drop box outside the front door. Councilmembers all agreed the Resolution looked good but should incorporate a few changes to essential services to include hospitals, clinics and pharmacies. The Resolution stresses all individuals and businesses need to follow the recommendations of our federal and state officials including the guidelines from the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to adopt Resolution 20-490 with the changes mentioned. Councilmember Tilley seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:45 p.m., Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to adjourn. Councilmember Simmons seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Janet R. Montambo, City Clerk



Ryan Smathers, Mayor

