

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SPECIAL MEETING – MARCH 25, 2020
12:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL: Members present were Councilmembers Kirk Clawson, Jacque Isern, Ken Lebbin, Steve Oelke, Jon Prescott and Mayor Irlan Fullbright. Also present was Jane Isern, city attorney, Becky Gillette, representing the Ellinwood Leader and Veronica Coons representing the Great Bend Tribune.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Councilmember Kirk Clawson. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

C. VISITORS: NONE

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appropriation Ordinance: Presented to council was Ordinance 2020-3, an ordinance appropriating the amounts set up in each fund in the budget for the remainder of calendar year 2020, providing for the payment of all claims and charges against the accounts provided herein. Staff explained this allows city staff to pay invoices or any charges against the city for the remainder of 2020 so long as they are normal budgeted or approved items.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ken Lebbin to adopt Ordinance 2020-3, subject to the addition in Section One of “That in the event Council cannot meet due to a state of nationwide epidemic”, seconded by Councilmember Steve Oelke. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

2. Discussion of Covid-19 Response and Measures: Staff presented council with various information from the League of Kansas Municipalities regarding COVID-19 and the Federal COVID-19 Coronavirus Response Act. Also presented to council were measures that City of Great Bend and City of Hoisington have approved in response to COVID-19 emergency. Staff also presented a draft of a policy for the City of Ellinwood in response to COVID-19, which includes a “Watch” scenario as well as a “Warning” scenario.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott to adopt the following guidelines to develop a policy for the City of Ellinwood, effective March 25, 2020, seconded by Councilmember Kirk Clawson. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

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The City of Ellinwood is currently in a “Watch” situation because we have no confirmed cases in our county. As part of a “Watch” scenario, the following measures are slated to begin immediately:

- City office lobby is closed to walk-in traffic (bill pay by drive through, drop box and over the phone).
- PD is taking action to limit interactions with residents and handling non-emergency calls via telephone.
- All EMS calls will adhere to KSBEMS recommendations and measures for respiratory calls.
- All staff is being ordered to adhere to social distancing where possible. Breaks and transportation will be done in a way that limits staff exposure and proximity.
- Any staff that has traveled into a KDHE recognized risk area and have a potential exposure to COVID-19 will be quarantined for 14- days. (sick leave/vacation time may be utilized).
- Sick staff will be sent home to protect other staff members (sick leave/vacation time may be utilized).
- All work-related travel outside of Barton County has been suspended (with exception of patient or prisoner transports).
- All City-organized PR events and gatherings have been cancelled.
- Court will be postponed to at least April 21st.

If the City moves into a “Warning” situation (a case has been confirmed in Barton County), the following additional measures will be implemented:

- All parks will be closed to the public
- All playgrounds will be closed to the public.

Staff also explained the City will wait a few weeks to determine the status of opening the city swimming pool. Also, staff will work on a policy to allow staff to carry a negative sick leave balance due to potential contamination or illness and have it available at the April city council meeting for review.

- E. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business at this time, a motion was made by Councilmember Jon Prescott that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilmember Ken Lebbin. Motion carried. All voting in favor.

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Irlan Fullbright, Mayor

Kim Schartz, City Clerk