

**SONORA CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SONORA  
April 6, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora was opened this date in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 94 North Washington Street, at 5:00 p.m. with the following Members present: Mayor Jim Garaventa, Mayor ProTem Matt Hawkins, Councilmember Connie Williams, Mark Plummer, Colette Such; City Attorney Douglas White City; Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga.

**REPORT ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

**City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga** advised the Council that at 2:15 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2020, the Agenda for the City of Sonora Council Meeting was posted outside City Hall for public view.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

1. There were no changes to the Agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)**

- A member of the public commented shutting down the city will cause a lot of trouble and takes away our liberties.
- A member of the public asked how they obtain a marriage license.
- A member of the public asked how they access the homeless hotel program in our city.
- A member of the public commented that if you mute everyone on zoom it works very well.
- A member of the public asked if the agenda is publicly posted.
- A member of the public asked why Joanne's is still open when they are not essential.
- A member of the public asked when the County will decide on RDF.
- A member of the public asked if we could address the new law regarding the homeless.
- A member of the public commented we may end up with a higher homeless problem due to the shutdown.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**(Video Time 30:27)**

1. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$146,973.97 for payroll, inclusive of employee salaries, employer and employee taxes and retirement contributions and miscellaneous voluntary employee deductions.

**Motion by Mayor ProTem Hawkins, second by Councilmember Plummer unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 that item 1 of the Consent Calendar be approved.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**(Video Time 33:10)**

1. 1) Introduce by title Ordinance No. 865, Emergency Shelter Text Amendment; 2) Waiver further reading of the proposed ordinance; 3) Open public hearing and receive comments; 4) Close public hearing; 5) Set a second reading and possible adoption of the proposed ordinance for April 20, 2020 at 5 p.m.

**Community Development Director Rachell Kellogg** 2019 Housing Development has been reviewed and is in compliance. We do need to identify a location for Emergency Shelters. The only place that allows Emergency Shelters in our City is our commercial zones which requires a Use Permit. Recommending the Council to approve the Tax Amendment. Also recommending that Emergency Shelters be a Use Allowed by Right in our multifamily zoning district. Discussed Ordinance No. 865. Councilmembers discussed.

- Several members of the public had questions and concerns regarding Ordinance No. 865, Emergency Shelter Text Amendment.

Councilmembers discussed.

**Motion by Councilmember Such, second by Mayor Pro-Tem Hawkins, unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 to Introduce by title Ordinance No. 865, Emergency Shelter Text Amendment and waive the first reading of the proposed Ordinance.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**(Video Time 1:11:11)**

1. Adopt Resolution 04-06-2020-A delegating the City of Sonora Public Health Officer.

**City Attorney Douglas White** recommends that the City adopts a Public Health Officer, Resolution 04-06-2020-A. Councilmembers discussed.

- Several members of the public had questions and concerns regarding the adoption of Resolution 04-06-2020-A.

Councilmember discussed.

**Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Hawkins, second by Councilmember Plummer unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 to Adopt Resolution 04-06-2020-A delegating the City of Sonora Public Health Officer.**

**(Video Time 1:25:05)**

2. Motion to waive reading and introduction of Urgency Ordinance No. 866, reading by title only, waiving further reading, and adoption of an Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Sonora: (1) adopting the Governor's Executive Order N-33-20, directing all individuals in the State to stay at their place of residence; (2) adopting any orders that the Tuolumne County Health Officer or any official of the State of California may issue to limit the spread of COVID-19 during the duration of the COVID-19 State of Emergency; and (3) ordering all individuals in the City of Sonora to stay at their place of residence and setting forth enforcement rules.

**City Attorney Douglas White** stated that this creates a civil remedy so that the only remedy that is available is not criminal. It creates a fine mechanism. **City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga** this would set up an administrative mechanism for the City to be able to have a remedy. **Police Chief VanderWeil** supports this ordinance. Councilmembers discussed. **Police Chief VanderWeil** discussed the process of Ordinance No. 866 and what it would like.

- A member of the public is opposed to Ordinance No. 866
- Several members of the public have questions and concerns with Ordinance No. 866.

Councilmembers discussed

**Motion by Councilmember Such, second by Councilmember Plummer unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 to waive reading and introduction of Urgency Ordinance No. 866, reading by title only, waiving further reading, and adoption of an Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Sonora and agendized for every meeting as Amended.**

**(Video Time 2:19:00)**

3. Motion to waive reading and introduction of Urgency Ordinance No. 867, reading by title only, waive further reading, and adoption of an Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Sonora to prohibit non-essential short-term lodging rentals for the duration of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

**City Attorney Douglas White** discussed Ordinance No. 867, Ordinance No. 867 will address short term rentals and prohibit them during this time. Allowing essential use only. Concern of the surge of people from out of the area coming up to the City of Sonora. Councilmembers discussed.

- Several members of the public commented their questions and concerns regarding Ordinance No. 867.

**Motion by Councilmember Such, second by Councilmember Williams unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 to waive reading and introduction of Urgency Ordinance No. 867, reading by title only, waive further reading, and adoption of an Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Sonora to prohibit non-essential short-term lodging rentals for the duration of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.**

**(Video Time 2:55:54)**

4. Informational item to discuss Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 requiring all citizens to stay at home unless needed to maintain operation of essential critical infrastructures. Presenter: Douglas L. White, City Attorney.

**City Attorney Douglas White** discussed Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 and what it looks like for essential and non-essential. Each City and County is different. We will continue to give direction to the public as this is still evolving. Expects it to continue through May and expects it to get more strict. **City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga** stated the City is doing all they can to coordinate and work with our County partners. We have put out information on our website

where small businesses can go for help and information. Councilmembers discussed.

- Members of the public expressed their questions and concerns regarding essential and non-essential.

**COUNCILMEMBER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Community Development Director Rachelle Kellogg we are still here to provided services we are just not open to public. Administrative Services Directory Chris Gorsky we are open and available please call if there are any services the public needs. Police Chief Turu VanderwWeil we are also open and available for anyone who needs anything. City Attorney Douglas White we are continuing to monitor the situation and expect to have more meetings to keep up with the evolving changes. City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga would like to let the public know that we are also keeping our City Facebook page up to date as well as the Sonora Police Department webpage for any current information regarding COVID-19. Councilmember Such would like to thank the small businesses of Sonora and Tuolumne County. Mayor Pro-Tem wanted to thank everyone for all their efforts during this time. Councilmember Plummer just asks that we all be polite and considerate of other people's rights and be good to each other.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sonora City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

