

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ----- MARCH 19, 2020

The Special Council Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Mayor Erickson. The following Council members were present: Carr, Heitman, Karst, Nistler, Ozark and Young. Those also present were DPW Kompel, ADPW Cook, City Clerk Fuhrman, Lieutenant Gamas, Sergeant Weber, Tasha Morehouse-Mix of the Glasgow Police Department, and Jory Casterline of the Recreation Department.

Mayor Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Erickson introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3029** – A resolution of the City of Glasgow, Montana declaring a state of local disaster emergency, in response to the pandemic outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Council member Carr motioned for approval of **Resolution No. 3029**. The motion was seconded by Council member Young; whereby **Resolution No. 3029** was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Erickson presented the Employee Directive issued by the City of Glasgow to address the unprecedented challenges the public health crisis has created for employers and employees. The directive assures employees that the City is taking guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as state and local officials. The update included approval of up to one week (five working days) of paid emergency leave for all employees to secure childcare, take care of an immediate family member that has an immunodeficiency disorder, or is in recovery from COVID-19 themselves. After which, the employee can utilize accrued sick and vacation time. If more time is necessary, the employee would have an option for leave without pay and they would be responsible for the health insurance premium. Also, if an employee is quarantined by the Valley County Health Department, the City will provide an additional 10 paid working days of emergency leave. Mayor Erickson covered other aspects of the directive that included waiving late fees and halting water shut offs for delinquent water and sewer accounts through April 30, 2020. Council member Nistler inquired about the continuation of funerals during this time, to which Council member and Valley County Public Information Officer, Todd Young responded the mortuary will encourage timely burial, but funeral services at a later date. Council member Karst stated that the mortuary will also ask for families to visit in groups of no larger than ten people. Mayor Erickson stated there would be a department head meeting tomorrow, Friday March 20, 2020, to distribute the directive information to all supervisors. Council member Nistler motioned for approval of the City Employee Directive. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr and carried unanimously.

Mayor Erickson introduced and offered for adoption and effective immediately **Ordinance No. 965** – An Ordinance Of The City of Glasgow, Montana Granting Temporary Authority To The Mayor To Approve Contracts And Expenditures In Furtherance Of Emergency Declaration And Suspending State And Local Procurement Requirements. Council member Karst moved for the adoption of **Ordinance No. 965**. The motion was seconded by Council member Ozark; whereby **Ordinance No. 965** was unanimously adopted. **Ordinance No. 965** will become effective immediately March 19, 2020.

Public Comment: Mayor Erickson asked the Council if there was anything more the City needs to be doing and if anything had been left unaddressed. She added that going forward the Council would meet by phone and provided a conference call number. She noted that City Attorney Sullivan had advised to post the number on the website for public participation; the conference call number allows for up to twenty callers. The mayor thanked Council members Ozark and Young for their pandemic news coverage and updates to the public. Lieutenant Gamas explained what the Police Department is doing to distribute the Health Officer Order by Dr. Anne Millard to all bars, brew pubs, casinos, restaurants, except drive-through and pickup, to close to the public. The Order also included limitations to businesses to a 10 person limit, exclusive of staff. He also spoke of potential consequences if establishments do not comply with the Order. Sergeant Weber explained the officers will be working on educating owners on the Order's steps.

Council member Carr made a motion to adjourn the Special Council Meeting with Council member Karst seconding. The motion carried unanimously; the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Rikki Fuhrman  
City Clerk – Treasurer

Rebecca Erickson  
Mayor