

City of Port Orford

**City Council Special Meeting
In the Gable Chambers
Monday, March 23, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.**

Mayor and Council	Present	City Staff	Present
<i>Gary Burns</i>	X	<i>Terrie Richards, City Admin/Recorder</i>	X
<i>Tim Pogwizd, Mayor</i>	X	<i>Shala Kudlac, City Attorney</i>	X
<i>Pat Cox, President</i>	X		
<i>Travis Williams</i>	X		
<i>James Garratt</i>	X		
<i>Carolyn LaRoche</i>	X		
<i>Vacant</i>			

Media Present:

Others Present:

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pogwizd called to order this special meeting of the Common Council on the sidewalk outside of City Hall to comply with governor restrictions due to COVID-19.

2. Addition to the agenda.

a. One item added by consensus of Councilors.

3. Declaration of Emergency

Councilor Cox moved to adopt a declaration of emergency with Councilor Burns as second.

Discussion: None. *Motion carried 5-0.* Emergency declaration is adopted.

Burns Yes *Cox* Yes *Williams* Yes
Garratt Yes *LaRoche* Yes

Recommendations

Council reviewed Curry County’s recommendations as presented.

Hearing no comment, Mayor Pogwizd called for a vote on supporting the resolution from the county. *Motion carried 5-0.* Support for a resolution to send to the governor is adopted.

Burns Yes *Cox* Yes *Williams* Yes
Garratt Yes *LaRoche* Yes

State Representative David Brock Smith speaks to councilors on local orders and recommendations due to COVID-19. Bandon adopted an order closing all motels, and lodging businesses today. Representative Smith is concerned about liability, which is one of the reasons why he drafted the resolution for Curry County. The county does not want to close businesses but does want to keep people safe. The governor’s new executive order does outline citation ability. Local health care cannot accommodate tourists and travelers.

Representative Brock Smith encourages councilors to review the state orders mandated by the governor. The governor is trying to avoid a statewide closure of businesses due to an almost impossible economic recovery. He reminds councilors that the state relies on income tax for revenue, which is not accumulating at this time. The state relies on bonding for various projects from the state lottery, that is not currently providing funds. There are not enough reserves to counter the lack of resources coming in. The governor created a task force to find recommendations. A coronavirus response committee has been created to also provide recommendations. Special sessions are scheduled between now and the fall. A minimum of two hundred and fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000) will probably be allocated to the emergency board, which is a bipartisan committee, to start utilizing the resources to assist residents and businesses. Representative Brock Smith has recommendations posted on his legislative website.

Mayor Pogwizd expressed his appreciation for David Brock Smith's guidance. He announced, with the assistance of Mike Brace the police force has PPEs and protective gear. The Mayor states the city employees are distancing and compliant. Predictions have been introduced showing the peak of COVID-19 will probably be in the Port Orford area by April 7, which is when flattening of the curve should be realized. Mayor Pogwizd encouraged councilors to remain calm and educated regarding this situation. He strongly encouraged councilors to not use any single news source or Facebook as authority. He suggested doing research to determine what is fact.

4. Councilor's Comments

Councilor Burns states his desire to proceed with an emergency preparedness plan. He hopes to see this discussed and implemented in the near future. He would like council to address communication to the community.

Councilor Garratt mentions the fire department does have an emergency preparedness plan that has been discussed. In the event of certain shutdowns, the fire department is available to respond to help in various different circumstances that they do not normally help with. The fire department is continuing to aid the ambulance as normal but are taking additional precautions. They may also be performing a staggering of the fire crew in order to limit interactions between the crew, which might leave the fire department short handed for normal calls, but there will be a regular schedule for responders.

Councilor Williams states his appreciation to Mayor Tim Pogwizd for his time and dedication to the city through this situation.

Councilor Cox asks that the City Council be a little more proactive for the worst-case scenario suggesting getting committed space in the larger nearby buildings to set up ten or so beds rather than trying to catch up after the fact. Representative Brock Smith answers that resources for those locations are already stretched too thin. He stated there were eight Veterans identified at a Veteran's home in Lebanon all over 80 who tested positive for COVID-19. They were given a regimen of chloroquine, Z-Pak and vitamin C as well as other multivitamins. One passed away at 93 years of age who had other underlying health conditions. The remainder are recovering. Ventilators were not used in their treatment.

Chloroquine and Z-Paks have been seized by the government for distribution; however, this is not a proven remedy.

5. **Public Meeting Law:** Attorney Kudlac informs council that they are still required to have public meetings. She suggested the council appear telephonically or via video, but the meeting has to be broadcast in a place the public has access to. Council cannot invite the public to join a website to observe as the meeting is live, but they must meet where the public can go since not all have technology available to them.

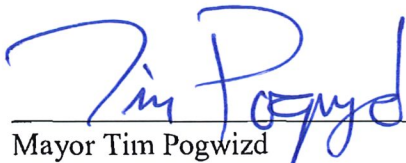
Mayor Pogwizd does not want a gathering of the council members and the public for health safety. CA Richards reported the David Johnson, the city's finance and IT position, is getting the city set up through GoToMeetings with public access. Council members need to meet with Mr. Johnson and pick up an iPad one at a time through the door.

6. **Future Meetings:**

Mayor Pogwizd advised the councilors to check their webpage on a daily basis for the date of the next meeting, which will probably be next week sometime. He is hoping to keep the date and time about the same for consistency, which would be Thursday at 3:30 p.m.

7. **Adjourned**

There being no further business, Mayor Pogwizd adjourned the special meeting.



Mayor Tim Pogwizd

Attest:



City Recorder, Terrie Richards

