

CITY OF EAGLE LAKE
MARCH 27, 2020
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Auringer called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. via electronic ToGo Meeting.

ROLL CALL

- Council Members present: John Ries, Dennis Terrell, Ryan Short, Garrett Steinberg and Mayor Auringer.
- Staff present: City Administrator Jennifer Bromeland, Police Chief John Kopp, Public Works Director Brian Goettl, Fire Chief Dan Ruschmeyer and Deputy Clerk Kerry Rausch.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- Council Member Ries moved, seconded by Council Member Short, to approve the agenda. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Short, Steinberg and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

AGENDA

1. Resolution 2020-16: A Resolution Declaring a Local Emergency and Enacting Temporary Measures to Address a Peace Time Emergency Due to the COVID-19 Health Pandemic
 - Administrator Bromeland explained that the League of MN Cities is strongly encouraging cities to declare a local emergency which will help cover temporary workers, rental equipment and emergency purchases.
 - Mayor Auringer stated there are not pending or anticipated spending but that this give the city options.
 - Council Member Terrell moved, seconded by Council Member Steinberg, to adopt Resolution 2020-16. A roll call vote was taken with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Short, Steinberg, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
2. Resolution 2020-17: A Resolution Appointing Acting Mayor and Order of Succession
 - Administrator Bromeland stated this resolution is the recommendation of the city's attorney. The city appoints a Mayor Pro Tem on an annual basis, but this resolution will cover further down the line.
 - If approved the order of succession will be based upon order of seniority based on length of continuous service.
 - Council Member Short moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell, to adopt Resolution 2020-17. A roll call vote was taken with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Short, Steinberg, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
3. Utility Bills – Waiving of Late Fees and Shutoffs During the COVID-19 Health Pandemic
 - Council was asked to consider waiving late fees and to suspend water shut offs during the pandemic. Staff would work with residents to set up a payment plan if approved.
 - Council Member Ries moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell, to waive late fees and to suspend water shut offs during the pandemic. A roll call vote was taken with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Short, Steinberg, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
4. Deferral of Laon Payments – EDA Revolving Loan Fund
 - Two of the three revolving loans recipients have contacted the city asking if payments could be deferred due to business hardships during the pandemic. If approved loan payment agreements would need to be reviewed.
 - Council Member Ries recommended contacting a bank to get a copy of a loan deferment form.
 - The effect of the pandemic on daycares is unknown, but there are some resources available to daycares that are struggling.
 - Council directed staff to work with affected businesses and to gather more information and move forward.

5. Emergency Executive Order Directing Minnesotans to Stay at Home and Impact on City Operations

- Administrator Bromeland stated that all employees are essential and have been asked to continue reporting to work. Employees have been asked to drive in separate vehicles to follow social distancing recommendations.
- Police Chief Kopp stated they have received guidelines on how to enforce the executive order from the Department of Public Safety which includes educating residents on the executive order first and if non-compliant after initial contact they could be cited. If a third contact is required parties could be arrested. The police department will have a department meeting to discuss procedures.
- Public Work's Director Brian Goettl stated he has no concerns and that the department will continue with road maintenance which is an essential service.
- Fire Chief Dan Ruschmeyer stated the fire department is following state protocols for responding to calls. The department has cancelled meetings and drills.

ADJOURNMENT

- Council Member Terrell moved, seconded by Council Member Ries, to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m. A roll call vote was taken with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Short, Steinberg, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

Tim Auringer, Mayor

Kerry Rausch, Deputy Clerk