

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SHOW LOW CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2020 AT 3:30 P.M. IN SHOW LOW CITY HALL, HERITAGE CONFERENCE ROOM, 180 NORTH 9TH STREET, SHOW LOW, NAVAJO COUNTY, ARIZONA

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Seymore called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Daryl Seymore; Vice Mayor Mike Allsop; Council members Brandt Clark, Brent Hatch, Connie Kakavas, Gene Kelley, and John Leech Jr.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Ed Muder, City Manager; F. Morgan Brown, City Attorney; Justin Johnson, Deputy City Manager; Joe Shelley, Police Chief; Rachael Hall, Deputy City Clerk; and Tamra Reidhead, City Clerk.

GUESTS: Jayme, Christyanna, and Becky Coffman; Rose Weaver; Jerry Firm; Chris Kozakiewicz; Sharon Stone; Vanessa and Don Jackson; Jack Latham; Frank and Julia Edens; Laura Singleton; Gordon Terracina; Carolle Nevill; Steve Gorman-Hackstadt; Jody Simmer; Pam Jackson; Michelle Monroe; Sharlea Lewis; and others.

3. Invocation.

Councilman Kelley gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Mayor Allsop led the Council and audience in the pledge of allegiance.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Discussion and Consideration of Emergency Proclamation to Require the Wearing of Face Coverings in Public.

Mr. Brown gave an overview of the Governor's Executive Order 2020-40 dated June 17. He said businesses should and were required to wear face masks if social distancing could not be implemented. There was a misconception that if the City didn't require face masks to be worn then businesses couldn't require it either. Face masks were required for businesses per the Governor's Executive Order. Businesses were

allowed to set certain parameters and require citizens to wear face masks once inside the private establishment.

Councilman Leech asked how the City was enforcing face masks to be worn. Mr. Brown said Navajo County Department of Health was the department for enforcement. The Governor has said to educate citizens to promote best practices before citing anyone for not wearing a face mask. As of yet, no one had been cited in the City for noncompliance.

Councilman Leech asked who had educated the local restaurant owners and businesses. Mr. Brown said staff had been sending out emails and talking to business owners.

Mayor Seymore said some citizens were only reading the first two pages of the Governor's Order and not reading the information regarding the face covering requirements in restaurants. He didn't believe that the City needed to pass something for which the Governor had already directed operations. Most compliance and effort came from individuals supporting the policy.

Mayor Seymore said the new Governor's Executive Order 2020-43 would become effective today at 8:00 p.m. and would close down bars, gyms, movie theaters, water parks, and tubing operators. The targeted reopen date would be in 30 days. The new order also prohibited organized public events of more than 50 people and prohibited groups of larger than ten from congregating together in or near a pool. He said schools start dates would be postponed until August 17.

Mayor Seymore opened up the discussion for residents to voice their concerns.

Carolle Nevill, 360 South 15th Drive, asked how schools would operate and asked if the Council was stating that wearing masks helped citizens from getting sick. Mayor Seymore said no, the Council was not making the statement that masks prevented citizens from getting sick. He said there may be some experts that stated wearing a mask could help citizens from getting sick, but the Council was not qualified to make such a statement.

Councilman Clark said the Show Low School District's targeted start date was August 17, and the District would continue to plan for that date. There were no definitive plans if face masks would be required once school started.

Sharlea Lewis, 341 South White Mountain Road, owned Hats Off Barbershop and received information from Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on rules for businesses. Since reopening, it had been a hostile environment where citizens had come to her place of business calling her names and being rude because they did not want to wear a mask. She suggested that all businesses needed to be instructed on the same procedures so everyone would conduct business the same way in the City.

Gordon Terracina, 861 North 33rd Avenue, said he was an avid user of the City's aquatic center and asked how the new Executive Order would affect the pool. Mayor Seymore said there would be stricter guidelines to enforce, but at this moment he was not sure what those guidelines would be. Vice Mayor Allsop said the Council would discuss with staff what guidelines would need to be followed.

Rose Weaver, who lived on East Owens, worked with children with disabilities and said some were being refused health care because they were not able to wear a mask due to their disability. She asked the City to address the concern. Mayor Seymore said he believed the Governor had left out addressing that concern, but the City had addressed it on press releases and were very much aware of it. The Council could also give more direction concerning the issue if they decided to take action on the agenda item.

Jayne Coffman, 540 South 11th Street, was recently denied healthcare due to not wearing a mask because of health reasons. Mayor Seymore said that was a concern that the Council would consider.

Councilwoman Kakavas said COVID-19 numbers continued to rise, and Summit Healthcare currently had 17 positive patients and eight patients with pending test results. She asked for the community to be cautious and assist the medical community to level out the pandemic. She suggested following CDC guidelines.

Mayor Seymore said COVID-19 was not going away soon, and citizens would need to learn how to coexist with it and to take precautions. He said citizens had their choice and accountability during this pandemic. He asked for citizens to treat others civilly during this time whether they chose to wear a face mask or not. He suggested educating the local businesses about procedures that were outlined in the Governor's Executive Order.

Councilman Hatch said he wore a face mask to protect the health of his family and others. He suggested looking at the positive aspect of wearing a mask.

Mr. Brown said the Council had some options of what they could do on this item. One option was to do nothing, noting that the Governor had already given guidelines and policy. Another option could be directing the Mayor to do an emergency proclamation stating the City would follow the Governor's orders, or an emergency proclamation going beyond the Governor's orders.

Councilman Leech asked Mr. Brown if citizens would still need to follow the Governor's orders if the Council didn't take action. Mr. Brown said yes, the Council didn't have to take action for citizens to follow the Governor's orders. He said citizens thought that the City would have to take action for the Governor's orders to be enforced within the City, but that was not the case. Councilman Leech said he did not want to mandate citizens to wear a face mask when they are within the City, but citizens would still have to follow the Governor's orders when in restaurants and private businesses.

Councilman Clark asked how local businesses would be educated regarding what was required of them during this time. Mr. Brown said staff was working more on education for local businesses. He said staff could go into the restaurants and businesses to talk to them about the requirements. Councilman Clark asked if Show Low TV could make a video about requirements based on the Governor's orders and post it to the City's website and social media. Mr. Brown said he would discuss that option with staff.

Mayor Seymore said staff was currently making signage and flyers about awareness and education to deliver to local businesses.

Don Jackson, of Claysprings, was worried that face masks weren't being handled correctly by those who wore them and questioned their effectiveness. He said that businesses needed to be educated more about keeping face masks sanitized.

Jody Simmer, 1441 West Oliver, was opposed to requiring citizens to wear face masks. There was conflicting information about their effectiveness. She expressed her appreciation to the Council for letting citizens keep their accountability and choice of agency.

Becky Coffman, 540 South 11th Street, wanted to advocate for those individuals who had different disorders that prevented them from wearing a mask. She wanted healthcare needs met for individuals who could not wear a mask.

Sharon Stone, 460 North 8th Drive, was opposed to requiring citizens to wear face masks.

Frank Edens, 301 North Retreat Way, suggested the Council make a statement to reinforce that the City was supporting the Governor's Order and would be assisting businesses with education about the guidelines.

Christyanna Coffman, 540 South 11th Street, asked the Council to take into account that some individuals could not wear a mask because it hurt and was hard to breathe.

COUNCILMAN CLARK MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A PROCLAMATION THAT STATES THE CITY WOULD FOLLOW THE STATE OF ARIZONA GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-40, GIVE ADEQUATE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO LOCAL BUSINESSES, AND SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS AND EXEMPT INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE PHYSICALLY OR MEDICALLY UNABLE TO WEAR MASKS; SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR ALLSOP.

Councilman Kelley clarified that the motion was to support the Mayor signing a proclamation with specific concerns being addressed. Mayor Seymore said yes, the motion was for a proclamation.

MOTION PASSED 7 TO 0 WITH MAYOR SEYMORE, VICE MAYOR ALLSOP, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS CLARK, HATCH, KAKAVAS, KELLEY, AND LEECH VOTING IN FAVOR.

6. **ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business to be brought before the Council, **MAYOR SEYMORE ADJOURNED THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SHOW LOW CITY COUNCIL OF JUNE 29, 2020 AT 5:06 P.M.**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Tamra Reidhead, City Clerk

Daryl Seymore, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the City Council of Show Low held on June 29, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

(SEAL)

Tamra Reidhead, City Clerk