

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
WALLACE, IDAHO
July 24, 2020

Mayor Mogensen called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was held telephonically due to the Governor's stay-at-home order.

Roll Call: Council members present: David DeRoos; Elmer Mattila; Heather Branstetter; Michele Bisconer and Dean Cooper. Council members absent: Rick Shaffer.

Discussion/decision on changes to FY 20/21 tentative budget (*Action Item*) – Mayor Mogensen stated the changes to the budget since the last meeting include: an increase in property tax revenue based on the L2 received from the County, removal of the construction portion of the 6th St. Bridge, and no transfer of property taxes into the insurance fund. Council member Cooper asked if the increase in the fire contract was accounted for. The Clerk said it was included. Council member Mattila made a motion to accept the new budget. Seconded by council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. DeRoos Aye; Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Bisconer Aye; Cooper Aye. Carried.

Discussion/decision requiring face coverings be worn in public places (*Action Item*) – Mayor Mogensen stated that a few council members requested this item be added to the agenda and it is within the City's rights to address this topic. Council member Bisconer asked if face coverings are required how will this be enforced. Mayor Mogensen stated it would be up to law enforcement. Discussion held on differences between ordinances, resolutions and proclamations. Council member DeRoos expressed his concerns with staying safe as a business owner. Council member Bisconer stated it is a tough decision especially when you have the medical field sending conflicting messages as well. However, she stated a compromise can be made that makes people feel safer, which is requiring face coverings in public places. Council member Bisconer went on to state that passing a resolution would make the citizens feel the City is doing something to protect their health. Council member Branstetter stated a resolution would help with the social pressure that comes along with wearing a mask. Council member Mattila stated the City needs to do a positive thing. Council member Cooper asked if the City has any insight into what Panhandle Health is thinking for Shoshone County. Mayor Mogensen responded she did not. Discussion held. Council member Branstetter made a motion that city council agrees to pass a resolution stating the City would like everyone to wear a mask in public with exceptions for eating and drinking and accommodations for people that are hard of hearing. Discussion held on resolution passed by the City of McCall, timeline for implementing a resolution and how long the resolution should remain in effect. Council member Cooper stated: 1) he would like people to take care of themselves and wear masks and not make it the City's obligation to tell them to wear masks; 2) Panhandle Health advise the City that this needs to be done or 3) the County Commissioners. Discussion held on protecting the citizens of Wallace, tourism and Wallace taking the lead on implementing a mask mandate. Council member Mattila asked to rehear the motion. Council member Branstetter asked that the wording in the McCall resolution be used in the motion. Council member Cooper read the following language from McCall's resolution for the record -

"Every person, shall, when in any indoor or outdoor public place, completely cover their nose and mouth, when members of the public are physically present for otherwise unprotected social interaction.

DEFINITIONS: For purposes of this Public Health Emergency Order "public place" shall mean any place open to all members of public without specific invitation, including but not necessarily limited to, retail business establishments, government offices, medical, educational, arts and recreational institutions, public transportation, including taxi cabs and ridesharing vehicles. "Members of the public" shall mean persons not therein employed, present without invitation.

1. EXEMPTIONS:

- a. Children under the age of 5.
- b. Persons who cannot medically tolerate wearing a face covering. A person is not required to provide documentation demonstrating that the person cannot medically tolerate wearing a face covering.
- c. Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- d. Persons, including on-duty law-enforcement officers, for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

- e. Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose, face, or head for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service.
- f. Persons who are eating or drinking at a restaurant or other establishment that offers food or beverage service, so long as the person is able to maintain a distance of 6 feet away from persons who are not members of the same household or party as the person.
- g. Outdoor public places where a person can employ social distancing as recommended by CDC where the person is able to maintain a distance of 6 feet away from persons who are not members of the same household or party as the person."


Council member Branstetter stated her motion is to adopt that resolution and, it be in effect as soon as possible, and ends when the Mayor deems the public emergency is not such to continue to require masks. The clerk asked for clarification on the motion. Council member Branstetter stated she would like to rescind her original motion and would like to make a motion to adopt McCall's resolution with the timeline that can be ended by the Mayor. Seconded by council member Mattila. Roll Call Vote. DeRoos Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye; Bisconer Aye; and Cooper Aye. Carried.

Public Comments – None

There being no further business to come before the council, Council member Bisconer made the motion to adjourn at 11:38 a.m. Seconded by Council member Branstetter. All Ayes. Carried.


Lynn Mogensen, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kristina Larson
City Clerk/Treasurer