



**Special City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Tuesday, May 26, 2020**

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13.D.021, City Council members, City Staff, and members of the public participated in this meeting electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Roll Call

Mayor Roe called the special meeting to order at approximately 3:00 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Etten, Willmus, Laliberte, Groff, and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Mark Gaughan were also present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda

Willmus moved, Laliberte seconded, approval of the agenda as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes: Willmus, Laliberte, Groff, and Roe.

Nays: None.

4. Public Comment

Mayor Roe called for public comment by members of the audience on any non-agenda items. No one indicated a desire to speak.

5. Recognitions, Donations, and Communications

6. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

Councilmember Etten joined the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

7. Business Items

a. Adopt A Resolution Approving Temporary Waivers to Certain City Code Requirements to Promote Physical and Social Distancing for Business and Faith Organization Activities During the COVID-19 Health Pandemic.

Community Development Director Janice Gundlach briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated May 26, 2020.

Councilmember Laliberte asked in regard to the safety and preparedness plan that these operations need to have in place and their ability to allow patrons inside for using of the restrooms and those types of things, and will those be explained on a case to case basis.

Ms. Gundlach explained there are a couple of references in the Resolution following the guidance from State and Federal officials. These websites have industry recommendations specifically for restaurants and bars and this does allow patrons of the outdoor areas to use the indoor bathrooms, for example, and there are recommendations on how to do that. The City would direct the business community to those recommendations to address those concerns.

Councilmember Willmus indicated he was appreciative of staff for being proactive on this and getting this out in front of the Council before June 1st.

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment with no one indicating a desire to speak.

Etten moved, Willmus seconded, adoption of Resolution No. 11708 entitled, "A Resolution Approving Temporary Waivers Of Certain City Code Requirements To Promote Physical And Social Distancing For Business and Faith Organizations Activities During the COVID-19 Health Pandemic."

Council Discussion

Councilmember Etten thanked staff for being proactive, doing good work on this, noting it was a good thing for the businesses.

Councilmember Willmus concurred.

Councilmember Laliberte appreciated staff getting this to the Council so quickly and also supported a simple web form to make it as easy as possible for people to indicate their plans to the city.

Councilmember Groff complimented staff for getting this done so quickly and appreciated the careful thought that went into it because the city wants it to be a safe process without any problems.

Mayor Roe thought if there were a number of restaurants or businesses affected by this that happen to be in the same strip center or the same development, it might warrant banding together and working with each on their plan in regard to fire lanes, safety, and use of parking facilities.

Councilmember Laliberte explained she has observed people gathering in large groups in the parking lots of malls and she was sure the police department was monitoring and aware of it but as the city starts to do this, she thought the city has to be aware of it continuing to grow.

Roll Call

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Ayes: Etten, Willmus, Laliberte, Groff, and Roe.

Nays: None.

8. Approve Minutes

9. Approve Consent Agenda

10. Future Agenda Review, Communications, Reports, and Announcements – Council and City Manager

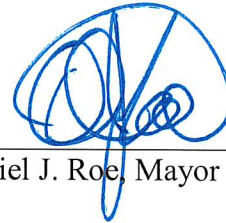
11. Adjourn

Willmus moved, Etten seconded, adjournment of the special meeting at approximately 3:18 p.m.

Roll Call

Ayes: Etten, Willmus, Laliberte, Groff, and Roe.

Nays: None.



Daniel J. Roe, Mayor

ATTEST:



Patrick J. Trudgeon, City Manager