

KENNEDALE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

MARCH 31, 2020 AT 5:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY JOIN
BY DIALING 1-866-899-4679 (TOLL-FREE)
AND USING ACCESS CODE 782-137-253**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brian Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. WORK SESSION

- A. Hold a discussion and provide staff direction regarding the development of a grant program for local small businesses relating to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the City's local disaster declaration

City Manager George Campbell stated that staff sought input and direction from the Council regarding this potential program by which the City might assist small local businesses that had been negatively affected.

There was some discussion of the impacts to local businesses, potential eligibility requirements and/or performance agreements, funding sources and restrictions, the process and timing of developing and awarding assistance, boards or entities that might have an interest in having representation on a selection committee, state and federal benefits and assistance programs, the need for a rubric or scoring system, and the desire for any application process to be uncomplicated. Following the discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that staff should move forward in their exploration of such a program.

In response to a question from Mayor Johnson, Campbell stated that staff had been approached by tenants of EDC-owned property regarding rent relief or postponement, and issue that he planned to discuss with the EDC Board at their next meeting.

III. SPECIAL SESSION

A. ROLL CALL

Present in Council Chambers: Mayor Brian Johnson; **Participating via TeleConference:** Josh Altom, Place 1; Chris Pugh, Place 2; Mayor Pro Tem Lee, Place 3; Linda Rhodes, Place 4; Chad Wandel, Place

5. **Staff Present in Council Chambers:** City Manager George Campbell and City Secretary and Communications Coordinator Leslie E. Galloway; **Staff Participating via TeleConference:** City Attorney Drew Larkin, Director of HR and Administrative Services Danielle Clarke, Director of Finance and Information Technology Lakeita Sutton, Library Director Amanda King, Director of Planning and Economic Development Melissa Dailey, Public Works Director Larry Hoover, Fire Chief James Brown, and Police Chief Tommy Williams.

B. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

1. Consider an Ordinance, renewing the Mayor's Local Disaster Declaration in relation to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Campbell stated that no action was necessary on this item.

In response to a question from Councilmember Altom, Campbell stated that, today, the County

Judge and the Governor had each amended their declarations in some way, but that the Mayor's last amendment included language that would automatically adopt the stricter of any requirements at either the State or County level, but that it was probable that an item to extend the Mayor's Declaration would appear on the Tuesday, April 21 Regular Meeting agenda.

City Attorney Drew Larkin concurred with Campbell's statements, adding that his firm was currently researching whether or not the Governor's most recent order would preclude a local government from enacting restrictions that were more stringent than those enacted by the State.

Campbell noted that the Mayor's Declaration was necessary to seek reimbursement of funds expended in relation to the current public health emergency.

2. Discussion of issues relating to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency

In response to a question from Councilmember Pugh, Fire Chief James Brown and Police Chief Tommy Williams offered an update on their supply of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Campbell then alerted the Council that City staff was considering closing off park equipment in the coming days, due to the potential health hazard that might be created if it were not being disinfected regularly.

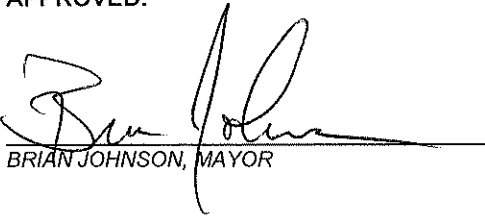
Mayor Johnson polled the Council regarding their ability to participate in future meetings via VideoConference (rather than by TeleConference).

IV. ADJOURNMENT

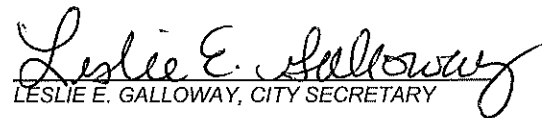
Motion Adjourn. Action Adjourn, Moved By Altom, Seconded By Mayor Pro Tem Lee. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

APPROVED:


BRIAN JOHNSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:


LESLIE E. GALLOWAY, CITY SECRETARY

