

KENNEDALE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE | APRIL 14, 2020 AT 5:00 PM

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY JOIN BY VISITING
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1-877-853-5257 (TOLL-FREE) AND USING ACCESS CODE 76060-76060**

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. SPECIAL SESSION

A. ROLL CALL

Participating via VideoConference: Mayor Brian Johnson; Josh Altom, Place 1; Chris Pugh, Place 2; Mayor Pro Tem Lee, Place 3; Linda Rhodes, Place 4; Chad Wandel, Place 5. **Staff Participating via VideoConference:** City Manager George Campbell, City Secretary and Communications Coordinator Leslie E. Galloway, City Attorney Drew Larkin, Director of Finance and Information Technology Lakeita Sutton, Director of Planning and Economic Development Melissa Dailey, Public Works Director Larry Hoover

B. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

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

City Manager George Campbell stated that the current declaration extends through the end of April and that it automatically adjusts to State or County regulations, thus there was no reason to act on this item at this time.

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

City Manager George Campbell stated that there was nothing to report at this time.

3. Discuss, consider, and provide staff direction regarding an economic assistance grant or loan 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 had discussed with the EDC Board at their meeting on Monday, April 13, the possibility of using EDC funds to provide grants or loans to local small businesses, if the program proved practical.

Director of Planning and Economic Development Melissa Dailey stated that staff presented multiple options to assist small businesses affected by COVID-19, but that all information seemed to indicate that the City providing money to businesses would negatively affect their ability to qualify for benefits under federal or state programs. She added that the EDC Board approved delaying rent to tenants in EDC-owned buildings and to offer funding for a shop local program currently being developed by staff, but to delay any decisions regarding grants or loans to businesses. There was some discussion

of the offerings at the state and federal level and the source of the EDC funding for such potential programs.

At the request of Mayor Johnson, City Manager George Campbell offered an update on the recent billing error (due to mis-formatted meter readings) that affected roughly 200 customers as well as the incorrect stormwater fee that appeared on all invoices. Director of Finance and Information Technology Lakeita Sutton stated that staff failed to communicate that the Ordinance was not passed in March as had been expected, but that customers would receive a \$1.00 credit on the next billing. Campbell stated that staff would provide a more comprehensive update during the April 21 Regular Meeting.

III. ADJOURNMENT

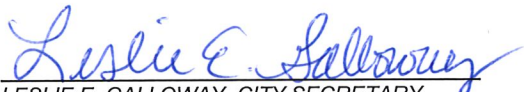
Motion Adjourn. **Action** Adjourn, **Moved By** Mayor Pro Tem Lee, **Seconded By** Wandel. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

APPROVED:


BRIAN JOHNSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:


LESLIE E. GALLOWAY, CITY SECRETARY

