JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
November 19, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Stanley called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation was read by Assistant City Clerk Roschelle Forsythe

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was led by Mr. Lawson

Assistant City Clerk Roschelle Forsythe read the Special Call:
Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Joplin, Missouri, will conduct a Special Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2020, at Joplin City Hall, 5th Floor Council Chambers, 602 S. Main Street for the purpose of discussing bid responses for air service to and from Joplin; and to discuss an ordinance to require persons to wear facemasks to help restrict the spread of COVID-19.

The public was informed the meeting could be viewed live on KGCS-TV channel 21 and regional cable television systems including Sparklight in Joplin; or livestream at http://www.joplinmo.org/182/Video-Multimedia. In compliance with the social distancing requirement of six feet, the number of guests in the Council Chambers is limited to 45.

Answering Roll Call were Council Members: Charles Copple, Keenan Cortez, Doug Lawson, Anthony Monteleone, Diane Reid Adams, Gary Shaw, Mayor Ryan Stanley, Phil Stinnett (Via Phone) and Christina Williams. Also, in attendance were City Manager Nick Edwards (Via Phone), Assistant City Manager Dan Pekarek and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Monteleone introduced Resolution No. 2020-018- a resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to submit a letter of recommendation to the U.S. Department of Transportation on behalf of the City of Joplin to recommend SkyWest Airlines, a United Express Partner of United Airlines, as part of the Joplin Regional Airport Essential Air Service Bid Comparison. Motion by Mr. Monteleone, second by Mr. Copple to approve Resolution No. 2020-018. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, Lawson, Monteleone, Reid Adams, Shaw, Stanley, Stinnett and Williams, 9. Nays:0. The bill was read as **Resolution No. 2020-018**

ORDINANCE-EMERGENCY

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2020-011- AN ORDINANCE requiring persons to wear a face covering that covers the nostrils and mouth to help restrict the spread of the COVID-19 virus; creating exemptions; establishing enforcement; and containing an emergency clause.

Before discussion on Council Bill No. 2020-011, we heard from area health officials, as well as Ryan Talken; City of Joplin Health Director. After hearing from them Mayor Stanley opened the meeting to hear Citizens Requests to Address Council and public comments submitted by email read by the Assistant City Clerk.

Dr. McNabb - spoke on behalf of Freeman Hospital in favor of the mask mandate and wanted to show full support on reinstating the mask ordinance.
Stephanie Brady-Executive Director of the Community Clinic of SW Missouri-they are the primary care providers for about 2000 residents and spoke in favor of the mask ordinance.

Steve Douglas-Director of Marketing and public relations for Access Family Care-had to close some area facilities in the area, Joplin has been able to remain open. He spoke in support of the mask ordinance.
Laura Rosch-Board certified internist/Dean for Joplin campus KCU, representing over 1000 medical students from around the country. Spoke in support of the mask mandate and asked of council to follow the science.
Jeremy Drinkwitz-President of Mercy Hospital, asking for help to protect the community by passing the mask ordinance -39% of patients at Mercy are COVID positive.
Tony Moehr- Administrator with the Jasper County Health Department, with seeing number of cases increase-spoke in favor of the mask ordinance.
William Reece- Board certified Internal Medical Doctor/Chief Medical Officer at Access Family Care, masks reduce someone's chance of contracting the virus by 70%, asked to pass the mask ordinance.
Ryan Talken-City of Joplin Health Director, gave perspective from the health department- as rates continue to climb, he stated the importance of masking, personal hygiene and social distancing.

Requests to Address Council:
Abigail Covington-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Jennifer Thompson-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Joshua Shackles-spoke in favor of the mask mandate
Nathalia Burleson-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Hannah Collins-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Jordan Dyer- spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Nicholas Staus-spoke in favor of the mask ordinance
Kevin VanStory-spoke on the ungodly, demonic and cult like mask mandate
Maria Bailey-spoke in favor of the mask ordinance
Troy Kinast-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Frank Thompson-spoke on ineffectiveness of masks
Chianne Xiong-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Rodney Noran-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Laura Simmons-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Deborah Furgeson-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Rosealandra Cloven-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate
Tim Jeffries-spoke in opposition of the mask mandate

Mayor Stanley called for a recess at 8:41 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:51 p.m.

Comments from the public: read by Assistant City Clerk Roschelle Forsythe
Dianne Slater-supports the mask mandate
Marandy Anderson- is asking you to take the work of our healthcare workers who are putting their lives on the line daily for us, and to pass a mask mandate for the City of Joplin.
Nichole Selvey-supports the mask mandate
Wendy Brueckner-Sears-supports the mask mandate
Nina Brueckner-supports the mask mandate
Steve Brown-against the mask mandate
Melissa Antone-supports the mask mandate
Rob O'Brian-in support of implementing a mask mandate

Motion by Mr. Cortez, second by Mr. Monteleone to approve Council Bill No. 2020-011. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, Monteleone, Reid Adams, Stanley, and Williams, 6. Nays: Lawson, Shaw and Stinnett, 3. **Ordinance No. 2020-176**

Discussion of City of Joplin Plan for Response and Recovery the consensus of the council was to stay where we are in the Plan; step 2: phase 4.

Mr. Monteleone asked that at regular future meetings that updates be given by the Health Director as far as numbers and where we are in the Recovery Plan and if we would be able to relax some of the things to help out the citizens.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:21p.m.

Respectfully,

Roschelle Forsythe, Assistant City Clerk