

Council Minutes - March 16, 2020
Emergency Council Meeting – City Hall, Council Chambers

Call to Order

Mayor Novak called the Ely City Council Meeting to order at 2:30pm.

PRESENT: Council Members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Callen, Campbell (Via cellphone), and Mayor Novak

Also Present: Clerk/Treasurer Langowski, Attorney Klun, Deputy Clerk Velcheff, Librarian Heinrich, Sergeant Burger, Sergeant Houde, Fire Chief Erchull, Ambulance Executive Director Glaski

Additions or Omissions - None

Old Business - None

New Business

Preparation for COVID -19

Mayor Novak indicated that the City of Ely is practicing Social Distancing, we have moved the chairs in the council chambers to be 6 feet away from each other, and are only allowing 49 people in the chambers.

Mayor Novak stated that Council will continue to meet until further notice, depending on what circumstances may occur.

Right now we are looking at closing the Library and Rec Center as of Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

Librarian Heinrich indicated that they will be closing the Library to the public, but they will offer limited curb-side pick-up of holds and some other items during this period (we will release more information on curb-side pick-up tomorrow). The Library will be closing down programming during the closure.

Mayor Novak stated that the general operations of the city will operate as usual, including city hall, public works and the utilities department. In the utilities department the meter reader will not be entering private homes or businesses and will be leaving hang tags for people that do not have electronic metering, if you get a hang tag for your meter reading, please call in your reading to the utilities department.

The fire and police departments are working as normal.

Debeltz/A.Forsman moved to cancel the Study Session for March 31, 2020. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Boards, committees and commissions will only meet if necessary, if they don't have any pending business in urgency, they can forgo the meetings.

The intent is to not have any city employees impacted negatively relative to pay, we will be accommodating accrued paid sick leave, and other accrued leaves that the employees have should an employee gets sick.

All city paid travel and training is canceled until further notice for council members and employees. All travel for council members to St. Paul is canceled.

Mutual aid agreements with other communities will stay in place.

At this time we are not declaring a local emergency declaration. We will be following the state or national guidelines.

The closure of restaurants and businesses we will leave up to the Health Department.

Adjourn

Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 2:42pm.

Casey Velcheff
Deputy Clerk