MINUTES

CITY OF ISANTI

EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25th, 2020 at 6:00 PM CITY HALL

Pursuant to Minn Statute 13D.02, the public body has determined that the Isanti City Council will not be able to hold the meeting in person due to the pandemic COVID-19. Pursuant to Minn Statute 13D.021, The Isanti City Council will be holding the Emergency City Council meeting via telephone or virtual, by use of computer, by using GoToMeeting.com

The public can view and comment at the City Council meeting by visiting this website: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/308600749

or by calling into this number +1 (571) 317-3112 with this code 308-600-749.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor Jeff Johnson, Councilors: Jimmy Gordon (telephone), Paul Bergley and Steve Lundeen

Members Absent: Dan Collison

Staff Present: City Administrator Josi Wood, Human Resources/ City Clerk Katie Brooks and Chief of Police Travis Muyres

D. Public Comment

None

E. Adopt Agenda

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried.

F. Business Items

1. **Resolution 2020-076** Declaring Local State of Emergency Mayor Johnson read the resolution.

Councilmember Bergley asked if the Chief of Police Travis Muyres is the Emergency Management Director.

Johnson confirmed that the Emergency Management Director is Chief of Police Travis Muyres,

Bergley asked if there is a plan in place,

Chief of Police Travis Muyres shared that the City of Isanti's Emergency Operations Plan as a whole and the Pandemic Plan is one section in there and has been in place for the City of

Isanti for many years. The plan was updated and presented at the last City Council meeting on March 17. Muyres continued to share that the motion and action does not mean anything is going to change tomorrow operationally, but gives them abilities to work with the city's partners including Isanti County Emergency Management, Alina Health, Isanti Fire which is already laid out in the Emergency Operations Plan.

Bergley stated that the County Board and City of Cambridge did this as well.

Mayor Johnson stated that it suspends everything, but City Council meetings, but residents are allowed to call in just as Councilmember Gordon is for the meeting now.

Bergley asked if there were any specific actions that are being taken.

City Administrator Josi Wood shared now that GoToMeeting.com is set up the City will continue to do meetings that have things on the agenda that need to be brought forward whether it be City Council or Planning Commission. Wood continued to share that the public will be notified on the City of Isanti's Facebook page and the City of Isanti website. Wood further shared that there will be a code similar to Councilmember Gordon called in on as well as the public listening to the meeting today. The public can call in to speak at public comment, during public hearings. During a local state emergency state statute allows if found prudent to not hold meetings in person form that they can be done this way so moving forward this is how meetings will be done until it is determined that it is not prudent to do so. Wood stated in regards to city operations, specifically with staffing, we have begun staggering staff shifts. With Public Works, Police Department and in City Hall some staff are doing it in a way where they are working from home and they may come in depending on what functions they are providing with the order Governor Walz has made that takes effect on Friday it is to make sure that the critical staff that is needed to do what needs to be done. Staff were given the capability to work remotely to keep the separation between different staff members but have the ability to continue to work. Wood added that for the public updates for COVID-19 have been posted on the City's Facebook page and on the City's website under the Emergency Preparedness page such as the water shut off notice which usually happened in April have been delayed as well as residents will not be experiencing late fees during this time due to COVID-19. Wood stated that City Hall is not open to the public, but staff is still available by phone or email to answer questions.

Councilmember Gordon asked for clarification that this is opening lines of communication with the county and state to make it easier to work with them and not necessarily putting a response plan in place but allowing that to implemented if needed.

Wood stated to clarify that the city is in response planning and have implemented the plan, but have not implemented the Emergency Operations Center which is the next phase. Wood further stated that the city is in the emergency planning operations plan where critical services are being performed and limiting staff.

Gordon stated the City has implemented the operations part now that it is declaring the emergency.

Wood confirmed.

Gordon asked what is being done on a city level is not more restrictive than what the Governor implemented.

Johnson stated that what the Governor puts in place it must be complied and as far as the City level goes this is being implemented to make sure residents, families and staff is safe, secure and essentially do not get sick but if it hits here we are giving the authorization to react to it and do as necessary without City Council approval.

Muyres stated that the biggest thing enacted today by this council will open up more opportunities for him to reach out to bigger agencies such as county, state and federal to get more resources to plan with them. Muyres continued to share that there is not anything in the Emergency Management Plan regarding a curfew like what the Governors has put in place.

Gordon asked if the Liquor Store will remain open.

Wood stated that the Governors order did make it clear that one of the things that can remain open is Liquor Stores. The City's liquor store will continue to remain open and right now is operating at normal hours and schedules but if staff becomes sick and unable to work hours may become limited.

A motion was made by Lundeen, seconded by Bergley to approve resolution as presented. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried.

G. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bergley, second by Lundeen. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jaden Moore

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Deputy City Clerk/ Human Resources