



**MILFORD CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of Milford, Utah will hold a special meeting for the purpose described below on **Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 1:30 PM**. The Milford City Council may be conducting this meeting by electronic means, in accordance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, as currently modified by Executive Order of the Governor of the State of Utah. To ensure that everyone interested in participating in the Milford City Council meetings can do so in a manner that they feel comfortable with the public will be allowed to attend the meeting through electronic means. Please contact the Milford City Office by Noon on Wednesday to obtain information on joining the meeting using Zoom.

Special Meeting

1) Discuss city operations transitioning through different zones during the COVID 19 Pandemic.

Adjournment

Notice: The City Council may adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of §52-4-204 and §52-4-205, Utah Code Annotated (1953), as amended.

Dated this 4th day of May, 2020

CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY & POSTING

The undersigned, duly appointed and acting City Recorder does hereby certify that the above notice and agenda was posted in three public places within the Milford City Limits on this 4th day of May, 2020. These public places being 1) Milford City Office; 2) U.S. Post Office; and 3) Milford Public Library. The foregoing Notice and Agenda was also delivered to each member of the governing body and posted on the Public Notice Website (utah.gov.pmn) under Milford City.

Monica D. Seifers, City Recorder

Minutes of Milford City Council Special Session
Wednesday, May 6, 2020, 1:30 PM
Milford City Office 26 South 100 West, Milford, Utah 84751
Electronic Meeting Using Zoom

Members and Staff Present: Mayor Nolan Davis, Council Members Russell Smith, Les Whitney, Scott Symond, Shane Yardley (via Zoom), and Ian Spaulding (via Zoom). City Administrator Makayla Bealer, Administrative Assistant Lisa Thompson, City Recorder Monica Seifers, Cynthia Carter, Sarah Harding, Melissa Rose, and Tyler McMullin were also present.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM

WORK SESSION

1) Discuss city operations transitioning through different zones during COVID 19 Pandemic.

Council Member Les Whitney, who is also the Beaver County Emergency Manager, reported that PPE has been offered to assist with minimizing the risk of contamination. As of this morning there were 11 new confirmed cases in Washington County. Utah County and Salt Lake Counties had a number of new cases since Monday. Beaver County is still at zero. What we are doing is working and we need to continue our efforts. There are many soft openings happening across the state with city and county administration buildings. There are many cities that are opening everything up and this has caused concern with many of the emergency managers throughout the state. They feel this is too soon. The numbers are still rising so there is a lot of comment on that statewide. PPE will be provided to restaurants and businesses and is required by the governor's order. The data in the coming weeks will determine whether/when communities can move into yellow from orange. He stated that he has heard and seen a lot of Utah cities state that they were going to open up their communities regardless of what the governor says, Council Member Whitney did not feel that was the right decision but they can only be told that it is not recommended. He stated there was a reason that Beaver County did not have any cases and felt that they had done a great job implementing the processes and putting together resources and equipment to try to keep the virus out of the county. He added that first responders were doing everything possible when responding to calls to keep the case count at zero.

Council Member Whitney explained that as per Dr. Blodgett's recommendations, gloves are not a good resource in trying to eliminate the spread of the virus. Most people do not use them correctly and seem to wash their hands less often with the false security of wearing the gloves.

Council Member Smith had seen on the news that southern Utah was trying to get approval to move into yellow early and were denied. Council Member Whitney stated that he felt that the governor had done a great job through these times. He is making his decisions based upon data which is wise. May 15th may come and go and there may not be a lot of change. Nationwide, cities and states are cancelling summer activities such as July 4th celebrations and county fairs. We are not to that point in Beaver County, we need to make those decisions at the appropriate times. There is a high probability that the county fair will be cancelled, but the county wants to give it 30 days and then look at that data at that time and see what affect social distancing has made. With the economic shortfall that will hit, that is a huge factor. Budgets are being restricted and cut so they are not so sure they want to spend over \$100 K for the county fair. We will know more about that in 30 days.

Mayor Davis stated that the city was approached last week for a letter of support for the plea to open up in southern Utah. Mayor Davis' response was that the city would not write a letter of support as the council

had not met to discuss the situation. Beaver City is adamant that they open up and their approach is different than ours. The mayor's opinion on the county fair is that it should probably be postponed until next year. With the loss of revenues, it is something that should be considered. Council Member Whitney did not criticize the mayor of Beaver City for wanting to open everything up, but there was concern amongst the county with the baseball tournaments that they would be hosting. He expressed his feelings of not being able to attend the local hometown baseball games but he is not sure that opening up tournaments for the potential of 48 different teams from all over coming in to our community is wise. He strongly felt that there are no cases in Beaver County because of the strong processes used to mitigate the spread. Council Member Smith cited that if we did open up the city leagues, he was not in favor of opening up any tournaments or having our kids travel to other communities right now.

Administrator Bealer reported that Milford City was operating as normal under the conditions. The city has not been impacted economically, as a city; not saying that smaller businesses here have not felt an impact, but the city itself has not. Milford City does not rely on tourism so we will not see a financial impact from the pandemic. We have been operating status quo. The city should begin to prepare for the yellow phase, which Council Member Whitney stated, there will not be many changes moving from orange to yellow other than the amount of people allowed in groupings. Today the city needs to collaborate and discuss each department; we want to support the order given by the governor while trying to find a way to continue to offer various services.

Council Member Ian Spaulding agreed that it was good to brainstorm and there were a lot of considerations to take in. He strongly feels that recreation is an important part of the community but we need to remember that the high school sports are not opening up for a while either. It is important to wait for the data.

Administration building – Mayor Davis stated it was his opinion that the city should stay status quo at least until the 15th of May to see what the governor has to say. We need to follow the data and see what the testing shows. We need to remain cautious while we move forward. He does not want to open up everything too quickly. Administrator Bealer suggested that the staff take appointments for notarizations, and documentation needs that are affiliated with the water project. This would allow us to continue to operate and offer a few additional services while maintaining the disinfection of the building. People are utilizing the online payment, drop box and payment by phone methods; the appointments would be for other services. Council Member Whitney was in support of the appointments using isolation methods (having them wash as they enter the building and remain in the conference room rather than enter into the offices) to reduce the risk of contamination. Council Member Smith agreed with Council Member Whitney on the appointments and limiting the risk of contamination.

City Crew – They are maintaining social distancing while out in the field. Limited to two people per truck. This will continue.

Library – The building has been closed to the public and has been offering curb side book pickup. The summer reading program will be opening up. Cynthia Carter explained that they were thinking of rather than doing the summer reading program how it has been in the past that they would do a weekly activity pack or something that could be picked up curb side. She has looked at what the libraries throughout the state have been doing. Historically they would have performers come during the summer but this year they will have to look at other ways of providing the program.

Council Member Whitney asked the library staff how they felt about doing a soft-opening at the library. They did not have major concerns but did not want to see an overload of kids coming in for on-line gaming, etc.

Administrator Bealer suggested limiting entry to a maximum and no unattended children. Mayor Davis stated that the staff can suggest what they are comfortable with. Sarah Harding felt good about letting in a few people at a time stating that there are a number of people who rely on the library for copies and online payments. Mayor Davis cited that masks and hand sanitizer could be procured for the patrons. As far as summer reading was concerned, he would not consider it right now. Cynthia stated that with summer reading the vendors have to be booked so far in advance that it would be hard to wait until further information comes in. Council Member Whitney added that we have to look at health and safety of the staff and the patrons and appreciated the feedback from the staff.

July 4th Celebration – We are planning as if it is going to happen. It is too soon to make a decision. If we have to cancel, we can store any items until next year. No donation request letters were mailed and we will not have the t-shirt fundraiser this year. We will try to keep it simple if we do hold the celebration.

Park Reservations – There is no charge for use of the park, we just collect a deposit. There are quite a few park reservations scheduled. City will continue to take reservations and additional steps for disinfection of the restroom facilities. The city could also provide a separate form that outlines the guidelines under the governor's order.

Milford City Hall Rental - Council Member Whitney suggested reducing the interaction within the city building. Administrator Bealer concurred stating that the building would require more disinfection.

Swim Pool – Melissa Rose stated that looking at what other pools are doing they are limiting to very few people. She talked to the pool in Cedar and they stated that they are only allowing lap swim and reservations are required limited to 45 minutes in the pool and no one under the age of 8 years old are permitted on the premises. They do symptom checks including taking temperatures at the door. There is no use of the locker rooms, patrons must come showered and in their swim gear ready to swim. They must leave their personal belongings on the deck of the pool. Once their time is up, they are escorted out of the building. Beaver has opened the pool to lap swims in the mornings limiting the lap swim to one person per lane – they have seven lanes. Beaver is renting their pool out for an hour which allows up to 20 people. It is not open for public swim. Melissa felt that it would be difficult to do that here. She has not hired or certified guards, the pool is still covered, if given the go ahead to open it will need to be drained and acid washed, power washed, refilled and balanced. The pool preparation usually takes a full month and she is normally starting it the beginning of April.

Melissa had concerns with the operations under the restrictions. Council Member Whitney agreed that it would be difficult with the restrictions and with the pool being a seasonal pool there is the issue of getting the pool up and running so late and then it is time to winterize it. Is it feasible to try to open for six weeks? Melissa cited that even if Milford opened the pool up for private rentals, there would be sanitization that would be required between uses. Super chlorination would need to take place between each rental. She was not sure if it was feasible. Council Member Whitney felt that it was not feasible to open the pool for such a short period of use. Administrator Bealer cited that the decision to open the pool or not needed to be based on something other than a cost standpoint because the pool never makes money. The city should go by the governor's guidelines and what is best for the community. Council Member Whitney – if we wait for the governor's orders that could potentially put us into July before we get the okay to open the pool with no restrictions, is it worth it for 6 weeks? Melissa stated if there was a chance at all of opening for the season, she needs to know sooner rather than later so the tarp can be pulled and the pool preparation started. Council Member Whitney added that he did not feel it was fair to keep the potential lifeguards waiting in the balance, if there is a chance the pool will not open the city should allow them to seek other employment

opportunities. Based on this conversation he felt he could make a decision today; he did not know where the rest of the council stood on it. Administrator Bealer explained that the lifeguards were scheduled to swim in Beaver on Monday; we could cancel that or we could go up and drain the pool and power wash it and have that work done now. If we do not open then it is drained and ready for next season. Council can decide if they want to move forward with hiring the lifeguards. Council Member Whitney felt that a decision needed to be made for the lifeguards. Administrator Bealer stated that we may have to hire them with the understanding that the pool may not open. The pool manager and assistant manager could work on the preparation and then if it does not open it is ready for winterization anyway. Council Member Shane Yardley was not in favor of the pool opening this year. Council Member Russell Smith supported preparing the pool but did not think it was fair to hold the lifeguards up if they were to go through with certification and then do not have a job when they could be looking for other employment opportunities now. Melissa inquired if she could hire and certify the guards and have them help with the pool preparation. Council Member Whitney cited that we could do that but if we end up not opening they are still out of a job and then they are trying to find a job mid to late summer; he felt that in all fairness to the guards the decision needed to be made whether we are going to open the pool or not. Mayor Davis suggested talking to the lifeguards and explaining the uncertainty of this year's season and give them the opportunity to decide if they want to continue or look at other job opportunities. He was in support of getting the pool prepared for this season. By the time the pool is prepped and ready to open we should have a better understanding of whether or not we will be able to proceed. The council members agreed that the lifeguards should proceed with their certification. They will swim on Monday, May 11. Administrator Bealer will be refunding the two pool passes that were sold earlier this year and we will not be selling any pool passes.

Summer Recreation - Tyler McMullin stated that while he was gung-ho for summer recreation, he agrees that decisions made based on emotions are not in the best interest of everybody. The Lion's Club Bash is on hold, they are still planning it but it has been put on hold. Regarding Council Member Smith's comment earlier about not supporting having people from out of town come in to our community in large numbers and the possibility of bringing in the virus, Tyler believed, as far as Milford, that is one of the reasons why we don't have any cases here is because we do not attract a lot of people. As far as the other recreation guidelines, he was not sure what the recommendations were beyond the social distancing and no groups larger than 20. Administrator Bealer explained that it was those two items plus equipment had to be disinfected in between contact. The guidelines are somewhat vague but they allow for the local jurisdictions to make decisions. The state has tried to provide the guidelines to allow for events to take place in a safe manner. Tyler cited that parents are getting restless and wondering how to plan out their summer vacation. He wondered about a plan being put into place for Cal Ripken, Babe Ruth, Girls Softball, June Ball – we are running out of time to make a decision. The adult leagues run later in the year so we have time to make a plan for those, but the youth leagues need to be addressed. We do not have the capacity to run them all at the same time. He stated that it was his understanding that St. George was going to start this weekend but they got shut down. They pushed it back until May 15th. Tyler also confirmed that Beaver was planning to continue with their tournament on May 29 – 30 and another in June. Administrator Bealer explained the differences regarding recreation going from orange to yellow – in orange there is no close contact and in yellow you can but with close monitoring of symptoms of participants. Both require 6-foot distancing and disinfection of surfaces touched. Tyler restated Council Member Spaulding's comment earlier of UHSAA postponing all sports until all 29 counties reach yellow status which may not happen for the densely populated counties. Tyler asked what would happen when we reach yellow status- will we have another meeting or are we just going to try to figure it out? Mayor Davis felt that we would have another meeting. He did not have an issue with the baseball or the players, he cited that the spectators were going to be the concern.

Tyler asked where the city was with the closure of the park and playground equipment. Administrator Bealer cited that it had never been closed, the city has taken the stance of use at your own risk. Tyler asked if the baseball complex was under the same status. Mayor Davis replied that it was the same, he sees large groups at the football complex every night.

Tyler asked Lisa Thompson if she had any comments. She stated that a decision needed to be made with Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth since the seasons had already begun. Tyler stated that there are a number of tournaments scheduled for June that are on hold. Council Member Whitney asked if the kids were allowed to play would they be able to go tournaments, or do we just bag it? Tyler said there are opportunities but it all depends on whether things open back up. With Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth they have a season of home games that begin in mid-April and runs through May followed by tournaments. Council Member Whitney asked if we could put it together and make it happen with what time we have left. Tyler felt that people were desperate to do whatever they have the opportunity to do and he was willing to put in whatever efforts needed to make it happen. Lisa Thompson understood that Panguitch and Piute had canceled their tournaments. Tyler confirmed that they had. Lisa stated that the remaining tournaments would be All-Star tournaments and asked how an All-Star team would be selected without causing problems? Tyler explained that he was intending to try to get as many games as possible and let people know that fees may be cut since the season was short but the All-Stars would be picked as if under normal circumstances for the kids that wanted to have the opportunity. Council Member Whitney asked if Richfield was still going to hold their tournament. Everyone Tyler has talked to have stated that they are putting a hold on their tournaments, other than Panguitch and Piute due to the scheduling of their tournaments so early in the year. Lisa explained that a sixty-dollar registration fee has been collected from the participants that registered for Cal Ripken, the registrations opened in March. Even if on May 15 we decide we can play for two weeks, she felt that some of that money should be refunded. Administrator Bealer added that she felt the fees should be returned for Babe Ruth and Cal Ripken. If we move from orange to yellow on May 15 and the parents want to take their kids to the tournaments, let them make that decision on their own. Jake Netto asked if the city did not have their recreation program, could he still contact the parents and see if the kids want to attend the tournaments. There is nothing stopping the parents from going, but it is not affiliated with Milford City Recreation. Administrator Bealer recommended keeping things simple, we are behind schedule. Allow them to play but do not run it as a league – no uniforms, equipment, etc. Just let the kids play and if they want to go to the tournaments it is up to the parents to get them there.

Concession stand – under the yellow phase a six-foot distancing is required in the lines, encourage contactless payment, and no eating at the concession stand. Masks and gloves would be required of the operators. Administrator Bealer has been researching offering a Venmo payment option for the stand. We do not have a concessionaire; it had been advertised prior to the pandemic with little interest. Discussed using lifeguards to operate the concession stand.

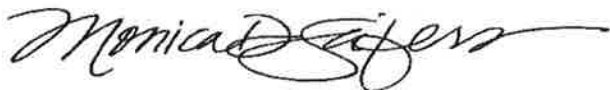
Summarization of recreation activities: Refund registration fees for Babe Ruth and Cal Ripken, those will not operate this year due to COVID 19; it is up to parents to put together teams for tournament participation, it will not be associated with Milford City Recreation this year. June Ball – if we drop from orange to yellow, we can do an online registration for the programs but no shirts will be ordered/issued and the schedule will be for games during June and July to give the kids something to do over the summer. Makayla asked the council if the director's fees should be waived since the programs will not be charging and no uniform, shirt, equipment orders will need to be submitted. The staff could separate the teams if we get to that point. Tyler felt that if we get to run the June Ball programs and the directors are going to have to organize it, they should get their fee regardless of not taking registration fees. Council Member Whitney agreed asking how many directors there were for June Ball. Makayla replied that Tyler runs Girls Softball, Megan McMullin runs T-ball

and Coach Pitch, and Jake Netto runs Machine Pitch. Council Member Smith asked if there was anything local for the 11-12 year olds. Tyler would like to try to get something for them. Lisa suggested refunding the registrations but let them know even though they will not have uniforms and the season is almost over they can still form teams and get some play time in for a few weeks. Tyler asked if we are waiting to go into yellow phase? Council Member Whitney did not feel there was a big enough change going from orange to yellow. Makayla restated that changes for recreation going from orange to yellow requires 6-foot distancing, disinfecting surfaces, using caution and monitoring participant symptoms. She stated that the refunds could go out and plans to move forward with the programs once we go into yellow. Council Member Smith supported running a city league for the kids to have play here at home and not worry about being on a schedule for tournaments and such. Tyler asked about the tournament on June 5 and 6, are we going to be able to hold that in a yellow status, from what he gathered it did not look like we would be. Makayla cited that it would bring in players from other communities to our complex. Council Member Yardley felt that was an unnecessary risk to our community. Council Member Smith agreed adding that the first part of June is close and we do not know what is going to happen. Makayla felt it was fair to say that if we are not going to have a season the tournament needed to be postponed or canceled. Tyler stated that the window for the planning and scheduling is closing soon and the Lions Club needs to be informed in addition to other teams. He can see that a tournament is probably a green status event and we do not know when that is going to happen, we could have up to 150 -200 people at the ball park during a tournament. Mayor Davis felt that we needed to see where the numbers were at the end of the month, not the 15th, it is not the participants but the spectatorship that is a concern. He did not think a June 5 tournament was a good idea. The members of the council agreed. Tyler will let everyone know that it has been postponed to a later date.

Mayor Davis advised Makayla to draft an updated letter to the citizens.

Meeting Adjournment ~ as there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.

APPROVED by City Council the 19th day of May, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monica D. Seifers", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

MONICA D. SEIFERS, City Recorder