

A special meeting of the City Council for the City of Fairfax, Minnesota was held on March 19th, 2020 at 7:30am in the City Council Chambers.

Members: Brad Augustin, Josh Bunkers, John Schaefer, Steve Schmidt, Brad Bastian

Absent: John Schaefer

Visitors: Nicholas Johnson, City Administrator

The meeting was called to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The agenda was reviewed. Staff requested the addition of an item to defer utilities for businesses who request it during the pandemic. A motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Bunkers to approve the agenda with the addition. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

Several items were considered by Council due to the Governor's emergency health declaration.

A motion was made by Bunkers and seconded by Schmidt to close City Hall and the Community Center to direct public contact until the Governor's emergency declaration and any extensions thereof have expired. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Bunkers and seconded by Schmidt to approve suspension of utility disconnections for all customers until the Governor's emergency declaration and any extensions thereof have expired. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Bunkers and seconded by Schmidt to approve deferral of utility bills for businesses affected by the Governor's emergency declaration through the May 2020 billing due date. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Bunkers to enact the following authorizations:

1. The City Administrator and Mayor may adjust City employee work schedules and assigned duties as the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve and change.
2. The City Administrator and Mayor may expend funds budgeted in the 2020 general and CIP budgets in the event timely purchases or repairs need to be made between City council meetings.
3. The City Administrator and Mayor may review payables and pay invoices and claims in a timely manner; and for a summary of those payments then provided to the Council for later confirmation.
4. The City Administrator and Mayor may establish temporary policies regarding the use of special sick leave banks to cover absences due to staff members needing to self-quarantine or seek medical attention, attend to medical or childcare needs of family, or otherwise needing to be absent from work for virus-related reasons.
5. The City Administrator and Mayor shall determine whether the April 2020 or May 2020 City council meetings are necessary and/or determine whether utilizing electronic means to conduct said meetings are prudent as allowed by M.S. 13D.021.

A motion was made by Bunkers and seconded by Schmidt to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

Attest:

Mayor

City Administrator