

1 Mayor Vini Samuel presiding
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3 **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Samuel called the May 12, 2020 city council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
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5 **FLAG CEREMONY:** Pledge of Allegiance
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7 **ROLL CALL:** Councilman Trimble, Councilman Cope, Councilman Skaramuca, Councilwoman Valentine,
8 Councilwoman Cristobal were all present. Councilman Trimble made a motion to excuse Councilman
9 Wood and Councilman Bryson with a second by Councilwoman Valentine.

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11 *Motion passed 5-0.*
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13 **STAFF PRESENT:** City Attorney Coker was on speaker phone.
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15 **APPROVAL OF BILLS:** Councilman Trimble made a motion to approve the bills as audited with a second
16 by Councilman Cope. Bills totaling \$759,065.25 for checks #54589 to #54608; payroll in the amount of
17 \$224,631.12 for checks #41346 to #41363. Councilman Trimble advised \$739,000 and some change was
18 all for the waste water treatment plant project.

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20 *Motion passed 5-0*
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22 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Councilman Cope made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 28,
23 2020 council meeting with a second by Councilman Skaramuca as written.

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25 *Motion passed 5-0*
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27 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
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29 Councilman Skaramuca advised the public works committee met on Wed. the 6th; tasked with possibly
30 creating a sidewalk enterprise fund which didn't pencil out; sidewalk variance request just stands where
31 it is; this person will have to follow the development standards; six year transportation improvement
32 plan; most are street preservation projects; the committee added three sidewalks projects to the plan
33 which are 1) continuing sidewalks on E. Pioneer from Glenn Street to the Moose Lodge, 2) E. McBryde 3)
34 sidewalks from 3rd Street to Lake Sylvia; land property owner who owns property on S. Main Street on
35 the other side of the freeway and is zoned industrial use is asking to add coffee shops under the
36 conditional use of this zone; the second request is to change the description of retail sales under this
37 zone. This would go to the council, planning commission then to council again.

38
39 Councilwoman Cristobal stated they would like Attorney Coker to review to make sure the committee is
40 not missing anything.
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42 **PRESENTATION: Grays Harbor County Update, Commissioner Raines**
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44 Commissioner Raines provided an update on where we are and where we are going; policy group meets
45 every morning to discuss how to move forward; at this time we are back down to 13 positive cases, one
46 was reassigned to Pierce County; we hope to have Phase 2 plan for variance by the end of this week;
47 could move to Phase 2 beginning sometime next week; it does take time; we have acquired PPE, testing
48 supplies, we need verification from the three hospitals that we have bed capacity, ventilators etc.

49 Councilwoman Valentine asked if we are approved to move to Phase 2, where should we direct local
50 businesses to get clear guidance on what they need to do to comply with Phase 2? Commissioner
51 Raines advised currently the governor is compiling and releasing that information; they will be released
52 by the governor's office.

53
54 Commissioner Raines went on to explain other application paperwork; explained several things that
55 need to be in order to move forward; the governor's website has the requirements listed; today saw
56 some guidelines for retail; small businesses in our communities should reach out to the licensing agency
57 in their jurisdiction. We are patiently waiting and want to open as quickly as we can however we want
58 to be sure to do it safely.

59
60 Councilman Trimble thanked the commissioners for what they are doing, the policy group has some
61 really good folks in the group and he appreciates the efforts they are making.

62
63 **NEW BUSINESS:**

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65 **CARES Act Funding-**

66 Mayor Samuel advised we received around \$22,000-\$23,000 for ambulance billing that will add to the
67 EMS Enterprise Fund; \$125,000 from the CARES Act we are expecting to get; the dilemma is there is very
68 little information on what we can and cannot spend this money on; there are no guidelines even in the
69 subsection; what we cannot spend it on is budgeted items or the lack of revenue that would have come
70 from sales tax etc.; it is not meant to be infill; we have COVID related expenses such as extra cleaning
71 and technology and we are also planning on using those funds for things if there is another experience
72 within three or four months, we have the ability and options to telecommunicate. Mayor Samuel asked
73 the council for any notes, advice or suggestions they have encountered in their workplaces that we
74 could compile for future use to get through similar issues.

75
76 **Annexation-**

77 We were to have a public hearing at the next council meeting for this and we just cannot do this until we
78 hit at least Phase 3 as we cannot have the public at our meetings; at best, June/July at worst, the fall.
79 The problem is our deadline of August 1st to get this done; we don't have other entities open to finish
80 this. We will move forward and wait to hold the public hearing when it is possible; we will want to know
81 the new values of properties when that time comes. Discussion ensued on this topic and how things play
82 out.

83
84 **City Update-**

85 We are starting street work on Spruce Avenue from Church to Academy and should be awarded on May
86 20th; the next bid going out on Marcy Avenue; Beacon will go out to bid late summer and E. Pioneer
87 sidewalk goes out June 17th.

88
89 We have been putting together the various budgets and CFO Blancas has been working on this; Mayor
90 Samuel is asking the finance committee start looking at this; she is asking to form budgets at 10% and
91 20% cuts; this is our year for contracts and will probably ask for the opening of those contracts in
92 September; we received our property taxes back for the first half and we are where we budgeted; city
93 open date possibly in a week or shortly thereafter.

94
95 Police and fire are continuing as they are; the clerk's office is going well; things are working smoothly.
96

97 **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

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99 Councilwoman Valentine expressed her thanks to the residents, business owners, commuters for their
100 efforts in obeying the guidelines and being supportive.

101

102 Councilwoman Cristobal agrees with Valentine, everyone is trying their best to mitigate the
103 circumstances; these are very tough times and we are all trying to make the best of it.

104

105 Councilman Trimble agreed with that, encourages everyone to continue to support our local businesses,
106 thanked Commissioner Raines for joining us and reminded all it was National Police Week, thank you to
107 our police department and all police officers around the country; maybe at some point we can do a
108 proclamation.

109

110 Councilman Skaramuca wished Councilman Wood a speedy recovery and thanked everyone for what
111 they do; it will get better, it's going to be slow but it will be better.

112

113 Councilman Cope stated the one thing county leadership and city leadership has provided is consistency
114 of leadership; we have decided we are going to remain hard and fast to facts and data which is not
115 always easy; thanked Mayor Samuel, the department heads and the city staff for all they do; asked if
116 there was possibly a way to do a proclamation for the Class of 2020 as well.

117

118 **MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

119 Mayor Samuel advised she would be happy to work on the discussed proclamations adding health care
120 workers and teachers to the list of folks we appreciate; we are trucking along in the city.

121

122 **ADJOURNMENT:**

123 Councilman Trimble made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by Councilwoman Cristobal.
124 *Motion passed 5-0*

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126 Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:38 p.m.

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128 These minutes were transcribed by Clerk Lillegard from the tape recording of the council meeting. Clerk
129 Lillegard was not present at the meeting due to corona virus meeting parameters set forth by the
130 governor.

131

132 Kim Lillegard, Deputy Clerk
133 Recording available.