



MINUTES
CITY OF GLENWOOD SPRINGS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 9, 2020
101 W. 8TH STREET
6:15 P.M.

1. Roll Call

Mayor Jonathan Godes called the meeting to order at 6:15pm. Present at roll call: Charlie Willman, Rick Voorhees, Tony Hershey, Jonathan Godes, Shelley Kaup, Paula Stepp and Steve Davis.

Also present were Debra Figueroa; City Manager, Karl Hanlon; City Attorney, Catherine Fletcher; City Clerk, Jenn Ooton; Assistant City Manager, Steve Boyd, COO; Yvette Gustad; Finance Director, Terri Partch; City Engineer, Matt Langhorst; Public Works Director, and Hannah Klausman; Acting Public Information Officer.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Godes led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Agenda Changes & Conflicts

None were noted.

4. Citizens Appearing Before Council (for items not on the Agenda-comments limited to 3 minutes)

Mayor Godes opened the item for public comment.

No comments were made.

Mayor Godes closed the item for public comment.

5. Council Comments

Councilor Stepp

- Made note that the library district was hosting a virtual open mic poetry night on Tuesday, April 14, 2020.
- Noted there is a hotel in town with outdoor access to rooms and could possibly be involved for emergency accommodations.

Councilor Hershey

- Requested the Mayor limit councilors to one comment and one follow-up question during discussions.
- Noted the stranded motorists weren't from here. He stated the Council needed to take care of the people here first.

Mayor Pro Tem Kaup

- Thanked staff for gathering small business resources on the Economic Development page of the City website.
- Noted travelers are still passing through Glenwood Springs and I-70 in emergency situations and may be stranded.
- Commented that Debbie Wilde, from Debbie Wilde Consulting Ltd., believed money was available for emergency accommodations.
- Made note there was not a mandatory do not travel order.

Councilor Willman - Noted the Downtown Development Authority met earlier that day and allocated \$200,000; \$150,000 immediately and \$50,000 in reserve to assist with the local economy.

Mayor Godes and Mayor Pro Tem Kaup – Suggested directing staff to work with Debbie Wilde Consulting Ltd. and organizations with an existing relationship to the City to discuss solutions for stranded motorists.

ACTIONS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

6. COVID-19

A. RFTA in Glenwood Springs

Pro Tem Kaup – Noted new information from the RFTA meeting held earlier that day. RFTA has been monitoring traffic at Thunder River Market. In one day, there were 15,600 vehicle trips on Hwy 82 in both directions. On the same day, the number of RFTA riders was around 400. She also noted that the RFTA ridership is less than 3% of the trips on Hwy 82.

Mayor Godes opened the item for public comment.

Sandy Wade expressed her concerns with allowing RFTA service to continue in Glenwood Springs. Although she appreciated the essential services RFTA provides, she doesn't understand waiting for a spike in infections to make a change.

Mayor Godes closed the item for public comment.

Councilor Willman moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaup to allow RFTA service to continue within the City of Glenwood Springs. Such permission may be revoked should COVID-19 numbers rise significantly and/or if RFTA does not follow its current restrictions regarding passenger usage of RFTA buses (Phase III) in compliance with the Public Health Order 20-24. Plus requiring all passengers entering RFTA buses to wear face coverings upon entering busses and while being conveyed on the buses. Such face coverings shall be consistent with the City's current directive approved on Monday April 6th, 2020. These requirements shall continue until removed by the City Manager in accordance to the City Manager's current emergency authority or until further action by City Council.

Ayes: Kaup, Stepp, Hershey, Willman

Nays: Davis, Godes, Voorhes

Motion passed.

B. Distancing at Stores

City Attorney, Karl Hanlon - Presented background on this item. He made note of stores within Glenwood Springs and the potential restrictions they were discussing; limiting capacity by square footage, advising on facemasks, social distancing of six feet, etc. He noted these stores were working hard to do the right thing. He recommended providing guidelines for stores on capacity limits and giving retailers time to work with that.

Mayor Godes opened the item for public comment.

No comments were made.

Mayor Godes closed the item for public comment.

Councilor Willman moved, seconded by Mayor Godes that it is the City of Glenwood Springs' guidance on social distancing that retail stores should be at no more than four per 1,000 square feet; maintaining a strict six-foot social distance. If this is unsuccessful, the next step council will take is a mandate to enforce that.

Ayes: Stepp, Davis, Willman, Godes, Voorhes, Kaup

Nays: Hershey

Motion passed.

C. Car-pooling in Glenwood Springs

City Attorney, Karl Hanlon – Presented on this topic. He suggested making a strong recommendation against carpooling.

Councilor Willman moved, seconded by Councilor Voorhes, that we adopt a City policy that carpooling with non-household members is strongly discouraged.

Ayes: Willman, Stepp, Davis, Voorhes

Nays: Hershey, Godes, Kaup

Motion passed.

D. Nonessential Interior Construction

Jenn Ooton, Assistant City Manager - Presented an update on the building department. She noted the City had focused primarily on residential projects and essential projects (such as a leaking roof). She made note that the building official felt that Glenwood Springs was quieter with nonessential projects (such as painting) that he has noticed while doing inspections. The building department is doing photo or video inspections when possible. If there are concerns with the photos or videos, a physical inspection can then be performed.

Mayor Godes opened the item for public comment.

No comments were made.

Mayor Godes closed the item for public comment.

Councilor Voorhes, seconded by Councilor Davis, moved for a Public Health Order that there should be no unnecessary interior construction during the period of the Stay at Home Order up to April 26, 2020. Further, there should be no non-permitted interior construction by third parties during that same time period.

Ayes: Voorhes, Davis, Godes

Nays: Stepp, Kaup, Hershey, Willman

Motion failed.

7. Items Added

Councilor Hershey, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaup moved to end weekly City Council meetings. Meetings should be held on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Special meetings could be scheduled as necessary.

Ayes: Godes, Kaup, Hershey

Nays: Stepp, Voorhes, Willman, Davis

Motion failed.

Mayor Godes – Made note of a community webinar on April 10, 2020 at 11:00 AM with the Vice President of the Denver Federal Reserve.

Adjourned at 7:55pm