



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE SOLVANG CITY COUNCIL**

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, CA 93463

April 13, 2020
Monday
6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Toussaint called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Ryan Toussaint, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Clarke, Council Members
Chris Djernaes, Daniel Johnson and Karen Waite (via teleconference)

STAFF: Xenia Bradford, City Manager/City Clerk, Chip Wullbrandt, City Attorney
and Matt van der Linden, Public Works Director/City Engineer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Pro Tem Clarke.

1. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – WRITTEN OR VERBAL

Mayor Toussaint read into the record the protocols by which members of the public can participate of the City Council proceedings.

Mayor Toussaint introduced new Police Chief Joe Green for the City of Solvang.

Mayor Pro Tem Clarke read a statement into the record submitted by the Solvang Retailers Association citing concerns with emergency funding, employment development department difficulties with filing, and state and federal funding, which has not filtered to those most in need.

Callers – None

2. EXECUTIVE, PIO REPORTS & ADVANCE CALENDAR

City Manager Xenia Bradford provided a brief update on COVID-19 and reminded people about the community resources page on the City's website at www.solvangresources.com, and the City's website at www.solvang.com which contain more comprehensive information.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Agenda as Presented.
- b. Approval of Warrant Register/Expenditures Report for March 2020
- c. Approval of Draft Minutes of the March 30, Regular City Council Meeting
- d. Eastern Management Area (EMA) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Confidentiality Agreement

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clarke, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

4. EMERGENCY LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SOLVANG BUSINESSES

Receive and file report on current status of Solvang Micro-Loan Business Loan Program and consider further options for alternative loan program strategies and other business assistance.

City Manager Xenia Bradford presented the staff report providing an update on the earlier actions taken by the Council on March 20 with the establishment of the Micro-Loan Business program; commented that the original funding was \$250,000, which funded about 50 eligible applications with three still pending review; stated that the funds have been exhausted.

A presentation by the National Development Council was entertained by the Council with both presenters answering Council's questions.

Mayor Toussaint opened public comments at 8:03 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed public comment at 8:03 p.m.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to direct staff to move forward with this recommendation, seconded by Council Member Johnson and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

5. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

Receive a presentation on City's Information Technology work progress and recommendations for additional investment in Information Technology critical infrastructure.

City Manager Xenia Bradford presented the staff report indicating that in the fall of 2019 staff began looking into updating the City's Information Technology infrastructure and engaged the services of Lanspeed to conduct an analysis of the City's systems and provide recommendations for future technological improvements.

A representative from Lanspeed provided an update on the work they have undertaken to protect the City's infrastructure and answered questions from the City Council.

Mayor Toussaint opened public comments at 8:20 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at 8:20 p.m.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to approve staff's recommendation and authorize the City Manager to make the necessary budget adjustment of \$50,000 to accommodate the security cameras and updates to the City's website, seconded by Council Member Johnson and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

6. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Receive staff report and provide staff with policy direction.

City Manager Xenia Bradford presented the staff report detailing the economic uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact upon the local community; answered questions related to the budget from the City Council.

Mayor Toussaint opened public comments at 8:27 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at 8:27 p.m.

No formal motion made on this item. Policy direction was provided to the City Manager.

RECESS AND RECONVENE

Mayor Toussaint called for a recess at 8:30 p.m. The assembly reconvened at 8:40 p.m. with all Council Members, present.

7. FISCAL STRATEGY WITHIN CORONAVIRUS FRAMEWORK AND FY 2020-21 DEVELOPMENT

Receive staff report and provide staff with policy direction.

City Manager Xenia Bradford presented the staff report alluding to the two-year financial plan; spoke about the preliminary budget to be presented in May, followed by the final budget document to be presented in June 2020.

Mayor Toussaint opened public comments at 9:20 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at 9:20 p.m.

Mayor Toussaint commented that he was in favor of conducting some level of stress testing modeling; that staff should evaluate the enterprise funds for any impacts.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Clarke to receive and file the report, seconded by Council Member Waite and carried by unanimous consent.

8. IDK CONTRACT SCOPE AMENDMENT AND SOLVANG BUSINESS SUPPORT AND REVITALIZATION STRATEGY

Approve change in scope for IDK Marketing and Tourism contract due to COVID-19.

City Manager Xenia Bradford introduced the staff report and asked Scott Shumake to make a brief presentation.

Mayor Toussaint opened public comments at 10:00 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at 10:00 p.m.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to accept the revised scope of work for the remainder of FY 2020 and direct staff to return with the contract for 2021 consistent with the IDK proposal for 2021, seconded by Council Member Waite, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

9. AB1234 REPORT OUT, COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

Mayor Pro Tem commented on small cities that are also dependent on tourism and that he was studying how they are responding to COVID-19.

Council Member Johnson commented on the outpouring of support on the part of the churches and other non-profits who are helping folks with food, and other necessities in this time of crisis.


Mayor Toussaint stated that he had contact with some non-profits and that there are some that at some point will be reaching out to the Council as they are not prepared to sustain their current services at this level for an indefinite period of time.

Council Member Djernaes stated that he had heard a County public service announcement that if you happened to need any sort of food to give them a call and they will help.

Council Member Waite commented that she is looking for a hopeful outcome and urged people to stay healthy.

10. ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Toussaint adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:


DARYL A. BETANCUR, MMC
Deputy City Clerk

In accordance with Solvang Municipal Code Section 1-4-16 (Ord. 14-305), minutes of the City Council of the City of Solvang are prepared in action style.