EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
4:00pm, Wednesday, March 25, 2020
City Hall Council Chambers
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

MINUTES

1. Call to order

   Present: Council members Popson, Streetman, Moye, Ward, Buckhannon, Bell, Pounds, and Smith (telephonically), and Mayor Carroll

   Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Asst. Administrator Hanna, Attorney Copeland, Chief Cornett, Battalion Chief Hathaway, Director Kerr

2. New Business

   Emergency Ordinance 2020-02 to implement further measures to protect the citizens of the Isle of Palms including, but not limited to prohibiting future check-ins for short-term rentals, hotels, and other accommodations and prohibiting non-essential business to operate within the City and other measures proposed for the safety and public health for the City of Isle of Palms

   MOTION: Council Member Streetman made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss the emergency ordinance and to receive legal counsel. Council Member Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

   City Council moved into Executive Session. The time was not recorded.

   City Council returned from Executive Session, but the time was not recorded. Mayor Carroll reported that no decisions were made.

   MOTION: Council Member Moye made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-02 as presented. Council Member Bell seconded the motion.

   Council Member Buckhannon recused himself from the discussion and vote regarding this ordinance as he owns short-term rental property on the island. Mayor Carroll noted that he also owns a rental property, but he is currently living in it and it is not an active rental property for short-term rental. Council Member Popson said, “I have a rental that we have right across the street that has always been long-term. In fact, it is vacant right now, and I am probably not going to release it. It is probably going to be my next spec home. Just for full disclosure.”

   Council Member Moye introduced Dr. Edward O’Bryan, Emergency Medicine physician at MUSC, the Executive Director of MUSC Health Solutions, Chief Medical Officer for MUSC Business Health, and the Director of Business for Telemedicine Services for Business Health.
Council members asked questions of Dr. O’Bryan related to his medical knowledge of the COVID-19 virus and his recommendations regarding Emergency Ordinance 2020-02. A full transcript of that conversation is available on the City’s website.

Following the discussion with Dr. O’Bryan, Council members discussed particulars of the ordinance. Mayor Carroll expressed concern for the health and well-being of the Public Safety officers. Both Chief Cornett and Battalion Chief Hathaway said that the reduction of people permitted on the island has reduced the number of calls for service, thus reducing their exposure.

Council members agreed it was necessary to be proactive and prudent in passing the restrictions in this proposed ordinance to protect the health and safety of the citizens of the Isle of Palms.

**MOTION:** Council Member Bell made a motion to amend the ordinance to extend the date of the checkpoint to coincide with the restriction of the short-term rentals through April 30, 2020. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion.

Mayor Carroll said that everything else would remain the same, adding it does not prohibit non-resident property owners from accessing their properties.

**VOTE:** A voice vote was taken with all in favor of the amendment. Council Member Buckhannon did not vote.

**VOTE:** A voice vote on the ordinance as amended with all in favor. Council Member Buckhannon did not vote.

3. **Adjournment**

Council Member Bell made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Buckhannon seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned but no time was recorded.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk