

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL SESSION
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL
FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2020**

Mayor Michaelis called the Regular Session to order at 12:20pm. Councilwoman Sloan was present in person; Councilmembers Frey and Bellm were present via phone. Councilman Hipskind absent. Others in attendance were City Manager Latham, City Attorney McGinley and Directors Conrad. Director Imming present via phone.

PUBLIC FORUM

Citizens' Requests and Comments:

No requests or comments were received via the citizens' portal on the web, via email or phone.

Request of Council:

Councilman Frey noted, regarding the situation we are in nationwide, other communities have been talking out about helping to assist the small businesses impacted by this. Particularly, those businesses that have been mandated to close and those severely restricted. I was wondering how the city can help these small businesses. I would like for the councilmembers to put on their thinking caps as to how we may assist. Councilwoman Bellm pointed out there have been several Facebook posts on this with suggestions for people to go get carryouts and purchase gift cards for the future. I worry about their future. Many struggle anyways. The only thing right now is keep doing what we can. Councilwoman Sloan suggested these businesses contact the Small Business Administration for small business loans and any other assistance. Chief Conrad provide an update to the council. By the governor's orders, Illinois Department of Economic Security has waived wait times for affected employees. The Small Business Administration has low interest loans to offer, that they put out there yesterday. We will work to push this information out to the local businesses.

Staff Reports:

No staff reports.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill #20-41/RESOLUTION Extending Effective Date of Proclamation of Emergency Proclamation Pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 2-299, of the City of Highland Code of Ordinances, and Granting Emergency Management Authority Pursuant to 20 ILCS 3305 Et Seq of the Emergency Management Agency Act, and 65 ILCS 5/8-10-5 of the Illinois Municipal Code, In Response to COVID-19 (Corona Virus) - Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to approve Bill #20-41/Resolution #20-03-2704 extending effective date of proclamation of emergency proclamation pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 2-299, of the City of Highland Code of Ordinances, and granting emergency management authority pursuant to 20 ILCS 3305 Et Seq of the Emergency Management Agency Act, and 65 ILCS 5/8-10-5 of the Illinois Municipal Code, in response to COVID-19 (Corona Virus) as attached; seconded by

Councilman Frey. Roll Call Vote: Councilmembers Sloan, Frey, and Bellm voted aye, none nay. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Bellm made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Frey. All council members voted aye, none nay. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 12:40pm.

Joseph Michaelis, Mayor

Barbara Bellm, City Clerk