

SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF SHALLOWATER, MARCH 30, 2020 AT 6:30 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:

ROYKING POTTER
MAYOR
AMANDA CUMMINGS
CITY SECRETARY
WILL GRIFFIS
CITY ATTORNEY (VIA CONFERENCE CALL)
RUSSEL MOSES
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

ALDERMAN:
DAVID BRUEGEL
CHRIS CODY
NORMAN MOORE
JASON WHITE
TROY WHITE

Others Present: Cory Buck and Thomas Parker

Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Potter and the pledge was conducted.

Invocation: Invocation was offered by Alderman Cody.

Open Forum: Mayor Potter asked anyone that wishes to speak to clearly state their name prior to that person speaking each time. No public present via phone.

Consider and Discuss Ordinance Declaring a Local State of Disaster due to a

Public Health Emergency: Mayor Potter stated due to the current COVID-19 pandemic he declared a disaster on March 24, 2020. He stated that this ordinance would extend the declaration. Mayor Potter said Governor Abbott left it up to each Mayor on how to proceed in regards to essential businesses. He said that we have included all of the COVID-19 guidance regarding gatherings of less than ten people and added further restrictions to allow some of our small businesses to remain open because he feels very strongly that our community needs the businesses we have and he did want to keep them from earning a living. He said he is concerned about the effects this will have on their livelihood. Mayor Potter asked Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director Cory Buck, if he had any comments to add. Chief Buck stated that he recommends that we follow the guidelines set forth by the governor and the county and follow the COVID-19 guidelines that are in place and as of now there have been no further changes from the Governor's Executive Order. He said he has reviewed the ordinance and it is within the Executive Order. He is monitoring information from TDEM, the Texas Department of Emergency Management as well as Lubbock County Emergency Management. He is procuring personal protective equipment (PPE) and has placed orders through the county to ensure we are prepared. He mentioned the declaration will help the city's eligibility for funding. He has been in communication with Mayor Potter, and there have been no additional guidance from the county as of now. Mayor Potter asked the Emergency Management Assistant Director,

Thomas Parker, if he had anything to add. Thomas stated that he is working closely with Chief Buck and agrees they will continue to plan and follow the COVID-19 guidelines and where we are now is where we need to be. Mayor Potter asked Will Griffis if he would like to give an update. Will said the city should remain flexible. This ordinance is in compliance with the executive orders, but if they change we will have to amend the declaration to comply with county or state guidelines. Alderman Moore asked if this designation of disaster will allow local businesses to be eligible for SBA assistance. Will Griffis, said that yes it should, and the state declaration will also create some assistance eligibility. He added that he read there are some programs that may be available as early as Friday. Alderman Moore encouraged the city to reach out to businesses that may be struggling and be a resource. Mayor Potter stated that he has visited with several business owners this week and noticed they are following the protocols. Alderman Moore asked what the duration is for this ordinance. Amanda Cummings said that Municipal proceedings have been delayed to April 30th, but development, and in-person meetings, and limited citizen traffic in city offices are listed until further notice. Alderman Bruegel had a question for the City Attorney regarding Section 5 of the ordinance. He asked if we take additional measures what the process would be. Will said because this is included in the Executive Order it is not adding any new duties or responsibilities because they have already been granted. Mayor Potter asked if there are changes to the ordinance will it need to be ratified by the council. Will said yes if there are any changes to the ordinance we will need council approval. Alderman Bruegel commended Mayor Potter for keeping local businesses such as the barbershop, hair, and nail salons open and he asked for clarification that the council would have to approve any further restrictions to businesses and access to or from the city. Mayor Potter said yes. Mayor Potter asked if there was a motion. Alderman Moore made the motion to adopt the ordinance as presented. Alderman J. White made the second. Mayor Potter stated that we would perform a roll call vote. Amanda Cummings asked each Alderman to say yes or no when their name is called. Mayor Pro Tem Moore responded yes. Alderman J. White responded yes. Alderman Bruegel responded yes. Alderman Cody responded yes. Alderman T. White responded yes. Mayor Potter stated the motion carried with all in favor.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Amanda Cummings, City Secretary

Royking Potter, Mayor