

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OKLAHOMA OPEN MEETING LAW
THE AGENDA WAS POSTED APRIL 23, 2020 AT 1:45 P.M.
AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 723 SOUTH LEWIS, STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA**

**MINUTES
STILLWATER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
COUNCIL HEARING ROOM
723 S. LEWIS
APRIL 27, 2020**

IMPORTANT NOTICE This meeting will be conducted via videoconferencing. The meeting will be available to watch live on the City's Facebook Page (@CityOfStillwater), AT&T U-verse channel 99, Suddenlink channel 14 and the City of Stillwater's YouTube Live link at youtube.com/c/CityofStillwaterTV/live.

Notice regarding Public Comment Stillwater City Code, Section 2-53(a) & (b), provides that taxpayers or residents of the city, or their authorized legal representatives, may address the Council at a regularly scheduled meeting on any item of business listed on the meeting agenda provided they have submitted a written request prior to the meeting either online at stillwater.org/requesttospeak or via the form found in the lobby outside Council chambers prior to meetings.

For meetings conducted via videoconferencing, the same request to speak procedure shall be followed; however, **City Hall is closed to the public**. Login information to participate via videoconference will be provided prior to the meeting to those who have requested to speak. For those wishing to speak via teleconferencing, please provide a phone number and someone will call you before the public comments portion of the agenda to place you in a queue. **Forms are due by 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.**

NOTE: Should a connection with any one of the City Councilors present for the videoconference be lost, the meeting will be recessed up to a maximum of 30 minutes to re-establish the connection. If reconnection is not possible, the meeting will be reconvened on April 28, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

City Council Members

Mayor Will Joyce
Vice Mayor Pat Darlington
Councilor Alane Zannotti
Councilor John Wedlake
Councilor Amy Dzialowski

Method of Participation

Remotely - Videoconference
Remotely - Videoconference
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**PRESENT: MAYOR WILLIAM H. JOYCE, VICE MAYOR PAT DARLINGTON
 COUNCILORS ALANE ZANNOTTI, JOHN WEDLAKE AND AMY DZIALOWSKI**
ABSENT: NONE

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Joyce called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS NOT SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

There were no requests to speak on agenda items not scheduled for public hearing.

3. GENERAL ORDERS

- a. Drainage Study Report

Stormwater Program Manager Zack Henson defined stormwater management and explained how the program is funded. He discussed the two primary aspects of stormwater management, which are water

quality and water quantity. Mr. Henson gave an overview of the Stormwater Management Plan and answered council's questions.

b. COVID-19 Update

Mayor Joyce summarized the current emergency declarations in place and reported they will expire at 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2020. He also reviewed Governor Stitt's plan and the OK Department of Commerce plan to reopen the economy. Mayor Joyce stated he would like to have a discussion with council and get their input and opinions on the best way to move forward for Stillwater.

Vice Mayor Darlington stated she is very unhappy and upset that they have been put in this position but does understand the pressure being put on Mayor Joyce. She feels it would be better to wait two weeks more before reopening. Vice Mayor stated testing and tracking are the two most important items that need to be adequate and in place. She stated there are still regional and seasonal concerns in regards to the virus. Vice Mayor stated because there are many unknowns, restrictions need to be very clear with face coverings and social distancing required.

Mayor Joyce stated he appreciates Vice Mayor Darlington's disappointment and frustration and he shares those feelings. He reported that Stillwater has done a good job controlling the virus by sheltering in place and social distancing. Nothing about the virus has changed since March 15 when the first emergency declaration was issued in that there is still no vaccine and no treatment.

Councilor Wedlake stated that cities have been thrust into an inferior position. He stated from an economic well-being standpoint, there is not much benefit for Stillwater to stay closed when other municipalities are open. Councilor Wedlake stated from a public health standpoint, this is a bad idea. He has seen no data showing a downward trend in the number of new cases but rather the opposite. He stated by other municipalities lifting restrictions, trying to maintain Stillwater's restrictions would be punitive to business owners. Councilor Wedlake stated we need to be extremely diligent and prepared to re-escalate our emergency restrictions very quickly.

Councilor Zannotti stated the most frustrating thing about the situation is not having clear guidelines. She said it would be ideal for neighboring cities to be uniform in their guidelines.

Councilor Dzialowski stated the possibility of confusing businesses as they are opening is very, very high with the inconsistent direction and guidance they are getting from all the different entities. She stated it is a huge responsibility for businesses and non-profits to protect their employees and their attendees. Councilor Dzialowski stated personal responsibility is the key to having a successful reopening without a spike in cases and hospitalizations. She suggested the hold on utility disconnections be revisited and possibly extended. Mayor Joyce asked that citizens contact customer service to set up a payment plan if they are having difficulty paying utility bills.

Mayor Joyce stated if necessary, the city will not hesitate to take a step back and reinstate restrictions.

City Manager Norman McNickle stated it is his understanding that the consensus of the council is to follow the United States Opening of America White House plan as a basis for Stillwater's guidelines for reopening. Mayor Joyce agreed with Mr. McNickle and stated staff will be working on reopening guidelines and will make them available to the public as soon as possible.

4. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS & BOARDS

- a. Miscellaneous items from the City Attorney: None.
- b. Miscellaneous items from the City Manager:
 - Mr. McNickle reminded citizens that face coverings will be handed out to the public in front of the police department this week on Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to

11:00 a.m. for the vulnerable population and from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the general public and again on Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the general public. Mr. McNickle stated the swimming pool in Couch Park will not be open this summer due to sanitation issues and the difficulty in hiring and training lifeguards.

- c. Miscellaneous items from the City Council: None
 - i. Discussion about scheduling items for future meetings

5. QUESTIONS & INQUIRIES

None.

6. ADJOURN

MOTION BY COUNCILOR WEDLAKE, SECOND BY COUNCILOR DZIALOWSKI TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 27, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STILLWATER CITY COUNCIL.

ROLL CALL VOTE: JOYCE-YEA, DARLINGTON-YEA, ZANNOTTI-YEA, WEDLAKE-YEA, DZIALOWSKI-YEA. NAY-NONE. MOTION CARRIED WITH FIVE YEA VOTES.

The April 27, 2020 special meeting of the Stillwater City Council adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

**WILLIAM H. JOYCE, MAYOR
STILLWATER CITY COUNCIL**

**TERESA KADAVY
CITY CLERK**