

City of Greeley, Colorado
COVID-19 City Council Briefing
 June 5, 2020

The Briefing began at 4:00 p.m. via a remote Zoom Meeting between City Staff and the City Council. It was live-streamed on the City of Greeley's YouTube Channel.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gates called the Zoom Meeting to Order.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Gates led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

3. ROLL CALL

Cheryl Aragon, Interim City Clerk, called the roll. Those present were Mayor John Gates and Councilmembers Tommy Butler, Dale Hall, and Brett Payton. Councilmembers Ed Clark and Kristin Zasada were excused.

Councilmember Fitzsimmons arrived at 6:04 p.m.

4. COVID-19 UPDATE

Pandemic Response Activities

Dan Frazen, Emergency Manager, provided stats for the State, as well as numbers hospitalized locally. He noted that Weld County numbers were not in yet, but cited numbers for the day before in terms of cases and deaths.

He stated that talks continue to close the Bonell personal isolation facility mid-June if no referrals come in.

CDPHE and CSU are working with Greeley's long-term care facilities and assisted living facilities on COVID-19 testing projects. Good conversations going on with those facilities on innovations and expansion of the Committee.

Mr. Frazen went on to review new Weld County public health data and the new graphs on most recent situation reports. He stated that he thinks this is the most consistent and current data.

Greeley Area Recovery Fund Dashboard Update

Ben Snow, Economic Health and Housing Director, reported that there have been 165 applications to date with 142 coming from Greeley. He added that 76 awards have been made totaling \$235,228. He noted that 11 applications are awaiting additional applicant information that has been requested.

He shared that a marketing push this last week really helped with additional applications coming in.

Councilmember Payton spoke about talks amongst the Board about next steps.

Councilmember Clark as about what locations are included within the “Other” category.

Mr. Snow advised that those are smaller communities within ten miles of Greeley.

City Service Review

Becky Safarik, Assistant City Manager, reported on the City of Greeley threshold indicators of community COVID-19 stability.

She went on to review various thresholds noting that the number of first responders in quarantine is looking good.

Councilmember Clark stated that he continues to want to see youth sports back and pools back open.

Roy Otto, City Manager, stated that he has made the decision to move forward with opening the Youth Sports Complex to youth baseball and opening Centennial pool at a net cost \$120,000.

Andy McRoberts, Culture, Parks, & Recreation Director, reviewed costs and staffing needed to open Centennial Pool and Splash Parks and gearing up to do the prep needed to do that. Additionally, the Youth Sports Complex will open for youth baseball around June 15th for games. Practices will occur on City and School District 6 fields and parks. Butch Butler, Centennial Tennis, Skate Park, Forbes Field, Island Grove Regional Park Fields, and Balsam Fields will also need some additional staffing based on a push for use. He stated that staff is working with various groups and clubs on timing and needs.

With regard to playgrounds, all of them were opened that day. Additional staff was needed and cleaning is done daily, but not complete disinfection each day.

He stated that reservations are being taken at the front desk of the pool per session to stay within State Orders and Guidelines.

With regard to maintaining staffs’ health and safety, the City is expecting that all guidelines are being followed.

CARES Act Funds Distribution Committee

Mr. Otto provided a summary of a subcommittee meeting he had just participated in about how the County and the municipalities are to work together to determine how the dollars are distributed County-wide.

The County shared four different alternatives to be considered that start with a philosophy of 45 percent being distributed to municipalities while the County maintained 55 percent. The hope is that these dollars reimburse the municipalities for COVID-19 costs.

He stated that they also talked about a County-wide recovery fund, but he added that recovery fund exists already.

This was a very productive meeting and talks will continue.

Mr. Otto also made note of the draft ordinance for the June 9th Special Meeting regarding open containers. He commended staff for the hard work to develop processes to assist businesses obtain permits for that outdoor seating and commended Ms. Safarik for the work and effort in a short period of time to develop a draft for Council's consideration on the open container request.

Ms. Safarik advised that all concerns have been fleshed out so far to get to this point and welcomed additional comments and questions ahead of the special meeting.

Mr. Otto also clarified that other communities who are closing streets, etc. are also following the same process outlined for Greeley businesses.

Ms. Aragon advised that the State Liquor Enforcement Division will be hosting a meeting on June 8th about some new emergency legislation just released and staff plans to participate in that meeting to glean additional information that would help locally.

5. SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS, OTHER EVENTS

No additional meetings or events scheduled.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gates adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.



Cheryl Aragon Interim City Clerk