

City of Greeley, Colorado
COUNCIL COVID-19 BRIEFING
 May 22, 2020

The Council 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.

1. 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 virtually present were Mayor John Gates and Councilmembers Tommy Butler, Ed Clark, and Kristin Zasada. Councilmembers Hall and Fitzsimmons were excused.

4. COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PANDEMIC UPDATE

Pandemic Response Activities

It was noted that a handout was provided and made part of the record.

Dan Frazen, Emergency Manager, reported that no numbers were available from the County for the day but relayed data from the day before. He provided State-wide numbers as well as numbers hospitalized and numbers at both North Colorado Medical Center and University of Colorado Health.

He spoke of the push to get out information on all of the testing sites in Greeley and Weld County.

He shared that the State order allows churches and houses of worship to have services with ten or less people with social distancing and masks but still encouraging remote attendance.

With regard to Johns Hopkins University, he stated that some work has gone in to find out where they are getting their data and how they are reporting it. He added that the data is coming from individual hospitals, then to a consultant and then to the University.

He went on to review slides and charts showing COVID-19 cases by age and gender; daily current trends; fatalities; and positive cases.

Greeley Area Recovery Fund

Ben Snow, Economic Health and Housing Director, reported that there are currently 153 applications filed with 67 grants awarded totaling \$209,228. Of the 153, 131 are Greeley businesses.

He went on to state that the marketing of this program continues.

Threshold Indicators of Community COVID-19 Stability

Becky Safarik, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the various community healthy indicators, measurement levels, and rationale continuing to be looked at to help determine phases of increased service levels and increased staffing and public facilities.

Councilmember Clark expressed his opinion that all categories are looking good and numbers are coming down. No one is using the personal isolation facility or the site and The Ranch. He stated that the City should get opened.

Ms. Safarik agreed, and wanted to stress that the City needs to be very measured with it. She added that staff is looking at creative ways to serve the public and plans are being set to ramp up, although numbers do look encouraging.

Outdoor Restaurant Seating Opportunities

Cheryl Aragon, Interim City Clerk, provided a summary of recent Emergency Regulations adopted by the State Liquor Enforcement Division to allow for Temporary Modifications of liquor licensed premises as they are allowed to slowly re-open for on-site dining.

Clarification was made about a separate application for businesses that do not have a liquor license.

She reviewed the guidelines and checklist that have been developed for businesses wanting to apply to help guide them through the process.

In response to a question from Councilmember Butler, Ms. Safarik advised that there seems to be some businesses in Downtown that are not wanting to close down 8th and 9th Streets because of loss of parking spaces, access to their businesses, etc.

Councilmember Clark expressed concern about the laborious process involved, and Ms. Aragon advised that the typical process has been cut in half.

Roy Otto, City Manager, advised that the process has been designed so that all who want to apply can do so immediately to get the clock ticking on the processing time.

The Council Briefing adjourned at 4:57 p.m.



Cheryl Aragon, Interim City Clerk