

City of Brighton

*500 S. 4th Avenue
Brighton, CO 80601*



Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

5:00 PM

Special City Council Meeting

Virtual Meeting

City Council

MAYOR - GREGORY MILLS

MAYOR PRO TEM - MATT JOHNSTON

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

***CLINT BLACKHURST, ADAM CUSHING, MARK HUMBERT,
KRIS JORDINELLI, MARY ELLEN POLLACK, TIM WATTS***

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mills called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Councilmember Humbert led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

B. Roll Call

Present: 8 - Mayor Mills, Mayor Pro Tem Johnston, Councilmember Blackhurst, Councilmember Cushing, Councilmember Humbert, Councilmember Jordinelli, Councilmember Pollack, and Councilmember Watts

2. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Watts, seconded by Councilmember Humbert, to approve the Regular Agenda as presented. Motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Mayor Mills, Mayor Pro Tem Johnston, Councilmember Blackhurst, Councilmember Cushing, Councilmember Humbert, Councilmember Jordinelli, Councilmember Pollack, and Councilmember Watts

3. RESOLUTIONS

A. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIGHTON, COLORADO, REQUESTING THE GOVERNING BOARDS OF BRIGHTON HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS, METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS AND RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANIES RECOGNIZE THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE CITIZENS OF BRIGHTON AND ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNING BOARDS TO RELAX ENFORCEMENT OF COVENANTS AND RULES SO AS TO RELIEVE UNNECESSARY FINANCIAL AND OTHER STRAIN DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES

Mayor Mills read the title of the Resolution into the record.

Acting City Manager Marv Falconburg explained that this Resolution was drafted at the request of City Council.

Mayor Mills is hoping that the HOA's in the City would be considerate while people are going through hard times and be aware of those with financial issues. Mayor Mills asked that the Resolution be amended to include apartment buildings that have towing issues and enforcement.

City Attorney Jack Bajorek explained that the Resolution would be amended to include Residential Property Management Companies.

Motion by Councilmember Watts, seconded by Councilmember Humbert, to approve Resolution 2020-39 as amended. Motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Mayor Mills, Mayor Pro Tem Johnston, Councilmember Blackhurst, Councilmember Cushing, Councilmember Humbert, Councilmember Jordinelli, Councilmember Pollack, and Councilmember Watts

B. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIGHTON, COLORADO, TO IMPLEMENT THE COVID-19 RELIEF FUND PROGRAM

Mayor Mills read the title of the Resolution into the record.

Acting City Manager Falconburg introduced Economic Development Director Michael Martinez.

Economic Development Director Michael Martinez presented the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund. COVID-19 is affecting every business in the community but small businesses are disproportionately affected. Ninety percent of the business in Brighton fall into that category. It is key to provide a wide amount of resources during this time including financial, counseling and coaching resources. The largest issue for businesses is access to quick, impactful funding or bridge capital. This would bridge the gap between now and when businesses can resume normal operations. The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) has been working with the Colorado Enterprise Fund (CEF). They are a well-respected group in Colorado with forty years in successful community building and have coordinated loans in dozens of communities. CEF has been successful and have a record of accomplishment of over eighty million dollars in loans. The EDC would like to create a loan fund for small businesses in the City in need of immediate capital. The City would seed the program with \$500,000 of Brighton funds and CEF has agreed to match dollar for dollar to create a fund of one million dollars for Brighton businesses. The loans will be from \$10,000 to \$25,000 dollars. The EDC wants to be sure that the majority of businesses in need would have access to these funds. The interest rate set for this program is 5% and flexible payment options would be provided with this program with five to six year terms. The first six months would be interest only to keep the payments small during these difficult times. CEF offers continued financial and business counseling to help with financial management and access to additional resources. Adams County has worked with CEF and created a revolving loan fund. Adams County is also looking to create a loan fund similar to this program but would not have the dollar for dollar match from CEF. Director Martinez answered questions from Council regarding:

- The timeframe for people to be able to apply for the funds.*
- The location where the information would be posted.*
- The body that would make the decisions regarding the loans.*
- The City agreeing to take the 2% off so the interest could be lowered to 3.5%*
- The City or CEF receiving the 5%.*
- CEF being the loan officer for the program.*
- This program being separate from available federal funds.*
- The intention for the use of these funds.*
- Ensuring that the City is not profiting from these loans.*
- An explanation of the breakdown of the interest rate.*
- Crowd funding being part of this program.*

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnston, seconded by Councilmember Cushing, to approve Resolution 2020-40. Motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 8 - Mayor Mills, Mayor Pro Tem Johnston, Councilmember Blackhurst, Councilmember Cushing, Councilmember Humbert, Councilmember Jordinelli, Councilmember Pollack, and Councilmember Watts

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Discussion Regarding the City Manager Search

Mayor Mills updated City Council on the interviews that he and Mayor Pro Tem conducted with some of the firms specializing in this type of recruitment, not all of the firms were responsive.

Administrative Services Director Karen Borkowski Surine asked City Council if they would like to suspend the City Manager search during this emergency.

City Attorney Bajorek explained that staff was asked to bring a Resolution to Council to approve one of the firms so they could begin the City Manager search. Since some meetings were canceled, this item was not presented to Council. Some other jurisdictions have suspended their searches for staff because they are concerned about the response they could get from potential candidates. City Attorney Bajorek asked if Council still wants to pursue the City Manager search at this time.

Mayor Mills and Councilmembers discuss the City Manager search and next steps. Councilmembers will be reaching out to the potential firms that were provided to Council by Director Borkowski Surine.

Director Borkowski Surine and City Attorney Bajorek answered questions from Council regarding:

- Any law limiting the time to keep a temporary City Manager.*
- A vote needed to continue with the search.*
- Any firms dropping out of the running to be selected.*
- Any other firms than those were previously provided.*
- The ability to meet with each firm at a Study Session.*

B. COVID-19 Update

Acting City Manager Falconburg introduced Emergency Management Coordinator Stephanie Hackett.

Emergency Management Coordinator Stephanie Hackett reported that the Emergency Operations Center had been activated and updated City Council on the COVID-19 activities and explained the new reporting procedures. Emergency Management Coordinator Hackett and Economic Development Director Michael Martinez answered questions from Council regarding:

- The number of testing sites in the City.*
- The number of people being tested and the number of patients that have recovered.*
- The reason Adams County has not closed the golf course.*
- Staff asking people to leave the parks since the playgrounds are closed.*
- Vestas remaining open.*
- Vestas making masks or ventilators.*
- The ability for the City to adopt an Ordinance requiring social distancing.*
- The ability to work with Weld County regarding the issues at Vestas.*

C. Update on Ward 2 Special Election

Mayor Mills asked how the election and the live polling place would be impacted by the stay at home order.

City Clerk Natalie Hoel explained that the logistics of having a polling place at the Recreation Center is being evaluated if there is still a stay at home order on Election Day. There could be a polling place located at City Hall to accommodate voters on Election Day. City Clerk Hoel and City Attorney Bajorek answered questions from Council regarding:

- The requirement to have a polling place in the specific ward where the election is taking place.*

D. Discussion Regarding Changing the Time for City Council Meetings

City Council discussed changing the time to meet at 6:00 p.m.

City Attorney Bajorek explained that the time for meetings is set in the City Council Rules of Procedure Governing Meetings. An item will be added to the next agenda to consider changing the start time for City Council meetings.

5. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Councilmember Pollack, seconded by Councilmember Watts, to adjourn at 6:46 p.m.
Motion passed by the following vote:**

- Aye:** 8 - Mayor Mills, Mayor Pro Tem Johnston, Councilmember Blackhurst, Councilmember Cushing, Councilmember Humbert, Councilmember Jordinelli, Councilmember Pollack, and Councilmember Watts



CITY OF BRIGHTON, COLORADO




Gregory Mills, Mayor

ATTEST:



Natalie Hoel, City Clerk



Approval Date