



## STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday March 24, 2020

1. Call to Order Time: 6:01pm
2. Old Business
  - A. Fence Permit Update

It was found that the ordinance was changed just as council previously thought; it was not yet updated through the municipal code website. City staff are going to contact the municipal code site and get things updated.

3. New Business
  - A. Conducting Meetings during Outbreak Discussion

The handout from the Health Department and the Governor was broken down in detail to explain what should be done during this time.

- B. Allowing Telephone Conference Meetings Discussion

The city has not previously established this as an option. The mayor explained that given the current situation that this is something we should probably have in place so that we can conduct a meeting if something needs to happen. It was also explained that if we have to do meet in this manner someone will be present where the meeting is conducted so that the public would have access to this meeting.

- C. Utility Shut Off Exception Discussion

It was explained that by request of the Governor the city did not shut off or add any fees to the delinquent accounts during this time. They also discussed what the impacts of this idea would be on the city. They also discussed ways to remind people that the bills that are still going to be due and that they must pay these bills once this hold is lifted.

D. Online Bill Pay Contract Discussion

The options were looked at in detail. The company that was decided on was the one that has no cost to the city to implement. The importance of this was that they wanted to see customer participation before something was decided on that would incur charges.

Attorney Mark Watson took some of the extra time and discussed the issue from the previous meeting with the bill from 504 Fern St. that had back garbage charges that were issued to the customer. He explained that in talking with other cities and looking into case law on the issue that any excusing of this money would be "gifting of city funds" and was not allowed by law. Council Member Mark Gourneau stated that he felt this was unfair and that we should find a loophole on this issue. There was much more discussion on the issue and it was ultimately decided that the attorney would look in to it further to ensure that the city did the proper thing when it decided to charge this back to the resident.

4. Adjournment:

Time: 7:05pm

X

Joshua Roberson  
Deputy City Clerk

X

Laura Vazquez  
Mayor