

MINUTES
Town of Crested Butte
Emergency Town Council Meeting
Friday, March 13, 2020
Council Chambers, Crested Butte Town Hall

Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 4:33PM.

Council Members Present: Will Dujardin, Candice Bradley, Chris Haver, and Laura Mitchell

Mona Merrill and Mallika Magner connected to the meeting via conference call.

All of the Council members voted on the motions.

Staff Present: Town Manager Dara MacDonald, Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford, Chief Marshal Mike Reily, and Public Works Director Shea Earley

Town Attorney Barbara Green, Community Development Director Michael Yerman, Finance Director Rob Zillioux, and Parks and Recreation Director Janna Hansen connected to the meeting via conference call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dujardin moved and Haver seconded a motion to approve the agenda. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion Topics:

1) Status of COVID-19 in Gunnison County.

MacDonald updated on the status of COVID-19 in Gunnison County. Three people in the County had been diagnosed with COVID-19, and one person that was diagnosed in Gunnison County returned home to Denver. They were being prudent on whom they were screening. It was known that COVID-19 was here, and it was spreading. The County would be announcing that events including more than 50 people were prohibited. Schmidt added that restaurants would self-monitor, and the number of 50 people did not include staff.

2) Steps the Town has taken to address the situation.

MacDonald reviewed the chain of command and roles. Town had been working with the EOC through the Marshal's Office. Town would continue providing information as it became available. Staff had developed a response plan. MacDonald explained details of the response actions and noted they were cumulative. Town was currently following the Tier IV response that was tied to the school closure. MacDonald reported on the

availability of conference calling and an app for the phone system. She outlined what was being done to continue essential services.

3) Steps the County has taken to address the situation.

The steps taken by the County had been discussed.

4) Authority of Various Jurisdictions (Fed, State, County, Municipality).

Green recognized that the County controlled any restrictions solely related to health, and the Town could not enact anything less stringent. She recommended deferring to the County as the safest way to go. Schmidt wondered about implications pertaining to a National State of Emergency being declared.

Schmidt referred to the letter, the Mayor's message that was included in the packet. He wanted to add that for now they asked people to indulge in virtual hugs and save the real hugs for later. Dujardin implored they were not taking decisions lightly. Ashley UpChurch, from The Chamber, added that support for businesses was important. MacDonald read the paragraph she drafted to include in the letter, to which the Council agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Ordinance No. 7, Series 2020 - An Emergency Ordinance of the Crested Butte Town Council Amending Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code to Add a New Section 9 on Emergency Powers.

Schmidt read the title of the ordinance. Green reviewed authorities the ordinance granted to the Town Manager. They were dealing with the question of someone who already had an application in the hopper. This ordinance allowed the Town Manager to waive deadlines and hearings until the emergency was over. There was a discussion on the allowance of Council members voting over the phone. Green pointed out that was addressed in Section 2-9-20.

Schmidt asked for comments from the public.

Joey Carpenter - 914 Butte Avenue

- He asked whether the Town Manager would be able to enact an emergency in the event the Council members were unable to respond.

Haver moved and Dujardin seconded a motion to approve Ordinance No. 7, Series 2020. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

2) Resolution No. 7, Series 2020 - A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Crested Butte, Colorado Declaring a Local Disaster Emergency.

Schmidt read the title of the resolution. Green affirmed she drafted the resolution. MacDonald pointed out Section 2, listing measures that would be taken. Bradley wondered if there was a plan for people who could not move their cars for alternate side of the street parking. Earley identified the towing would be conservative. He explained situations when a vehicle would be towed. MacDonald confirmed it was helpful for plowing if people moved their cars.

Dujardin moved and Bradley seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 7, Series 2020. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

3) Consideration of Any Emergency Actions of the Part of the Town of Crested Butte.

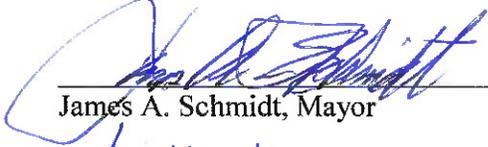
MacDonald stated there was not anything immediately urgent. They were thinking of fuel supply. Mountain Express operations were on the radar, and they were tight on staffing. She mentioned working with the County to set up a screening center that would be located at the Community School. Reily elaborated upon the plan.

Dujardin wanted to discuss the County order. He identified that Town trusted the County's response at this point. Merrill wanted to be more aggressive. She suggested notices, that the Town recommended self-isolation, be posted at all of the restaurants, despite the County's order on 50 people. The Council was in a position to do something more radical. Dujardin did not think the County covered social distancing enough. Merrill brought up her concerns regarding the lack of ventilators at the hospital. She expected it to get a lot worse. Bradley pointed out the email she sent regarding retail food. Dujardin appreciated Merrill's urgency, and he acknowledged the number of tests available. From communicating with business owners, Bradley thought they were on top of it. Dujardin said they needed to clarify what social distancing meant and what it entailed. He wanted the six-foot buffer maintained between guests and that part of the County's order was not clear.

UpChurch agreed with the Council members' thoughts, but she was concerned about the strong recommendation that businesses closed down, this week in particular. Business owners were taking it seriously. Merrill identified that it was more imperative to do something now, rather than weeks down the road. Magner questioned suggesting a 25-person limit. The discussion turned to suspending Mountain Express service because people could not maintain the six-foot distancing. Haver listed actions that could help, such as encouraging take out and posting the County's order. Dujardin reiterated the Town needed to enforce social distancing. Mitchell stated the busses needed to be closed down. Details of social distancing were discussed. MacDonald told the Council the Town could work with The Chamber to communicate information on social distancing. MacDonald summarized: 1) The Council's recommendation to the Mountain Express Board would be to eliminate service; 2) Town would work with The Chamber to push messaging for delivery or take out of food and for six feet of separation.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 6:03PM.



James A. Schmidt, Mayor



Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk (SEAL)

