

Alturas City Council

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

April 21, 2020 2:00 p.m.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 and N-29-20 dated March 12, 2020 and March 17, 2020, The Alturas City Council Mayor Mark Steffek called the special meeting to order at 1:59 p.m. via teleconference. **Councilmembers present:** Mark Steffek, Cheryl Nelson, Loni Lewis, Kelly Crosby and Samantha Wood. **Councilmembers absent:** None. **Staff present:** City Clerk Macey Binning, Chief of Police Sid Cullins, City Treasurer Dorothy Long, Director of Public Works Jason Diven, City Attorney Jeff Hedlund, Fire Chief Keith Jacques, Fire Marshal Eric Hunter, and Public Works Foreman Kim Dodds. **Public attending:** 7. All present joined together in the Pledge of Allegiance.

No comments under the public forum.

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to approve the City Council agenda as presented. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Nelson, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood to adopt the consent agenda as follows: a) Approve minutes of March 17, 2020 meeting; b) Approve City warrants for March, 2020 in the amount of \$143,214.57; c) Adopt **Resolution #2020-12** removing inactive water & sewer accounts in the amount of \$365.17; d) Approve ACH reconciliation report for March, 2020 in the amount of \$122,865.25. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Lewis, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Crosby to authorize Public Works to assist Modoc High School with hanging banners on Main Street to honor the Modoc High Graduates of 2020. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Wood, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to adopt **Resolution #2020-13** authorizing application for, and receipt of, SB 2 planning grants program funds of \$160,000.00. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Lewis, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to adopt **Resolution #2020-14** authorizing the Mayor to sign the Transfer Agreement and Quitclaim Deed between the City of Alturas and Modoc Performing Arts Theater (MPAT) for the Citizens Building located at 113 W. 1st Street Alturas, CA. **ALL AYES.**

Public Works Director Jason Diven informed Council that as of July 14, 2020 the lease agreement for office space located at 222 W. North Street Alturas, CA, between the American National Red Cross and the City of Alturas will expire. American National Red Cross provided Mr. Diven with the proposed new lease. Mr. Diven was also approached by Planning Director Jenn Andersen who was concerned that the City of Alturas will need the office space due to the Citizens Building being the City's archive storage and relinquished to MPAT.

American National Red Cross representative Lau Miller explained to City Council how vital it is for Red Cross to have an office space to help ones that are in need. Lou Miller also informs Council of all the services that Red Cross can provide.

The Alturas City Council commends Red Cross for all their efforts to help during a crisis. However, the City Councilmembers agree that currently the City of Alturas will need this space after losing storage space for archives and general storage at the Citizens Building. City Councilmembers request not to renew the lease agreement for office space located at 222 W. North Street Alturas, CA, between the American National Red Cross.

Planning Director Jenn Andersen offers assistance to the American National Red Cross to find a new office space.

MOTION by Councilmember Nelson, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood to approve the hire of Patrick Danley as Maintenance Worker I effective April 27, 2020, at Salary Range 31, Step A, \$32,230 annually. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to approve the hire of Jeff Shoemaker as Maintenance Worker I effective April 27, 2020, at Salary Range 31, Step A, \$32,230 annually. **ALL AYES.**

Public Works Director Jason Diven is concerned that safety procedures and restrictions for COVID-19 can ultimately prevent the Alturas Municipal swimming pool from operating. Mr. Diven would prefer to address Council on this issue before proceeding.

Mayor Steffek investigated on CBC website, and found that because of chlorination it is not a high-risk area.

Council decided that they would proceed with opening the Alturas Municipal swimming pool and as the time gets closer implement any safety procedures and restrictions as needed.

MOTION by Councilmember Nelson, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood City Council appoint Mark Steffek and Kelly Crosby to be on the Ad-Hoc Committee for Labor Negotiations. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Lewis, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood City Council appoint Mark Steffek and Kelly Crosby to be on the Ad-Hoc Budget Committee. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Nelson, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood City Council to appoint Loni Lewis as the City Council alternate representative to serve on the LAFCO Board. **ALL AYES.**

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Fire Chief Jacques reports there have been fire calls. However, medical calls have been reduced.

Police Chief Cullins reports when the shelter in place was ordered they seen a decline in calls by 50%. Now, it is about 25%. Protocols at the Modoc County Jail have changed during the pandemic. Which makes it hard to book anyone in.

Planning Director Andersen reports that she plans to start meeting with the Economic Vitality committee to put together materials for the housing element components. Ms. Andersen also reports she will begin updating and reevaluating the General Plan such as the zoning ordinance.

City Attorney Hedlund recommends to help small business navigate through funding opportunities, most sites are not user friendly.

Public Works Director Diven reports he is currently working on Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) projects such as runway offsets. Mr. Diven is also working with other department heads to transfer archives to the old fire barn. This would provide adequate storage to all departments.

Mayor Pro-Tem Nelson inquires on the status of the mill site and the new waste water treatment plant.

Mr. Diven replies at this time there is not a new status update for either sites.

Councilmember Wood was asked to review the new Rotary fields. After examining the fields Ms. Wood has a few concerns like the retaining wall. Mrs. Wood and Mr. Diven plan to set up a meeting with Rotary to discuss concerns and come up with a solution. Mrs. Wood thought the Main Street Cruise was positive for the community. Mrs. Wood would like to propose during the cruise to have the radio station honor Modoc High School seniors.

Councilmember Lewis would like to thank Chief Cullins for permitting the Main Street cruise.

Councilmember Crosby met with Mayor Mark Steffek and City Treasurer Long regarding CalPERS unfunded liability. During this meeting they also had the opportunity to review and discuss the fiscal budget. Which reassured Mrs. Crosby on her decision regarding the hire of two new employees for Public Works. Mrs. Crosby informed Council that April is Child Abuse Prevention month.

Mayor Steffek informs Council that the pool committee will be having a meeting May 4, 2020 to review and discuss the construction costs for the new swimming pool. Mr. Steffek asked Public Works Director Diven to estimate the cost for operating the pool, and other costs that would not be funded through the John Wall Trust funds. The committee will continue to apply for grants such as Prop 68. However, the original timeline of the pool will be extended. Mr. Steffek attended the April 14, 2020 LAFCO meeting. During the meeting they approved the LAFCO budget. Mr. Steffek has been attending the Emergency Operations Center meetings daily regarding COVID-19. Today they reported Modoc County has had 70 tests, 66 are negative, and 4 are pending results. Mr. Steffek thanked the department heads for preparing a contingency plan for their departments and the City of Alturas. Mayor Steffek also believes that they will need to reschedule the annual Alturas Fire Department appreciation dinner to a later date.

With no further business to come before City Council. **MOTION** by Mayor Pro-Tem Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 3:32 p.m. and to return in regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 2:00 p.m., City Hall. **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood. **ALL AYES.**

Respectfully,

Macey Binning

Macey Binning
City Clerk