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## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Las Animas, County of Bent, State of Colorado, met in regular session in the City Council chambers on Tuesday, July 14, 2020, at 7:02 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Council was live streamed to the City of Las Animas Facebook Page. There being present at roll call were the following members:

Mayor: Jim Collins

Council members: Troy Abdulla

David Armstrong

Kimberlie King (by phone)

Jaxon Meardon

Cassandra Siefkas

Robert Sonny Smith

Senior Advisor: Sonora Servaes (by phone)

Youth Advisor: Vacant

Mayor Jim Collins declared a quorum present.

Others Present:

Greg Champney Code Enforcement Officer

Ronald Clodfelter: Superintendent of Light & Power

Lane Elliott: Bent County Sheriff’s Office

Virginia Freed: Municipal Court Clerk

Sammie George: Bent County Development Foundation Director

Barbara Martin: VFW Avenue of Flags

Jason Meyer: GMS Engineering (by phone)

Jake Six: Bent County Sheriff

John Spano: Bent County Ambulance

Diane Spano: Interested Citizen

Richard Stwalley: Interested Citizen

Kathleen Tomlin: VFW Avenue of Flags

Charmaine Tripp: City Clerk & Treasurer

Samuel Vigil: City Attorney

Ken Wagner: Public Works Director

Cindy Wiseman: Bent County Ambulance

Other Citizens joining on Facebook Live

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Jim Collins asked Richard Stwalley to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilman David Armstrong moved, Councilman Jaxon Meardon seconded to approve the consent agenda along with the minutes of the June 9, 2020 Regular City Council meeting, the

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Minutes of the Special Call meetings for June 15, and June 30, 2020 and the June 2020 vouchers. On a voice vote, Mayor Jim Collins declared the Motion carried.

At approximately 7:10 pm the tornado warning siren was activated due to severe weather, the meeting was delayed by Mayor Jim Collins until 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Jim Collins reconvened the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

1. Jake Six-Bent County Sheriff

Mayor Jim Collins recognized Bent County Sheriff Jake Six. Mr. Six spoke to the City Councilors about the proposed traffic ordinance. Mr. Six explained that the fines would be collected by the Bent County Treasurer and she would be responsible for sending the surcharges to the appropriate agencies. Mr. Six is wanting to simplify the process for the Deputies so that they would only need to remember one fee schedule.

b. Virginia Freed-Las Animas Court Clerk

Mayor Jim Collins recognized Municipal Court Clerk Virginia Freed. Ms. Freed also spoke to the City Councilors about the proposed traffic ordinance. Ms. Freed has been in contact with Municipal Court Judge Douglas Manley. Ms. Freed stated that the Municipal Court is not required to collect the additional surcharges listed. Ms. Freed also contacted the City Auditor Gary Waller and asked if it was customary to have the Bent County Treasurer collect the City of Las Animas ticket revenue. The response from the Auditor was that he thought that would be convoluted.

Mayor Jim Collins stressed that the Ordinance would need to be compliant with the City Code and State Statutes before it is adopted.

c. Jason Meyer-GMS Engineering (by Phone)

Mayor Jim Collins recognized Jason Meyer from GMS Engineering. Mr. Meyer informed the City Council about the increased costs associated with water and wastewater sampling. The state has implemented stricter standards regarding testing. Mr. Meyer stated that other Cities and Towns are experiencing similar issues and will stand together in addressing the State compliance standards. Mr. Meyer indicated that they would be working to reduce the amount of sampling requirements if possible for the upcoming project. Mr. Meyer stated that the City would need to be aware that the operating and maintenance costs could increase substantially due to the testing requirements.

d. Kathleen Tomlin-VFW Avenue of Flags request

Mayor Jim Collins recognized Kathleen Tomlin with the VFW. Ms. Tomlin handed out a request for a donation to help fund the Avenue of Flags project. Ms. Tomlin asked for a total amount of $9,990.00 to complete all projects. Ms. Tomlin stated that the amount could be adjusted to reduce the cost according to what the City could provide for the project. Mayor Collins indicated that the donation would be considered during budget time.

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e. John Spano-Bent County Ambulance Service

Mayor Jim Collins recognized John Spano from the Bent County Ambulance Service. Mr. Spano handed out an informational packet containing statistical data. Mr. Spano went over the packet with the City Councilors and stated that he would like to meet on a regular basis. Mayor Collins thanked Mr. Spano for his presentation. Several Councilors also thanked Mr. Spano for the excellent service provided by the Bent County Ambulance Service.

**PUBLIC WORKS BOARD REPORT**

Upon recommendation from the Public Works Board, Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas moved to forgive the surcharge amount for a leak in the amount of $74.77 for Rocky Quintanilla at 1029 Carson Avenue. On a voice vote, Mayor Jim Collins declared the Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 724, AN ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION OF THE TRAFFIC AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF**

Councilman David Armstrong moved, Councilman Troy Abdulla seconded to table ORDINANCE NO. 724, AN ORDINANCE FOR THE REGULATION OF THE TRAFFIC AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF until the August 11, 2020 Regular City Council meeting in order to have time to review and make modifications to the Ordinance. On a voice vote, Mayor Jim Collins declared the Motion carried.

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL CARD FROM TCM BANK FOR KEN WAGNER**

Mayor Jim Collins declared that the request for additional card from TCM bank for Ken Wagner be taken off of the agenda as an action item. It was determined that the second card cannot be issued by the bank.

**DISPOSTION OF CITY CAR (2002 BUICK LESABERE)**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilman David Armstrong seconded to dispose of the City car (2002 Buick Lesabre) by open bid. On a voice vote, Mayor Jim Collins declared the Motion carried.

**TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP FOR JERRY’S LIQUOR STORE TO BOTTLE CAP LIQUOR**

Upon recommendation of the City Clerk & Treasurer Charmaine Tripp stating that the application was in order and the appropriate fees were attached, Councilman Jaxon Meardon moved, Councilman Troy Abdulla seconded to approve the transfer of ownership liquor store application from Jerry and Joyce Maupin dba Jerry’s Liquor Store to Richard Stwalley dba Bottle Cap Liquor. On a voice vote, Mayor Jim Collins declared the Motion carried.

**RATIFY LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ARPA SIGNED BY MAYOR JIM COLLINS**

Councilman Dave Armstrong moved, Councilman Troy Abdulla seconded to ratify the letter of support for ARPA signed by Mayor Jim Collins. On a voice vote, Mayor Jim Collins declared the Motion carried.

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**COUNCILORS CHANGE THE CLASSIFICATION OF AGENDA**

Councilman David Armstrong asked to add item f. SECED Dues and take out item a. SECED Participation Discussion from unfinished business.

**CITY OF LAS ANIMAS RESCINDS WITHDRAWAL FROM SECED UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR 2020**

After discussion of the dues paid to SECED for 2020 by the City Councilors, Councilman David Armstrong moved, Councilman Troy Abdulla seconded to rescind the withdrawal from SECED and discuss the membership for 2021 during the budget work session. On a voice vote, Mayor Jim Collins declared the Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Police Department Discussion

**MAYOR JIM COLLINS SCHEDULES A WORK SESSION**

Mayor Jim Collins scheduled a work session for Tuesday July 28, 2020 at 6:00 pm to discuss the

Police Department.

**COUNCILORS CHANGE THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE AGENDA**

Councilman David Armstrong moved, Councilwoman Cassandra Seifkas seconded to add item g. Marijuana Dispensary discussion and to delete c. Marijuana Dispensary discussion under unfinished business.

**APPROVAL OF BALLOT ISSUE CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES ALLOWED WITHIN CITY LIMITS**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilwoman Kimberlie King seconded to place the question on the ballot as to whether to limit the amount of dispensaries or to extend the moratorium. On a voice vote, Mayor Jim Collins declared the motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

# ADJOURNED

Mayor Jim Collins declared the meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

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Charmaine D. Tripp

City Clerk & Treasurer

ATTEST:

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Jim Collins, Mayor