MINUTES
CITY OF ALVIN, TEXAS
216 W. SEALY STREET
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MONDAY JUNE 29, 2020
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

BE IT REMEMBERED that, on the above date, the City Council of the City of Alvin, Texas, met in a Special Called Session at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, with the following members present: Mayor Paul A. Horn; Mayor Pro-Tem Joel Castro; Councilmembers: Gabe Adame, Adam Arendell, Brad Richards, Glenn Starkey, Keith Thompson and Martin Vela**.**

Staff members present: Junru Roland, City Manager; Dixie Roberts, City Secretary; Michael Higgins, Chief Financial Officer; Dan Kelinske, Director of Parks & Recreation; and Robert E. Lee, Chief of Police.

SPECIAL MEETING BUSINESS:

Discuss and consider possible actions related to COVID-19.

Council member Castro led the invocation.

Council member Richards led the Pledge to the American flag and Council member Thompson led the Pledge to the Texas flag.

Discussion was had on whether or not to move forward with the City sponsored July 4th fireworks display at Briscoe Park, because of COVID-19. It was the consensus of City Council to move forward with the show since the park will be closed and spectators have been asked to remain in their vehicles, and adhere to social distancing guidelines. Council member Arendell expressed his concern in moving forward with this event, as it will be difficult for police to enforce social distancing measures.

Discussion was had on whether or not the use of facial coverings should be required within the City. Mr. Roland presented a draft order should City Council wish to move forward with such mandate. It was the consensus of City Council not to require the use of facial coverings, but to encourage the use of such. Council members felt that it should not be the government's role to mandate these types of orders, and should be left up to the individual business owners and citizens. Business owners can choose whether or not to require the use of facial coverings to enter their place of business and individual citizens have the individual right to choose whether or not to shop at those businesses with or without such requirements.

Several citizens were present and expressed their concerns with the City mandating the use of facial coverings. One citizen spoke in favor of mandating such requirements to better help protect her family from the virus, as they are essential workers.

Council member Arendell moved to authorize the Mayor to issue a proclamation that would strongly encourage the use of facial coverings when out in the public. Seconded by Council member Thompson; motion carried with all members present voting "Aye".

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Horn adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED the 16th day of July 2020.

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Paul A. Horn, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Dixie Roberts, City Secretary