

City of Athol City Council Special Meeting  
Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, March 24, 2020  
2:00pm Special Council Meeting

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Mayor Hill called the meeting to order at 2:02 P.M He asked visitors to please sign in.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Hill; Councilman McDaniel; Councilwoman Baldwin via Zoom; Councilman Spencer via Zoom; Councilwoman Denis via Zoom; Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough and Deputy Clerk, Tanya Ziegler. Not Present: City Planner & Attorney and Public Works-Anthony Brandt

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1) APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2020-05 CITY COUNCIL AFFIRMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION COVID-19 Motion by Baldwin, that we approve Resolution 2020-05 an Affirmation of Local Emergency Declaration. \*DISCUSSION All in favor-none opposed. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

2) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OD ORDINANCE 428 An Emergency Powers Ordinance amending the Athol City Code. This is in relation to the COVID-19 Virus. – Mayor Hill asked if the council had any questions, hearing none he asked if anyone was interested in making a motion. Motion by Denis, to place proposed ORDINANCE #428 An Emergency Powers Ordinance, on its first and only reading by title only while under suspension of the rules. \*DISCUSSION- Roll Call: Denis-yes; Baldwin-yes Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

Mayor then read the proposed ordinance by title: ORD #428 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF ATHOL, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO, ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 11 UNDER TITLE 1 ADMINISTRATION, ENTITLED EMERGENCY POWERS; SETTING FORTH THE AUTHORITY, PURPOSE, AND INTENT; DEFINITIONS; DESCRIBING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDERS; PROCESS FOR ENACTING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDERS; PROVIDING FOR EXCLUSIONS; PROVIDING FOR SUSPENSION OF SERVICES; FORCE MAJEURE CLAUSE; PROVIDING THAT VIOLATIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDERS ARE A MISDEMEANOR PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF \$1,000.00 OR BY IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO 6 MONTHS OR BY BOTH A FINE AND IMPRISONMENT; PROVIDING FOR A WAIVER OF THE READING RULES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE UPON PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR POSTED IN FIVE PUBLIC PLACES OF THE CITY.

*NOTE: The City will make reasonable accommodations for anyone attending this meeting who require special assistance for hearing, physical or other impairments. Please contact the City Clerk at (208) 683-2101 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting date and time.*

**Motion was made by Denis, that we approve ORD #428 An Emergency Powers Ordinance by adding a new chapter 11, under title 1 Administration that sets forth the Authority, purpose, and intent etc. \*DISCUSSION-Roll Call: Denis-yes; Baldwin-yes Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Mayor’s Public Health Emergency Order 2020-01, Restaurants and Bars (Proclamation) City Clerk, Lori, shared as a reminder before the Mayor read the order, that he could open this for discussion with the visitors and council before he declared the order. Mayor Hill first read through the order then allowed for a brief discussion. Comments and brief discussions had a number of varied comments and concerns. Ranging from- why do we need to do this, is it really necessary as locally we do not have a high volume of cases. And many businesses are already taking it upon themselves to take additional caution and cleaning measures to ensure the best and clean environment. Does the Mayor understand how this is going to impact the local businesses and their employees? To comments like just because we are rural doesn’t mean it’s not here and who might already be infected, it’s better to be safe, than sorry. Or when looking at other counties the pre-emptive measures seems to lessen the number of cases and exposure. The sooner we hunker down the sooner this can pass. There were also some conversations about what can be done to help the local community during this time and after. Fearing that homelessness and loss of jobs will be an issue, it was mentioned to get together and gather ideas and regroup at the next council meeting.

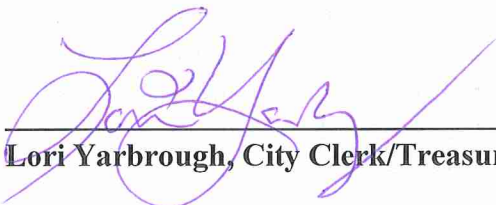
**Hearing a mix of comments and concerns the Mayor make his declaration to Order the closure of city bars and dine-in eating for restaurants, for 14 days as he felt that these preventative measures against the unknown is the wisest as this time.** (The full order can be found on the city website at: [www.cityofathol.us](http://www.cityofathol.us) or contact City Hall for a copy.)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** General comments were just that they understand that this is a tough time to have to make hard decisions like this.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** City Council- none / Mayor-none / Staff Lori- shared the city newsletter is going out in just a few days, if any of the local businesses affected by this order would like to advertise a take out menu, hours or contact info please get it to her and she will put it in the newsletter.

**ADJOURNMENT at 2:50pm**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer**

  
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**Bill Hill, Mayor**

Approved at Council on 4/7/2020