

**Minutes of Special Emergency Assembly Meeting
Held on March 17, 2020**

Mayor Stephen Prysunka called the Special Emergency Assembly meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., March 17, 2020, in the Borough Assembly Chambers.

PRESENT: PRYSUNKA (telephonically), GILBERT, DEBORD, DELONG, POWELL, DECKER, MORRISON

ABSENT:

Borough Manager Von Bargaen and Deputy Borough Clerk Mollen were also in attendance.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST – None.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD – None.

ITEM(s) OF BUSINESS

13a Resolution No 03-20-1520 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA TEMPORARILTY AMENDING WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.05.050 (TELECONFERENCING) RELATED TO ASSEMBLY MEETINGS AND TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING ALL NON-ESSENTIAL BOROUGH COMMISSION, BOARD, AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

M/S: Decker/Morrison to approve Resolution No 03-20-1520.

Von Bargaen explained the reasoning behind the Resolution and the changes that are included.

Larrabee asked about the timeline for the changes. Von Bargaen stated that they are temporary. It will automatically sunset in 6 months unless revoked before that. The Boards and Commissions change will sunset in 8 weeks. Larrabee also asked about the possibility of using Zoom or Google Hangouts instead. Decker supported the idea and has used Zoom while travelling several times.

Decker mentioned that the Wrangell Convention and Visitor's Bureau may want to continue their meetings. Von Bargaen agreed that if it was essential, they could continue.

Gilbert asked about how the public could continue to participate. Via Zoom or Spiderphone, there is the ability for this to happen.

Decker asked for an amendment to state that the federal government had asked for these changes and for gatherings to be to more than 10 people.

Amended M/S: Decker Powell to amend section (a)1 to read "telephonic or videoconference."

Amended Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

Main Motion, as amended, was approved unanimously by polled vote.

13b Ordinance No 976 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA DECLARING AN EMERGENCY RELATED OT THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC AND GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO TAKE ACTIONS NECESSARY TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEATH DURING THE EMERGENCY

M/S: Powell/Morrison to approve Ordinance No 976

Von Bargaen explained that there were several more clauses to this as it speaks to the Governor's and President's declarations as well as the complications and local resources. This also authorizes Von Bargaen and Mayor Prysunka to issue emergency orders if necessary. This ordinance will also sunset on October 17, 2020 or sooner if the virus is no longer considered an emergency or if revoked.

Prysunka mentioned that, in essence, this speeds up the Borough's ability to make decisions quickly.

Powell stated that the Assembly should be notified before any Emergency Order is released under Section 3.

Amended M/S: Powell/Larrabee to Add to Section 3, with notification given to Assembly Members prior to issuance of Emergency Orders.

Amended Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

Main Motion, as amended, approved unanimously by polled vote.

13c Discussion Item: Emergency Order Mitigation Actions

Von Bargaen noted that since the ordinance gives the Borough Manager and Mayor the ability to issue Emergency Orders, this discussion item allows those actions to be discussed. Some of the actions nationwide include curfews, limiting restaurants to take-out or delivery only, limiting bars as well.

Von Bargaen stated that there are also other gatherings of 10+ people and the head of the Ministerial Association has passed that along as well.

Morrison asked what recourse there is if people disregard this. Police Chief Radke and Von Bargaen discussed this and stated that it can be broken up and people can be charged with a Class B Misdemeanor if deemed necessary.

Gilbert asked for confirmation that the City is working with the health care providers and Von Bargaen confirmed that. There is a weekly meeting now and the Borough will be diligent about communicating via press releases, NIXLE, the website, and the Facebook page. Von Bargaen also stated that today's press release was reviewed by Leitha and SEARHC.

Decker mentioned about self-quarantine and if it can be a recommendation, if not part of the order. She also mentioned that in South Korea, the highest rate of cases was among young people in their twenty's.

Decker also asked to begin thinking of economic relief for businesses that would be affected. Von Bargaen stated that in the ordinance, the economic impact is references.

Morrison asked if this qualifies us for emergency relief. Von Bargaen stated that yes, this would open up those avenues. There is not a lot of information on this yet.

Prysunka stated that the Borough needs to take a role in food security and Supply Chain Management in the emergency plan. Von Bargaen said that the Police Chief spoke to both grocery stores today and there may be some slow restocking, but there is enough supply available. Prysunka stated that he is specifically looking at transportation of those goods, should Seattle have more shutdowns.

Gilbert asked about the possibility of deplaning passengers in Wrangell and screening them and if conversations have been had about that. Von Bargaen stated that a conversation was had about Alaska Airlines deplaning people who were suspected and was told that we do not have the authority to mandate testing or quarantine. We have to get confirmation from the Dept of Health or the Governor's Office.


A question was asked about NIXLE and the usage for people without a smart phone or internet. Von Bargaen will work on setting up a hotline.

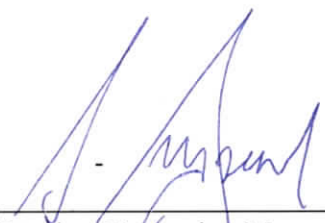
Powell mentioned that there are bars asking what the plan is so that they can notify employees. Von Bargaen stated that based on the newest information, we have to limit it to take out only and no more than 10 people together at a time.

Prysunka said that the plan is to avoid being out as much as possible. Social Distancing will shorten the overall season of this disease.

Von Bargaen stated that the residual from coughs and sneezes can linger in the air for up to 2 hours, so the 6 foot bubble needs to be in effect when people do have to get out of the house.

Special Assembly meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk


Stephen Prysunka, Mayor



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REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY MEETING

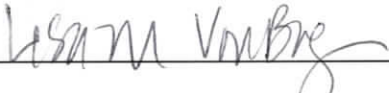
I, (We), Lisa Von Barga, DO HEREBY REQUEST THAT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WRANGELL BOROUGH ASSEMBLY BE CALLED BY THE BOROUGH CLERK, ACCORDING TO WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, SECTION 3.04.090, FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT MATTER(S):

13a RESOLUTION No 03-20-1520 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA TEMPORARILTY AMENDING WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.05.050 (TELECONFERENCING) RELATED TO ASSEMBLY MEETINGS AND TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING ALL NON-ESSENTIAL BOROUGH COMMISSION, BOARD, AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

13b ORDINANCE No 976 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA DECLARING AN EMERGENCY RELATED OT THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC AND GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO TAKE ACTIONS NECESSARY TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEATH DURING THE EMERGENCY

13c Discussion Item: Emergency Order Mitigation Actions

SPECIAL MEETING WAS REQUESTED BY Lisa Von Barga (Two Assembly Members, Mayor, or Borough Manager to Sign)



Signature/ Lisa Von Barga, Manager

Signature (If Assembly Member)

Signed March, 2020

(Sec. 3.04.090: Special meetings shall be called by the Borough Clerk on the written request of the MAYOR, BOROUGH MANAGER, or of any TWO MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY. At least forty-eight (48) hours written notice shall be given designating the time and purpose of a special meeting.)

Received/Date: March 16, 2020

Borough Clerk: 

Date assigned: March 17, 2020

Time assigned: 1:30 p.m.

Notice out: March 16, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m.