St. Charles County Council Journal  
Emergency Meeting – March 20, 2020

The St. Charles County Council met on Friday, March 20, 2020 at 8:35 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 100 North Third Street, St. Charles, Missouri.

The following roll call was taken by the Clerk:

- Council Member Joe Cronin: absent
- Council Member Joe Brazil: present by phone
- Council Member Mike Elam: present
- Council Member Dave Hammond: present
- Council Member Terry Hollander: present
- Council Member Nancy Schneider: present
- Council Member John White: present by phone

County Executive Staff present:

- Steve Ehlmann, County Executive
- Joann Leykam, Director of Administration
- Jennifer George, Assistant Director of Administration
- John Greifzu, Assistant Director of Administration

County Counselor’s Office:

- John Watson, County Counselor

IN THE MATTER OF

PUBLIC COMMENTS

County Council accepted comments by e-mail at Council@sccmo.org up until 12:00 pm. (noon) on Friday, March 20, 2020 and these comments are attached to these minutes and are on file in the County Registrar’s office.

Comments were received from: Arnie C. AC Dienoff, Andrew Pfaff, MO Representative Tony Lovasco, Matt Brown and David Studebaker

County Counselor John Watson explained under the unique situation of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting is closed to the public, however the agenda did state the following, "PUBLIC ATTENDANCE WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED THROUGH VIRTUAL PRESENCE (tv.sccmo.org)

IN THE MATTER OF

AN EMERGENCY BILLS
Emergency Bill No. 4828 – Sponsored by Terry Hollander – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF ST. PETERS TO OBTAIN SPACE IN THE ST. PETERS EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AREA FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING AN INFORMATIONAL CALL CENTER TO RESPOND TO CITIZENS’ INQUIRIES REGARDING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

There being no discussion, Council Chair Hollander requested the following roll call vote: Council Member Cronin – absent, Council Member Brazil – yes, Council Member Elam – yes, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – yes and Council Member White – yes. Emergency Bill No. 4828 was approved by a vote of 6-0 with one member absent.

Emergency Bill No. 4829 – Sponsored by Terry Hollander – AN EMERGENCY HEALTH ORDINANCE WITH A PENALTY PROVISION ENACTING A NEW SECTION 210.005 OF THE ORDINANCES OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI RELATING TO FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDERS

Council Member Elam shared concerns along with Councilmen Brazil and Cronin relating to the penalty that is connected with this new section and that the County Council has no authority. Elam stated his concerns as it relates to his rights as an elected official. Council Member Brazil stated he would like to see a sunset clause put into this bill so it does not overreach citizens. Council Member Brazil made a motion to add a sunset clause as follows:

Section 3. ...St. Charles County Charter Article II, Section 2.605; and shall cease to be in full force and effect on July 1, 2020 unless further extended by the St. Charles County Council.

Council Member Hammond seconded the motion.

Council Member Schneider stated she was not in support of this amendment because the new section is only lawful under a declared State of Emergency by the County Executive. Schneider stated it should stay in effect until that time.

Discussion was held regarding the fact that current State law covers the various items in the bill and this bill would place the charges under the County’s Municipal Court as a Class A Misdemeanor charge with a penalty of $1,000 per day and/or up to one year in jail. Amanda Jennings, Assoc. County Counselor explained the law enforcement community backs this bill and it is a tool to use to continue to keep citizens from contracting the virus.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken to approve the amendment: Council Member Cronin – absent, Council Member Brazil – yes, Council Member Elam – yes, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – no, Council Member White – yes. The amendment passed by a vote of 5-1 and one member absent.
County Executive Ehlmann stated once the declared emergency is over the Council can remove this ordinance.

There being no further discussion, Council Chair Hollander requested the following roll call vote: Council Member Cronin – absent, Council Member Brazil – no, Council Member Elam – no, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – yes and Council Member White – yes. Amended Emergency Bill No. 4829 was approved 4-3 and one member absent.

*Editor’s Note – At this point in the meeting Councilman Brazil was no longer present.*

**Emergency Bill No. 4830** – Sponsored by Terry Hollander – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING LEAVE POLICIES REGARDING THE DECLARED PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO MODIFY THE POLICY AS NEEDED TO RESPOND TO CHANGING CONDITIONS

There being no further discussion, Council Chair Hollander requested the following roll call vote: Council Member Cronin – absent, Council Member Brazil – absent, Council Member Elam – yes, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – yes, Council Member White – yes. Emergency Bill No. 4830 was passed by a vote of 5-0 with two members absent.

**Emergency Bill No. 4831** – Sponsored by Terry Hollander – AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ST. CHARLES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND VARIOUS AGENCIES FOR THE PURPOSES OF COORDINATING EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO HANDLING INCARCERATED PERSONS WITHIN ST. CHARLES COUNTY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

There being no discussion, Council Chair Hollander requested the following roll call vote: Council Member Cronin – absent, Council Member Brazil – absent, Council Member Elam – yes, Council Member Hammond – yes, Council Member Hollander – yes, Council Member Schneider – yes, Council Member White – yes. Emergency Bill No. 4831 was approved by a vote of 5-0 with 2 members absent.

Council Member Elam asked for the Director of Public Health Demetrius Cianci-Chapman to update the Council on this pandemic.

Cianci-Chapman shared current St. Charles County and Missouri case numbers with the Council along with surrounding states and the world stats. Also reviewed were the calls being received by the County’s hotline. Cianci-Chapman reviewed the symptoms as fever, dry cough, shortness of breath and general aches. If those symptoms are valid, he stressed to isolate and contact the hotline to be tested. It was shared how the area hospitals are working together to be prepared.
Discussion was shared regarding restaurants not being able to have inside dining and if package liquor can be purchased with a meal. Also discussed was daycares as they are at this point remaining open to allow the parents to work if necessary.

Council Chair Hollander stated he appreciated everything everyone is doing as it relates to this pandemic.

There being no further discussion, Council Member Elam made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Hammond and approved by all present. The meeting ended at 9:58 a.m.

Examined and Approved

Terry Hollander, Council Chair
St. Charles County, Missouri

/djv