

TOWN OF JEROME

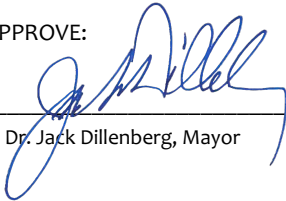
POST OFFICE BOX 335, JEROME, ARIZONA 86331
(928) 634-7943 www.jerome.az.gov

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JEROME TOWN COUNCIL
CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2021 AT 3:00 PM

ITEM #1:	CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL Mayor/Chairperson to call meeting to order. <i>Mayor Jack Dillenberg called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.</i> Town Clerk to call and record the roll. <i>Town Manager/Clerk Candace Gallagher called the roll. Present were Mayor Dillenberg, Vice Mayor Mandy Worth, and councilmembers Sage Harvey and Jane Moore. Also present were Zoning Administrator John Knight, Finance Manager Melanie Atkin, Utilities Clerk Kristen Muenz, and Deputy Town Clerk Rosa Cays.</i>
ITEM #2:	COVID-19 Council will discuss the current uptick in COVID-19 cases, whether to reinstate COVID restrictions at Town Hall, the library and/or the public shuttle, and whether future public meetings will be conducted in-person or via Zoom. <i>Mayor Dillenberg shared current statistics on COVID-19. He said masks are effective, especially now that schools are open and students are vulnerable, and that he wants everyone to be protected but not restricted.</i> [NOTE: The meeting recording began at this point.] <i>Vice Mayor Worth said that county buildings were going to be closed again to the public and would be requiring masks for the vaccinated and unvaccinated unless employees are in their own workspace. She said the county was also going to conduct meetings online, except for public hearings, where screenings, masks, and social distancing would be required.</i> <i>Councilmember Harvey said most of the councilmembers are not vaccinated—and there are some who cannot be vaccinated. She pointed out that we have staff with children who can't be vaccinated. Ms. Harvey suggested keeping Town Hall open or allow the public by appointment only but require masks.</i> <i>Councilmember Moore said she was willing to go with what staff and Council would like to do.</i> <i>Ms. Atkin said someone can come to town hall and we won't know where they've been. She was also worried about her daughter contracting something at school and passing it on to her, and she could then pass it to staff.</i> <i>Mr. Knight said the boards are okay with continuing to meet in person since they're all vaccinated, and that they would use the dividers on the dais. He said he had mixed feelings but would like to stay open.</i> <i>Ms. Harvey suggested putting precautions back in place, with masks required, vaccinated or not, and social distancing; the same goes for the library. She said to continue in-person meetings using the dividers and require masks for the public and social distancing as much as possible. Ms. Harvey said Scott Kolu, the shuttle driver, was okay with continuing to drive the shuttle.</i> <i>Mayor Dillenberg summarized what seemed to be the consensus.</i> <i>Vice Mayor Worth agreed with Ms. Harvey and said following the county's lead was key, and that to continue meetings in person is important for constituents but also the Council. She said signs should be posted where masks are required: the library, police and fire stations, etc., and that a sign in the shuttle van should state that everyone rides at their own risk. She also mentioned that services could be available remotely, and that anyone who wants to speak at a meeting but not in person can submit something in writing.</i> <i>Ms. Moore mentioned that windows can be open in the chambers. She also said some constituents have told her they prefer Zoom to in-person meetings, as it is easier to attend.</i> <i>Ms. Muenz, whose daughter will begin preschool soon, said children under 12 will not likely be allowed to get vaccinated for another year, so she has a similar concern as Ms. Atkin of potentially spreading the virus. She said she was vaccinated and is fine with keeping Town Hall open because she sees the risk is the same at work as it is at home.</i> <i>Mayor Dillenberg said mask requirements will help and that he hopes the vaccine will be available to younger children by December.</i>

	<p>DRB member Mimi Romberger said she and Chuck Romberger were comfortable with what they were hearing and liked the balance of reason and science.</p> <p>Ms. Gallagher said the direction was clear and that protocol would begin immediately.</p> <p>Discussion briefly continued about signage. Mayor Dillenberg clarified that masks should be optional on the shuttle but made available, as would hand sanitizer.</p>																																										
<p>ITEM #3:</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <p><i>Motion to adjourn at 3:25 p.m.</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="402 415 1403 543"> <thead> <tr> <th>COUNCILMEMBER</th> <th>MOVED</th> <th>SECONDED</th> <th>AYE</th> <th>NAY</th> <th>ABSENT</th> <th>ABSTAIN</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BARBER</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DILLENBERG</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HARVEY</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>MOORE</td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>WORTH</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	COUNCILMEMBER	MOVED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	BARBER			X				DILLENBERG			X				HARVEY	X		X				MOORE		X	X				WORTH			X			
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APPROVE:



 Dr. Jack Dillenberg, Mayor

ATTEST:



 Candace B. Gallagher, CMC, Town Manager/Clerk

Date: 9/15/21