

City of Greeley, Colorado
COUNCIL BRIEFING
May 15, 2020

The Council Briefing began at 4:00 p.m. via a remote Zoom Meeting between City Staff and the City Council. It was live-streamed on the City of Greeley's YouTube Channel.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gates called the Zoom Meeting to Order.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Gates led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

3. ROLL CALL

Cheryl Aragon, Interim City Clerk, called the roll. Those virtually present were Mayor John Gates and Councilmembers Tommy Butler, Ed Clark, and Kristin Zasada. Councilmembers Hall and Fitzsimmons were excused.

4. COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PANDEMIC UPDATE

Pandemic Response Activities

It was noted that a handout was provided and made part of the record.

Dan Frazen, Emergency Manager, reported that no numbers were available from the County, but provided State-wide numbers as well as numbers hospitalized and numbers at both North Colorado Medical Center and University of Colorado Health.

He spoke of the approval of the drug Remdesivir and President Trump's Warp Speed Initiative just announced.

Work continues with the Communications & Engagement Department to get more messaging out about testing options for the community.

Mr. Frazen went on to state that Weld County Public Health has shared deaths by zip code but not recovery data.

He states that the Facilities Team has obtained foggers to clean and disinfect as some City facilities slowly begin to reopen to the public.

Daily trends were reviewed, as were daily death reports, percent increases, hospital positive cases still hospitalized, cumulative data and the number of first responders in quarantine.

Councilmember Zasada asked that staff press the County about recovery numbers because that is important data to have. If they have it, the City should have it.

In response to a question from Councilmember Clark about testing sites in Greeley, Mr. Frazen advised that hospitals are doing a great job of testing so there is no need for additional testing sites throughout the community.

Councilmember Butler shared that his biggest concern is what the next wave looks like and asked what we should be looking for.

Mr. Frazen advised that the best trigger is hospital data, and he stressed that he is talking with them daily.

Greeley Area Recovery Fund

Ben Snow, Economic Health and Housing Director, reported that there are currently 150 applications pending review and that marketing of this program continues. He stated that about 15 applications per week have been coming in the last few weeks.

Councilmember Clark asked about ways that businesses can open up into alleys and sidewalks for extra space for service, and Becky Safarik, Assistant City Manager, advised that information about that was provided in the City Manager Snapshot to Council earlier in the day.

She went on to reference threshold indicators for reopening City facilities and reviewed charts noting that nothing is consistent enough to be able to build a trend.

She reviewed circumstances behind the numbers – JBS meat processing facility, assisted living facilities, and families living in close proximity to one another.

Ms. Safarik stated that Weld County Health can in fact provide zip code data and will be getting that weekly, which may help provide some more perspective that is being sought.

Councilmember Zasada inquired about communication and cooperation amongst the two hospitals, and Ms. Safarik confirmed that they are in good communication with one another to find ways to support each other.

Mayor Gates stated that the data he wants is based on the high number of deaths, so he inquired about the number of seniors who have perished and their ages which would provide a strong indicator of the level of threat in the community.

Ms. Safarik indicated that this information could be provided for the next Briefing.

Roy Otto, City Manager, stated this dialogue is great, and expressed pride in the way this Council has been sharing opinions, asking questions, and listening to one another.

The Council Briefing adjourned at 4:43 p.m.



Cheryl Aragon, Interim City Clerk