

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
JOINT MEETING
CITY COUNCIL AND HUMBOLDT COUNTY COMMISSION
JULY 17, 2020**

The Winnemucca City Council met in a joint meeting with the Humboldt County Commission on Friday, July 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. via video conference and teleconference. City Officials-Staff present: Mayor Richard Stone; Council members Mike Owens, Theresa Mavity, Vince Mendiola, Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks; and, City Manager Alicia Heiser and City Attorney Kent Maher. County Officials-Staff present via video conference and teleconference: Commission Chairman Ken Tipton; Commissioners Jim French, Mike Bell, Marlene Brissenden and Ron Cerri; and, County Manager Dave Mendiola.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Stone called the City Council portion of the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION

After review and consideration of the effect each item could potentially have on a “business,” as the term is defined by statute, the Council agreed and Council member Owens moved to make a finding that no item on the agenda appears to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or appears to directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business. Motion carried unanimously.

APPEAL OF GOVERNOR DIRECTED BAR CLOSURES

County Manager Mendiola provided a brief background on the Governor’s directives regarding the coronavirus pandemic and the impact of the directives on businesses in Humboldt County. The Governor’s office recently determined that the bars in Humboldt County should remain closed due to the inability of Humboldt County to meet the reopening standards promulgated by the Governor’s office. Commission Chairman Tipton read a draft of a proposed letter of appeal to Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak regarding the State decision to close bars in Winnemucca and Humboldt County effective July 10, 2020. The letter requests Winnemucca-Humboldt County not be included with the seven counties deemed at highest risk for the spread of the coronavirus. Tipton noted it is difficult for Humboldt County to meet the State’s testing requirement on a consistent basis. Humboldt County needs to meet two of the three criteria to remain in the Phase Two status. City Manager Heiser presented graphs for each criterion from the Governor’s office. Criteria #1 – Average number of tests per day (per 100,000 people). Humboldt County will have a very hard time meeting the 150 tests per 100,000 people. Criteria #2 – Total number of cases in a two-week period (per 100,000 people). Humboldt County has been consistently below this and meets this criterion. Criteria #3 – Seven-day average of daily positive test positivity rate. Except for a few instances when the daily positivity rate has spiked above the 7% criteria, the seven-day average for daily positivity rate has remained below 7%. Heiser commented that the data released by the Governor’s Office on July 10, 2020 indicated that Humboldt County has a 22% seven-day average positivity rate, which seems incorrect. The data collected locally shows a positivity rate less than 7% dating back to May 13, 2020. Heiser feels the letter is a good idea and recommends that the data developed be included with the

letter. Tipton asked the Commission members if they wished to go forward with the letter. Tipton said he feels the entities owe it to the business community. Commissioners Bell, Cerri, Brissenden, and French all indicated their support for the letter and supporting data, and thanked Heiser for gathering the information for the graphs. Mayor Stone asked the Council for their comments. Council members Owens, Mavity, Mendiola, Billingsley and Brooks all expressed their support for the letter. Stone commented that Dr. Stringham, the County Health Officer, as well as the community have done an exceptional job trying to mitigate the coronavirus influence.

Council member Owens moved to submit the letter and supporting data with reference to the three days without a positive case in Humboldt County per staff recommendation and County Manager Mendiola's comments. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bell made the same motion for the County. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Haaglund
City Clerk

PASSED AND ADOPTED: November 17, 2020

VOTE OF COUNCIL:

AYES: Owens, Mavity, Mendiola, Billingsley, Brooks

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Richard Stone
Mayor

Lorrie Haaglund
City Clerk