

# CITY OF FRONTENAC



## MINUTES OF THE CITY OF FRONTENAC BOARD OF ALDERPERSON MARCH 27, 2020

The March 27, 2020, regular meeting of the Board of Alderpersons of the City of Frontenac was called to order at 5:10 p.m. with Mayor Kate Hatfield, presiding. The Alderpersons present via video were Mayor Hatfield, Nalini Mahadevan, Brian Warner, Dan Kemper, and Jamie Griesedieck. Alderpersons Dan Millman and Tom O'Brien participated via telephone conference.

By audio, Dan Millman, Tom O'Brien, Leesa Ross.

Also, in attendance was City Administrator, Jaysen Christensen (via video) City Clerk, Leesa Ross (video and phone); and City Attorney Kevin O'Keefe (via video).

### **A. MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA**

Mayor Hatfield asked for a motion to approve tonight's agenda.

**MOTION:** Alderperson Kemper made a motion and Alderperson Mahadevan seconded the approval of tonight's agenda. All Alderpersons present voted "Aye". The vote was unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

### **B. READING OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments were sent to the City Clerk.

### **C. MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Hatfield thanked everyone for taking time to meet on a Friday night. The Chair of the Ways & Means Committee, Maggie Sherwood had a recent medical emergency and she will be unavailable for four to six weeks. Mayor Hatfield said she would like to appoint Dan Millman as the temporary chair of the Ways & Means Committee. Everyone agreed to this.

**MOTION:** Alderperson Warner made a motion and Alderperson Kemper seconded to appoint Alderperson Dan Millman as the temporary chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee. All Alderpersons present voted "Aye". The motion passed.

Mr. Christensen stated the city checked into the sales interruption policy and the city was told it excludes economics and pandemics. Mayor Hatfield stated she would recommend filing a claim and sending the policy info to Mr. O'Keefe for review.

#### **D. COMMENTS BY BOARD OF ALDERPERSON MEMBERS**

Aldersperson Warner asked about insurance on sales taxes. Mr. Christensen stated Mss. Bennett had been in touch with SLAIT, our insurance brokers who stated viruses are expressly precluded from the policy and stated that was their official answer.

#### **E. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Bill No. 2020-1959:** An ordinance enacting emergency measures to protect the public health during the Coronavirus pandemic crisis.

Mayor Hatfield asked Mr. O'Keefe for an explanation of the bill.

Mr. O'Keefe suggested the city consider this legislation. The idea was to give the city the maximum flexibility to response to a rapidly evolving/deteriorating situation. The idea is that the Sunshine Law allows a videoconferencing meeting like this. The mayor as chair is the presiding officer. This allows the mayor to hold these meetings with the Board of Aldersperson moving forward and to test different software. He said it is best to involve the public for the meetings and allows the city to continue to get their business done in a timely manner.

Mr. O'Keefe stated the second part of the ordinance gives the city administrator similar authority to say we will response in three days for city requests including building department items. When building plans come in, let the plans sit there for three days. Also, Mr. Christensen will establish practices and accommodate the needs of the city. This legislation will also allow the city to reallocate funds and suspend the budget. He said the city will take a substantial financial hit and the scope is unknown. This also allows the city to suspend particular contracts if needed. This also states that the city administrator must report the changes within 72 hours to the Mayor and board. There is also provision to allow the city administrator to make expenditures if necessary to make emergency purchases. There was discussion and an example, if a police vehicle, the fire truck or ambulance had to be decontaminated. Mr. O'Keefe stated he does not want to put an end date on this legislation. He said this is a sensitive order, as he said this is put in place, in case the Board cannot meet, due to illnesses and people unable to attend a meeting. He said we need to be sensitive if we need the board to meet and the members who are well enough to attend a meeting.

Aldersperson Warner asked if there was a termination date. Mr. O'Keefe stated no, this will be in place until the ordinance is repealed, modified or removed. Aldersperson Mahadevan stated she thinks no end date is a great idea and that certain conditions may be modified. Aldersperson O'Brien asked can this ordinance be renewed every 30 days unless they act to stop it.

Mr. O'Keefe stated if this is a statewide declaration, it does not give city staff the purgative to forego city ordinances. Mayor Hatfield said we are doing this in case of an emergency and we are unable to meet. Aldersperson Mahadevan again stated can it be added to every board meeting agenda, so the board can review it on an ongoing basis.

Mr. O'Keefe stated he will add a provision of the question of appeal or continuation of this ordinance and that it should be placed on every agenda, unless otherwise ordered by the Board.

**MOTION:** Alderperson Warner made a motion and Alderperson Griesedieck seconded to put this item on all future city agendas until the potential to remove it. All Alderpersons voted "Aye". All voted in favor, motion passed.

Mayor Hatfield asked for a motion for a second reading of Bill No. 2020-1959.

**MOTION:** Alderperson Warner made a motion and Alderperson Kemper seconded approval of the second reading of Bill No. 2020-1959. All Alderpersons present voted "Aye". The vote was unanimous.

**MOTION PASSED.**

**Bill No. 2020-1959:** An ordinance enacting emergency measures to protect the public health during the Coronavirus pandemic crisis.

Mayor Hatfield asked for a motion to approve as amended Bill No. 2020-1959.

**MOTION:** Alderperson Mahadevan made a motion and Alderperson seconded approval of Bill No. 2020-1959.

Mayor Hatfield asked Ms. Ross for a poll vote.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Alderperson Mahadevan, "Aye"; Alderperson Warner, "Aye": Alderperson Kemper; Alderperson Griesedieck, "Aye". The vote was not unanimous. **MOTION PASSED by a vote of 4-0.** On the record Alderperson Millman and Alderperson O'Brien vote to support (via telephone).

**Bill No. 2020-1959 became Ordinance No. 2020-1913.**

Additional Discussion:

Mayor Hatfield mentioned the fire department and their exposure on a call. She stated they did a great job. She said our EMS is setting the standard. She said the exposure was deemed as insignificant exposure. Mayor Hatfield gave kudos to the team, they did a great job.

Mr. Christensen said they have done a fantastic job. He said the city is trying to obtain more protective equipment, gowns, goggles and masks through EEOC. He also said the building department is suspending re-occupancy permits in Crystal Lake Park and said they are only completing expectations on new construction and on construction permits.

Mr. Christensen stated in the city we are trying to limit the amount of public interaction. He updated the Board on what is occurring at City Hall regarding the building department; the allowance for city staff to work from home; and the closing of the lobby with limited access to city hall. There was discussion about the court clerk working from home.

Alderperson Griesedieck asked what the fire department is doing. Mr. Christensen stated they are trying to practice social distancing. He discussed fumigation of their area.

Mr. O’Keefe stated the language on the ordinance will read “The quest of repeal or modification of this ordinance shall appear on each Board of Alderman agenda until further order of the Board of Aldermen”.

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Hatfield asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION:** Alderperson Warner made a motion and Alderperson Kemper seconded the meeting be adjourned. All Alderpersons present voted “Aye”. The vote was unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.