

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA
Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2020

Meeting No. 2020-18: The Special Assembly meeting of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly held in the Assembly Chambers in the Municipal Building was called into order by Mayor Beth Weldon at 6:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Assemblymembers Present: Mayor Beth Weldon, Wade Bryson, Rob Edwardson, Maria Gladziszewski, Michelle Hale, Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Loren Jones, Greg Smith, and Carole Triem.

Assemblymembers Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Rorie Watt, Deputy City Manager Mila Cosgrove, Municipal Attorney Robert Palmer, Municipal Clerk Beth McEwen, Deputy Clerk Diane Cathcart.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OF NON-AGENDA ITEMS

IV. AGENDA TOPICS

- A. Mayor Weldon addressed the Assembly, stating that she had forgotten to ask the Assembly to ratify the Economic Stabilization Task Force at the last Assembly meeting. She then gave the Charging Statement of the ESTF: “The purpose of the Economic Stabilization Task Force is to review the economic landscape and make recommendations to the Assembly. In particular, the Task Force should examine federal and state government financial assistance programs, and identify and prioritize any gaps that exist. Identify and promote strategies that enable businesses to continue operations safely, such as curbside pickup, takeaway, delivery and other innovative services. Additionally, explore strategies that enable businesses and the general economy to recover in the long run. Act as liaison with the Governor of Alaska’s Economic Stabilization Team.”

Mayor Weldon listed the following members that she appointed to the Task Force: Co-Chair Max Mertz, Co-Chair Linda Thomas, Lauren MacVay, Theresa Belton, Bruce Botelho, Eric Forst, Ken Koelsch, Laura Martinson, and Terra Peters.

MOTION by Ms. Gladziszewski for the Assembly to ratify the charge of the Economic Stabilization Task Force, as well as the membership listed. *Hearing no objections, the Economic Stabilization Task Force and its members were ratified by unanimous consent.*

COVID-19 Update: Incident Commander Mila Cosgrove provided the Assembly with the COVID-19 update. As of today, Juneau remains at Incident Level 2, and has two confirmed COVID-19 cases. These cases bring the current case number to 26. Statewide, there are 321 active cases of COVID-19. Ms. Cosgrove reported that these cases are not the result of community transmission, but rather are due to secondary transmission.

The cumulative number of tests administered in Juneau is 667. Statewide, the cumulative testing number is 10,124. Roughly 2% of the population of Juneau has received testing for COVID-19. Bartlett Regional Hospital reports that they have 35 test results that are pending. Juneau currently has 15 recovered cases, and 1 individual who has been hospitalized at BRH. Statewide, there have been 161 recovered cases.

Ms. Cosgrove gave an operational update, mentioning that there has been discussion about relaxing testing standards since the Governor's press release. Continued screenings at the Juneau International Airport have screened 263 individuals so far. BRH has been working with Lemon Creek Correctional Center (LCCC) to ensure that they understand protocol if an outbreak should occur, the current patients have been doing well.

Ms. Cosgrove also gave an update on the city's workforce during COVID-19. There are 155 CBJ employees who have not been scheduled to work at this time. There are 11 vacant positions that have not been filled, and staff from other areas are filling in whenever they are able to. She also stated that a large number of staff have been reassigned to other duties, some staff are working with the Emergency Operations Center, Communications, Logistics, Custodial, etc.

Ms. Cosgrove also gave an update regarding the Juneau School District. The JSD has distributed about 1,200 Chromebooks and are communicating with the EOC regarding lesson plans and art kits. The JSD delivered 7,700 school meals to students last week, which brings the total number to 32,700 meals delivered so far.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Cosgrove what the current sustainable rate of testing per day was. Ms. Cosgrove said she believes that about 50 tests a day are being administered, adding that the number of tests has increased over time. BRH has reported that they have about 300 test kits for normal tests, and about 100 test kits for fast tests available.

Ms. Gladziszewski asked about the connection between Juneau's EOC and Public Health. She would like to see if CBJ could be able to get some local information and local data.

Mr. Edwardson said that he would like to see a non-Juneau specific information. He believes that information coming from the state and national level is also necessary to determine whether it is safe to allow people to go back to work. Surveillance testing and antibody testing, keeping cases down with the possibility of reopening some things.

Mr. Smith said that he was curious about PPE at the hospital after hearing some concerns, and asked for Ms. Cosgrove to clarify if the hospital has enough PPE. Ms. Cosgrove answered that she has not heard any concerns about PPE at BRH. She stated that BRH has reported that they have an adequate supply of PPE for the short-to-medium term. Though she believes that BRH would probably feel more comfortable if they had more PPE items in stock, there is currently no shortage or cause for concern.

Mr. Smith also asked about the warming shelters and the increased number of those using the warming shelters. Ms. Cosgrove responded that the number of people using the warming shelters have not been increasing.

Mayor Weldon mentioned that the campground will be opening tomorrow.

Mr. Watt said that the main backdrop is other entities planning conversations moving forward. He mentioned that Ketchikan forwarded a letter to Governor which recommended steps forward that are similar to the national CDC plans. Anchorage's Mayor Burkowitz released a plan this afternoon. Mr. Watt shared that the Governor did not release his plan today, it may come out tomorrow. Mr. Watt said that the Governor has indicated that his approach will be focusing on smaller communities. The Governor also indicated that there will be a large shipment of PPE coming into the state soon.

Mr. Watt also brought up that Dr. Zink indicated that the State lab has a capacity of 7,000 tests per week. He mentioned that Dr. Zink seems confident in the state's ability to mobilize testing where it is needed most.

Ms. Gladziszewski shared that she had received some research information this past weekend regarding other states and cities' criteria for reopening. She said that she will share this information with the Assembly to use as a resource.

Mr. Mertz, Co-Chair of the Economic Stabilization Task Force (ESTF), spoke to the Assembly about the three documents that ESTF provided to the Assembly: a report, a letter of intent, and a proposed amendment to Resolution 2889.

Mr. Mertz shared that the ESTF has met three times since it was established last week. In that time, the task force has worked on drafting rental assistance programs, and investigating many sectors referred to by the City Manager. The sectors include:

- Business to business: Mr. Mertz expressed that businesses are experiencing deep concern and confusion throughout this time. After discussing the issue with the Juneau Economic Development Council (JEDC) and the Chamber of Commerce, the ESTF decided that the Chamber of Commerce would host a support mechanism for businesses. This support mechanism is expected to go live tomorrow. The ESTF has also brought in accounting firms, banks, attorneys, and construction entities who are willing to act as a resource for businesses attempting to navigate through this pandemic.

- In addition to finding resources for businesses, Mr. Mertz said that the ESTF had also spent a considerable amount of time discussing day care assistance, the tourism industry, restaurants and bars, and a number of other businesses sectors.
- Mr. Mertz also mentioned their work with the Tlingit-Haida Central Council (THCC), and their continued efforts to provide resources and help to the community and for tribal citizens.

Mr. Mertz said that a lot of focus is centered on what businesses need to do to reopen and operate safely and the protocols and national industry standards that businesses would need to comply to in order to safely operate.

Mr. Mertz shared that there will be more information to come, and the next ESTF meeting will be held Friday, April 24th.

Mr. Mertz said the ESTF also recommended to the Assembly pass Resolution 2889 with the suggested amendments and the letter of intent from the task force. He explained that the letter of intent will provide clarification regarding the timing of opening and closing businesses, and how those decisions are made.

He added that he will not be acting as a liaison with the Governor's task force, but instead monitoring any issues that may come up and giving suggestions when needed.

Mr. Edwardson shared his viewpoint that this task force was for business and financial matters, not necessarily a task force that would be giving direction on opening or closing businesses. He adds that the controlling factor regarding reopening is the hospital, and their readiness and available supplies. Mr. Mertz agreed with Mr. Edwardson on this.

Public Testimony:

Phillip Moser a Mendenhall Valley resident spoke about a clear double standard between how business relief has been promoted by the CBJ vs. how tenant relief has been promoted by the CBJ. He said that for businesses, there have been multiple public programs, and the CBJ deemed it necessary to prepare money and loans which were quickly dispersed. For tenants, this is the third or fourth meeting held by the Assembly in which the ability for tenants to receive relief has been discussed but not implemented. In this time, many members of the community have not received relief or promised funding. The requirements for people to receive public relief have been more onerous than promoted by the ESTF. He also mentioned that the ESTF is almost entirely comprised of former politicians or business owners, and there is not anyone on the task force that represents tenants or the unhoused, it only represents homeowners and landlords. Mr. Moser added that the roadblocks in the proposed relief plan are incredibly onerous, and already a month behind. He said if the city is interested in helping people, then they should cancel rent and provide rent forgiveness until this crisis is over. His final comment is that the city – specifically the ESTF – needs to have accurate and diverse representation for tenants and the unhoused. Almost 70% of the population of Juneau is considered low-income, and that large majority is unrepresented.

Alex Marvel a Mendenhall Valley resident addressed his concerns regarding dates on things opening up. The Governor said “two weeks” two weeks ago. He stresses the importance of not putting pressure on BRH. He thinks that it’s important to note that Juneau has not seen any cases in several days, and that we can lock down Juneau but asked when they are going to open things up?

Ms. Hale asked Mr. Marvel if would it give hope to know that the open date is driven by data and that everyone is moving as fast as they can to provide information and try to provide dates.

Mr. Marvel responded that they are six to seven months out from obtaining adequate data but people need to economically and financially plan for that. He added that if people had properly quarantined, this disease wouldn’t be here anymore.

The Assembly took a break and the meeting resumed at 7:11 p.m.

B. Ordinance 2020-15: An Ordinance Amending the Continuity of Government Code to Improve City and Borough of Juneau Procedures for Emergencies.

A continuity of government code was created in 1962 during the height of the Cuban Missile Crisis when communities were concerned about physical attacks. While the underlying concepts in the continuity of government code remain relevant today – like designation of successors for certain municipal officers – some code provisions are outdated. This ordinance would modernize the continuity of government code.

This ordinance was reviewed at the Assembly Human Resources meeting on March 13, 2020. On April 13, the Assembly postponed further consideration of this ordinance until April 20, 2020.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

MOTION by Ms. Gladziszewski for the Assembly to adopt Ordinance 2020-15.

Objection by Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones spoke to his objection, and proposed an Amendment to the Ordinance.

Amendment #1 by Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones explained that the intent of this amendment would remove the Assembly from needing to designate their successors. He mentioned that there is already a way in statute to replace Assemblymembers, the Deputy Mayor, and the Mayor. Mr. Jones feels that it would be easier to remove the need to replace successors from this ordinance.

Objection by Mr. Bryson. Mr. Bryson spoke to his objection, saying that he liked the idea that Assemblymembers could have at least one person to replace them, especially in the case of an emergency. He mentioned that he was voted into his position due to his perspective and

the information he has. If something were to happen to him, he said he would rather pick a successor who shares a similar mindset, rather than his successor being chosen for him. Mr. Bryson added that the purpose of his successor is to act as his replacement, until the City and Assembly appoints a new Assemblymember.

Mr. Edwardson opposed the amendment for the same reasons as stated by Mr. Bryson. He said that this ordinance is specifically for an emergency, and in an emergency situation, he does not know whether the Assembly would have the time to interview and replace an Assemblymember. He also agreed with Mr. Bryson's statement on constituents voting for them due to their viewpoints, adding that it would be nice to choose a replacement that had similar viewpoints.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Palmer if the intent of this section was to allow continuity of the Assembly in case several Assemblymembers were experiencing any illness or incapacity. Mr. Palmer answered that the original intent was to give continuity and to keep a sufficient amount of Assemblymembers at any time in the event of an emergency. The Assembly would still be able to take action, without the Assembly needing to figure out how to fill seats on a temporary basis.

Ms. Triem asked Mr. Palmer what the term is for a person who would take over a seat during an emergency.

Mr. Palmer responded that there are different levels, and a temporary vacancy would last until an emergency was declared.

Ms. Triem asked Mr. Palmer if an Assemblymember dies, what would happen with their successor.

Mr. Palmer responded that the Assemblymember's successor would temporarily step in, and would remain on the Assembly until they permanently declared the seat vacant. After which, the Assembly would appoint a replacement which could potentially be the successor or someone else.

Ms. Gladziszewski objected to the amendment, agreeing with Ms. Triem's questions and concerns.

Mr. Jones asked Ms. McEwen if there are any Assemblymembers who have currently appointed a successor, given that the ability to do so has already been written into law.

Ms. McEwen answered clarifying that there are no members who have currently appointed a successor. She mentioned that the last time this was brought up was back in 2012, at which time it was decided not to pursue as the code section needed to be revised. The matter was then postponed and not brought back up again.

Mr. Jones responded that this is existing law.

Mayor Weldon had a question for Mr. Palmer, asking if there was a time frame listed in the ordinance, and how quick the process would take.

Mr. Palmer answered that the Assembly has a lot of discretion regarding how they should fill the vacant positions.

CBJ Code 11.10.40(a) states: "Except for a vacancy in the office of Mayor, a vacancy on the Assembly shall be filled by the Assembly which shall appoint by majority vote of the remaining members a qualified resident of the election district from which the vacancy arose to be the acting Assemblymember until the next regular election and a successor is elected. The person appointed by the Assembly shall be compensated in accordance with CBJ 11.15.050(b)."

Ms. Hale supported Mr. Bryson's objection, agreeing with his statement that in an emergency situation, being able to appoint someone that was selected by that Assemblymember is important.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs thanked Mr. Jones for introducing the amendment, although stating that she was not sure how she will vote. She added that this is a very important issue.

Roll call vote on Amendment #1:

Ayes: Jones.

Nays: Bryson, Edwardson, Gladziszewski, Hale, Hughes-Skandijs, Smith, Triem, Mayor Weldon.

Motion failed. One (1) Aye, Eight (8) Nays.

Roll call vote on adopting Ordinance 2020-15:

Objection by Mr. Jones.

Ayes: Edwardson, Gladziszewski, Hale, Hughes-Skandijs, Smith, Triem, Mayor Weldon

Nays: Bryson, Jones.

Motion passed. Seven (7) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

C. Ordinance 2020-16: An Ordinance Amending the Civil Defense Code to Improve City and Borough of Juneau Procedures for Emergencies.

Chapter 03.25 was originally created in 1967. This ordinance would amend the Civil Defense Organization chapter to be consistent with current emergency management practices and to clarify out of date code sections.

This ordinance was heard at the March 13, 2020, Assembly Human Resources Committee meeting. On April 13, the Assembly postponed further consideration of this ordinance until April 20, 2020.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this ordinance.

MOTION by Mr. Edwardson for the Assembly to adopt Ordinance 2020-16, and asks for unanimous consent.

Objection by Mr. Jones.

AMENDMENT #1 by Mr. Jones for the Assembly to delete sections 03.25.070 and 03.25.080 since they are out of date during the modern warfare tactics. Light displays, warning signals and blackouts are no longer relevant as modern warfare do not need lights to find someone in the dark.

Mr. Jones explains the intent of this amendment, saying that it would provide more up-to-date language and wording.

Hearing no objections, Amendment #1 passed by unanimous consent.

AMENDMENT #2 by Mr. Jones as follows:

Amend section 03.25.130 to explicitly allow CBJ departments authority to spend CBJ funds—including entering into services and commodities contracts—for an emergency activity but only up to the amount remaining in the current fiscal year’s budget appropriated by the Assembly.

“03.25.130 Expenses of ~~civil defense~~ emergency management. *(a)* No person shall have the right to expend any public funds of the City and Borough in excess of current appropriation to carry ~~in~~ ~~carrying out any~~ emergency management ~~civil defense~~ activity authorized by this chapter without prior approval by the assembly, nor shall any person have any right to bind the City and Borough by contract, agreement or otherwise without prior assembly approval. *(b)* In the event of any disaster, and for the duration of the exigency, City and Borough contracts or purchases may be entered without regard to the procedures or formalities otherwise prescribed, when the object of the contract or purchase is to procure such services, supplies, equipment or materials as may be necessary to combat any disaster, or to protect and provide emergency assistance to victims of a disaster. ~~This section is ordained under the authority of Charter section 5-16; it is not a waiver of any other Charter requirement or of any provision in the ordinance creating the finance department and stipulating fiscal procedures.~~”

Mr. Jones explains that the original language states that no one has the right to expend public funds without prior approval of the Assembly. Mr. Jones wishes to clarify through this amendment that funds can expended as long as they are within a budget that has been approved by the Assembly. He added that he believed this is what the original language intended, and this amendment makes that more clear.

Objection by Mr. Smith to ask clarifying questions on how this would translate during the current pandemic for departments to be able to spend money already in their budget on PPEs and other things related to the pandemic. Mr. Palmer answered the questions and how the budget expenditures could be reallocated within certain parameters and gave examples of how the budget cycle affects what can be spent by staff prior to it raising to the level of Assembly approval.

Roll call vote on Amendment #2:

Ayes: Bryson, Edwardson, Gladziszewski, Hale, Hughes-Skandijs, Jones, Triem, and Mayor Weldon.

Nays: Smith.

Amendment #2 passes. Eight (8) Ayes, One (1) Nay.

AMENDMENT #3 by Mr. Jones and asked for unanimous consent to Amend 03.25.140(b) to explicitly describe that the Assembly may limit or expand the powers and duties of its boards, commissions, and committees during an emergency:

“(b) During the period when public business is being conducted at the emergency temporary location, or locations, the governing body—including its boards, commissions, committees *unless directed otherwise by the assembly*—and other officers of the City and Borough shall have and possess, and shall exercise at such location all of the executive, legislative and judicial powers and functions conferred upon such body and officers by or under the Constitution or laws of the state, and the Charter and ordinances of the City and Borough....”

Hearing no objections, Amendment #3 passed with unanimous consent.

Hearing no further objections, Ordinance 2020-16 was adopted as amended.

D. Emergency Resolution 2889: An Emergency Appropriation Resolution Appropriating \$200,000 to the Manager for an Emergency Rental Assistance Program; Funding Provided by the Affordable Housing Fund.

COVID-19 continues to change our community. To protect the public health and welfare, social distancing requirements have been implemented, including the closure of non-essential businesses and ordering people to hunker down. Many people who work in businesses that have closed are people that rent. As a result, demand on existing rental assistance programs is up and expected to rise. This resolution would provide funds to support the rental assistance program currently offered by the nonprofit Alaska Housing Development Corporation.

This topic was discussed at the Special Assembly meeting on April 2. An opportunity for public testimony was provided at the Regular Assembly meeting on April 6 after which the Assembly continued this resolution to April 13. On April 9, the Economic Stabilization Task Force recommended the Assembly postpone action on this item for a week to give the task force additional time to make an informed recommendation. On April 13, the Assembly postponed further consideration of this emergency appropriation resolution until April 20, 2020.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this resolution.

Lauren MacVay a member of the Economic Stabilization Task Force (ESTF), thanked the Assembly for allowing the ESTF a week to discuss the emergency resolution. She stated that the federal government has provided a “safety net” through stimulus funds and expanded unemployment benefits. She said that given the federal supports being offered, the ESTF

could not find the path to quantify the need, or to know how far \$200,000 could go. In an effort to create a tailored approach that gets money to those who need it, the ESTF has recommended modifications for Resolution 2889 as shown below and provided as a Red Folder item to the Assemblymembers.

[ESTF] PROPOSED AMENDMENT #1 TO RESOLUTION 2889

The Task Force recommends the Assembly pass Resolution 2889 as amended with the following changes:

1. Whereas M: "WHEREAS, providing rental assistance now can prevent ~~prevents~~ the need for additional costs and services in the future, which is in the public's interest; and"
2. Whereas N: "WHEREAS, failing to provide rental assistance could ~~would~~ result in further adverse impacts to Juneau's economy and social service network; and"
3. Section 3(c): "Applicants must provide sufficient proof of need for rental assistance considering other available financial assistance, lay-off and/or eviction notices or, lack of childcare day care, 30-day bank statements, and leasing information."
4. New section 3(e): "Intent. The administration of the rental assistance program should be guided by Exhibit A."
5. New section 3(f): "Exceptions. AHDC, after receiving direction from the Manager, has the authority to make reasonable exceptions to these conditions that conform to the purpose of this program."

Mr. Bryson asked Ms. MacVay if the AHFC provided any input as to how to best use the funds for this assistance program.

Ms. MacVay responded that the conversation with AHFC began with the committee's concern on filling the financial gaps left over between federal and state relief programs, and how to direct money in order to benefit families and households.

Mr. Bryson asked if there was any point at which the ESTF or the AHFC ever indicated that additional funds might be helpful, for example another \$100,000 in another month or two or if supplemental funds were needed, did they talk about additional funds at all.

Ms. MacVay answered that there was a general acknowledgement that there would eventually be more need, but she says that it will be hard to know how many households will be in need of benefits until the reports from the AHFC are complete.

Ms. Gladziszewski thanked Ms. MacVay and the task force for their work. She asked about why the following language was included in the letter of intent rather than the resolution.

"3. Situations in which a household receiving the rental assistance would lead to a reduction in or disqualification of an existing rental assistance.

- denying rental assistance for a rental unit owned by a government entity."

Ms. MacVay answered that they were trying to keep the more programmatic language to the letter of intent rather than suggestions to make those changes to the resolution itself.

Public Comment:

None.

MOTION by Mr. Jones for the Assembly to approve Emergency Resolution 2889 and asked for unanimous consent.

AMENDMENT #1 by Ms. Gladziszewski the amendment recommended from the Economic Stabilization Task Force, items 1-5 which included the letter of intent.

Objection by Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones spoke to his objection, saying that it puts up barriers and criteria for individuals to receive up to \$200,000 in funds vs. the \$3,000,000 that was rapidly put in place lacking those same barriers for the business assistance program. He agreed with Mr. Moser's comments that these are individuals in our community who need the assistance as much if not more than the businesses who are receiving CBJ assistance and he thinks the ESTF items 4 and 5 are imposing undue barriers.

Amendment (a) to Ms. Gladziszewski's Amendment #1 by Mr. Jones to delete Item Numbers 4 and 5 from the ESTF recommendations.

Objection by Ms. Gladziszewski. She spoke to her objection, saying that she believes that the ESTF has done good work with directing a limited amount of funds where it is needed most.

Ms. Triem agreed with everything that Mr. Jones stated and expressed appreciation for the ESTF, but added that she does not believe that the ESTF is representative of Juneau's needs or its economy and doesn't know why they are weighing in on a social services program when the Assembly wouldn't ask a social services program to weigh in on business needs. She added that the money is coming from the Affordable Housing Fund, and she says it is most appropriate way to use this fund to respond to this emergency and they should not be overly controlling and prohibiting the people who need it the most from getting those funds.

Mr. Bryson noted that the \$3,000,000 to business is a loan program and this would be a grant program. He shared that his tenants have received funds from this program before, and says that this program ensures that the appropriate amounts are given for the appropriate needs in the right amount. He said that while he agrees with Ms. Triem that we wouldn't want the ESTF to rate the capability of the program but rather to look at how it plays into the overall economic picture on how this fits with the rest of the community needs during this time and believes it is important to have the ESTF weigh in. He added that he does not believe that the criteria is overburdening, and that it is a good safeguard to have rules established when giving out money.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs expressed support for Mr. Jones' amendment and agrees with him and Ms. Triem. She agrees with Mr. Bryson and believes that the AHFC is very thorough and careful with the money that they have. She added that the Assembly should not only be concerned with the relief of businesses, but they also should be concerned with the relief of individuals.

Ms. Triem noted that AHFC is not being compensated to administer this program in the same way that JEDC and while she thinks that should be part of this resolution, she was in support of Mr. Jones' amendment and won't suggest making those changes at this time.

Mr. Edwardson mentioned that the Assembly had spent a long time deciding on a \$200,000 relief program for rental assistance, but did not take a long time to decide on a \$3 Million relief program for businesses. He added that he was in favor of approving a \$500,000 relief program that was proposed a couple of weeks ago. He is in favor of Mr. Jones' amendment, and agrees that Item Numbers 1 through 3 are good work done by the ESTF. Mr. Edwardson also said that the Assembly has given millions of dollars to businesses and organizations without asking them to go through the amount of hurdles that are being asked of individuals.

Mr. Smith said that having some scrutiny allows more money to go to more people. He supports the ESTF's recommendation.

Mayor Weldon opposed the amendment. She says that Item Number 4 gives a direction to the program, and Item Number 5 gives an exception to include other people that might otherwise not receive benefits.

Roll call vote on Amendment (a) to Amendment 1:

Ayes: Edwardson, Hughes-Skandijs, Jones, Triem

Nays: Bryson, Gladziszewski, Hale, Smith, Mayor Weldon

Motion failed. Four (4) Ayes, Five (5) Nays.

Roll call vote on Amendment #1 by Ms. Gladziszewski:

Objection by Mr. Jones.

Ayes: Bryson, Edwardson, Gladziszewski, Hale, Smith, Triem, Mayor Weldon

Nays: Hughes-Skandijs, Jones

Motion passed. Seven (7) Ayes, Two (2) Nays.

Mr. Jones objected to Resolution 2889 as amended. He spoke to his objection, stating that the Assembly has wasted a lot of time and put many conditions on individuals that were not put on businesses.

Objection by Ms. Hale. She spoke to her objection, saying that the Assembly does not fully understand the scope of this issue, and urged that they take prudence and caution moving forward. She then removed her objection.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs spoke in support of the resolution, and that she is disappointed that the Assembly was not able to make this decision faster given the funding mechanisms they have in place.

Ms. Triem spoke in support of the resolution and is also upset that this decision has taken so long, and is especially displeased by the message it sends to individuals.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution 2889 as amended:

Ayes: Bryson, Edwardson, Gladziszewski, Hale, Hughes-Skandijs, Smith, Triem, Mayor Weldon.

Nays: Jones

Motion passed. Eight (8) Ayes, One (1) Nay.

E. Resolution 2890 A Resolution Urging the Use of Cloth Face Coverings and Reminding People to Continue Protecting Public Health.

As public health officials learn more about COVID-19, we are learning that many people infected with COVID-19 do not show symptoms but can infect others. As a result, people are strongly urged to wear a cloth face covering in public settings, especially where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain like grocery stores, gas stations, and retail stores. This recommendation applies equally to customers and employees. If businesses and customers follow this recommendation, this can help the community start to open up.

The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this resolution.

MOTION by Ms. Hale for the Assembly to adopt Resolution 2890.

Objection by Ms. Hale and speaking to her objection, proposed an amendment to hold public hearing on the resolution on April 27, 2020.

Mr. Edwardson objected to Ms. Hale's proposed amendment for a number of reasons, stating the following: any virus (including COVID-19) can be spread physically; any public gathering spreads a virus; distancing and masks work at preventing the spread of a virus; and there are limited and finite resources available. He says that he does not see any reason to postpone the decision, and would rather vote on it tonight as an emergency measure.

Ms. Triem says that she is neutral on Ms. Hale's amendment, and supported the Resolution. She asks if CBJ could gather some resources and share information on how people can make their own masks.

Mr. Bryson supported the Resolution, and believed that strongly urging citizens to wear masks is the right direction for the Assembly to take. He added that if the Assembly tried to enforce people to wear masks, it could cause points of contention. He opposed the Amendment, and believes the vote should be done tonight.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs opposed the Amendment, and said passing this Resolution tonight would be important, especially considering that they work against the virus.

Ms. Hale wished to clarify that she did not intend to delay the vote in an attempt to make it mandatory, but rather would want to allow for public comment. While she agreed with the

urgency expressed by other Assemblymembers, she also wanted to take time to hear from the public.

Mr. Smith appreciated where Ms. Hale was coming from, and wished to continue to tell the community to take preventative measures.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment #1:

Ayes: Hale.

Nays: Bryson, Edwardson, Gladziszewski, Hughes-Skandijs, Jones, Smith, Triem, Mayor Weldon.

Amendment failed. One (1) Aye, Eight (8) Nays.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution 2890:

Hearing no objections, the motion is passed with Unanimous Consent.

F. Sales Tax Filing Deadline

The City Manager recommends the Assembly direct the Sales Tax Office to implement a 30-day extension for remittance of sales tax receipts for the month of March and the first quarter of 2020, but requiring that returns are filed by the standard deadline. Hence, if a March or first quarter return is filed by April 30, 2020 (the standard deadline) then penalties and interest will be waived if sales tax due is remitted in full by June 1, 2020. The Assembly may direct the Sales Tax Office to implement this extension by affirmative motion to this effect.

MOTION by Ms. Triem for the Assembly to direct the Sales Tax Office to implement a 30-day extension for remittance of sales tax receipts for the month of March and the first quarter of 2020.

Hearing no objections, the motion is passed with Unanimous Consent.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Weldon mentioned that the AML meeting with the Governor was cancelled this morning, and is instead reaching out to communities personally. Mayor Weldon will have a phone conversation with the Governor tomorrow, April 21, at 2:45 p.m. She added that he wanted to talk about when Juneau might be ready to open for business, to which she replied that Juneau was not ready to do anything immediately; and would like to have local control on anything he suggested. As far as Mayor Weldon knows, the Governor is not planning on opening up any sectors until possibly May 4th. Types of businesses that are being considered for reopening include pet groomers, barbers, hairdressers, small businesses such as insurance or real estate offices, and small non-profit organizations.

Ms. Hale expressed concern about barbers and hairdressers, particularly the lack of social distancing present in those spaces. She also wondered if the suggestions that Mayor Weldon makes to the Governor could be caveated with the fact that Juneau has the Economic

Stabilization Task Force, and will be drawing upon the experience of other states and countries' response to COVID-19.

Ms. Gladziszewski said that there is a need for better information on Public Health, onset data, etc. She also added that she would not be opposed to reopening small business offices. She also said that she would appreciate more thorough information on Juneau-specific cases, which would help determine whether or not to reopen.

Mr. Edwardson said that nothing has changed since the CBJ implemented the restrictions, which leads these to be policy decisions rather than decisions based on medicine or science. He added that the Assembly is pretending that they can somehow meter how many people will get sick and die by gradually lifting restrictions.

Mr. Smith stressed the importance of broad testing and contact tracing, and encouraged that the Governor be aware of how testing can be used as a tool during this time.

Ms. Hale responded to Mr. Edwardson's comments, saying that there has been a change, which has been twenty-six confirmed cases in Juneau. She added that case numbers are still climbing and Juneau does not know if they have reached the peak of their case count yet. Ms. Hale also mentioned the seven confirmed cases at Lemon Creek Correctional Center and said that we are not at point to open up.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs had concerns about barbers and hairdressers due to their close proximity to their clients. She also had concerns about real estate, asking if there could be some restriction, such as showing only empty and unoccupied houses. She believed that the Governor has been cautious and that Juneau is focused on testing capacities.

Mr. Jones said that he would ask the EOC to talk to Bartlett Regional Hospital and other medical staff in order to gain an understating of how the medical community feels about the Governor's potential plans. He added that if the medical community has concerns about reopening then the rest of us should also be concerned about reopening.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Assembly, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Clerk's Note: Special Thanks to Lacey Davis from the Juneau Public Libraries for her work on preparing these minutes for approval.

Signed: _____
Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk

Signed: _____
Beth A. Weldon, Mayor