

Called Council Meeting
July 1, 2020

A Called meeting of City Council was held this date in City Hall Council Chambers at 1:00 pm, following a special called work session. In attendance were Mayor Terence Roberts, Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, Council Members Thompson, Laughridge, Chapman, Newton, John Roberts, and Jeff Roberts. Councilman Harbin was not present. Also, in attendance were City Manager, David McCuen; Assistant City Manager, Andrew Strickland; Finance Director, Margot Martin; and City Attorney, Frankie McClain. The invocation was given by Council Member Béatrice Thompson and respects to the flag was given by Councilman Rick Laughridge.

A called meeting of City Council was requested following the Noon work session regarding face coverings in the City of Anderson. Councilman Harbin, while not in attendance for the Called City Council meeting, did phone in for the beginning of the work session to offer his thoughts on passing the Resolution during the council portion of the meeting.

City Manager David McCuen spoke to the council as to why this work session and meeting were called regarding face coverings. Mr. McCuen also discussed the City's public awareness campaign building off the Anderson Strong Campaign – "Anderson Strong Promise" to encourage citizens to wear face coverings.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY ORDINANCE REQUIRING INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Clarification was provided that an emergency ordinance can be passed with one reading but it is only in effect for sixty (60) days and requires 2/3 majority vote to pass. Council can come back in 60 days and vote to extend. Council also has the options of doing two readings without a deadline of 60 days.

Councilman Laughridge made a motion for the emergency ordinance requiring individuals to wear face coverings. Mayor Pro Tem Stewart, seconded the motion. Council Members Chapman, Laughridge, Thompson, and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart voted in favor of the ordinance. Councilmen Newton, Jeff Roberts, John Roberts, and Mayor Terence Roberts voted against the ordinance. The measure failed as it did not have 2/3 majority.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20-02 REQUESTING INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Clarification was provided that a resolution is not a law or requirement but a recommendation/request of City Council and only needs a majority vote to pass.

Councilman Laughridge wanted to know what the test would be used to indicate that the City needs an ordinance and that the resolution is not working.

Mayor Terence Roberts responded it would be the COVID-19 numbers provided by DHEC. City Manager McCuen defined the three metrics that would be important, (1) hospital inpatient numbers; (2) report of number of positive tests to total tests; and (3) the cumulative total 14-day period for Anderson County.

Council discussion focused on being proactive with ordinance or public education with resolution.

Councilman Jeff Roberts made a motion for the resolution requesting individuals to wear face coverings in certain circumstance, and matters related thereto. Councilman John Roberts seconded the motion. Councilman Newton asked if he could amend the motion to include staff provide City Council with empirical data regarding the public education campaign at the next City Council meeting.

Resolution 20-02 requesting individuals to wear face coverings in certain circumstance and matters related thereto passed 6-2, with Councilman Laughridge and Mayor Pro Tem Stewart voting against.

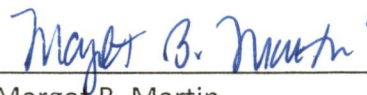
ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Councilman Newton seconded by Councilman Chapman carried unanimously (8-0) to adjourn.

ATTEST:



Terence V. Roberts
Mayor



Margot B. Martin
City Clerk Treasurer