

MINUTES - MORRO BAY CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING – MAY 14, 2020  
TELECONFERENCE – 2:00 P.M.

AGENDA NO: A-1  
MEETING DATE: June 23, 2020

*City Council conducted this meeting in accordance with Section 3 of California Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020 in response to the present State of Emergency in existence due to the threat of COVID-19. This meeting was held via teleconference for all participants.*

PRESENT:	John Headding	Mayor
	Dawn Addis	Council Member
	Robert Davis	Council Member
	Jeff Heller	Council Member
ABSENT:	Marlys McPherson	Council Member
STAFF:	Scott Collins	City Manager
	Dana Swanson	City Clerk
	Chris Neumeyer	City Attorney
	Jennifer Callaway	Finance Director/Acting Public Works Director
	Scot Graham	Community Development Director
	Jody Cox	Police Chief
	Steve Knuckles	Fire Chief
	Eric Endersby	Harbor Director

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Headding established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with all but Council Member McPherson member present.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

[https://youtu.be/FqZkiriOB\\_k?t=55](https://youtu.be/FqZkiriOB_k?t=55)

John Weiss, Morro Bay resident and business owner, expressed concern for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and appreciated the City Manager's decision to form a budget committee.

Carole Truesdale, Morro Bay, concurred with the previous speaker's comments and urged the County and City to mandate the wearing of face masks.

Erica Crawford, Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce, provided an overview of survey results submitted as agenda correspondence and encouraged the Council to empower staff to move forward with adaptations to support businesses post-COVID-19.

Melanie Williams-Mahan, Morro Bay, expressed concern the COVID-19 pandemic was not over and urged the City to slow the reopening process.

Penny, Morro Bay business owner, has been offering curbside pick-up and expressed concern it may be too early to reopen businesses.

Meredith Bates, Morro Bay, agreed with the Chamber's recommendation not to close the Embarcadero to vehicle traffic but disagreed with their recommendation to open the Rock parking lot. She also suggested imposing fines on those who do not observe social distancing guidelines.

Steven Peck, Morro Bay business owner, shared the County and State have issued guidelines for business reopening at the appropriate time and encouraged the City to be ready to provide outdoor dining opportunities.

Dan Sedley, Morro Bay, expressed concern for those who had been harmed financially by COVID-19 and urged the City to begin planning for a stepped and thoughtful reopening. He discouraged closing of roads and requiring masks.

Jeff Eckles, Morro Bay business owner, supported opening the Rock parking lot and increasing trash receptacles, particularly along the waterfront. He suggested not being overly restrictive with regard to masks and allow business owners to impose that restriction, if desired.

John, Morro Bay, asked the Council to consider a mandate requiring face masks in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained.

The public comment period was closed.

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA ITEM:

- I. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE ACTIONS TO MITIGATE COMMUNITY IMPACTS RELATED TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC; (CITY MANAGER)  
[https://youtu.be/FqZkiriOB\\_k?t=1721](https://youtu.be/FqZkiriOB_k?t=1721)

City Manager Collins provided the report and responded to Council inquiries.

Council Member Addis left the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Following individual comments, there was consensus on the following:

- Staff to continue messaging through social media Morro Bay is not open for business
- Provide signage and informational handouts reminding residents and visitors about the importance of social distancing and good sanitary practices as recommended by the Department of Health.
- Support for opening of the Rock parking lot and placement of additional trash enclosures as recommended by staff.
- Request staff to return with proposals for re-routing traffic in the north Embarcadero parking lot from the Coast Guard building to Morro Bay Landing and between Harbor and Pacific Streets.
- There was not majority support to bring forward a mask ordinance at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Recorded by:

Dana Swanson  
City Clerk