



# City of Aumsville



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## **AUMSVILLE CITY COUNCIL EMERGENCY MEETING**

### **TO DECLARE A STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS**

Minutes – March 17, 2020

Mayor Pro-tem Seney called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM in the Chester Bridges Memorial Community Center, 555 Main Street, Aumsville, Oregon. Council present was: Council President Della Seney and Councilors Gus Bedwell, Nico Casarez, Angelica Ceja, and Larry Purdy. Councilor Jim Case was present via phone. Council absent was: Mayor Derek Clevenger. City Administrator Ron Harding (CA Harding), Police Chief Richard Schmitz, and City Clerk Colleen Rogers (CC Rogers) were also present.

**VISITORS:** There was one visitor in the audience, and no one asked to speak during the public comment period.

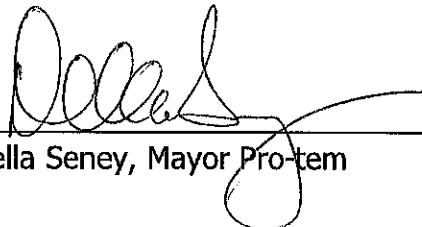
**NEW BUSINESS:** Council reviewed Resolution No. 4-20 A RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AUTHORITY TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO ADDRESS THE EMERGENCY. CA Harding gave Council an overview of the purpose of this resolution. He explained that the State is looking at the COVID-19 virus as a health emergency and is not being considered as an Emergency Management issue. This limits how, at the local level, we can respond to the needs of our citizens. The city attorney advises Council to pass a resolution giving the City Administrator authority to make decisions regarding this situation. This resolution will allow him to make changes to work schedules, office hours, closure of facilities, how we interact with the community, etc. CA Harding stated that he has been corresponding with Oregon Health Authority and Marion County emergency management staff and will be monitoring the situation closely. He stated that his goal is continuity of government. Public works staff will continue to check operations for utilities, and law enforcement still needs to be maintained. CA Harding wanted Council to know we are making decisions that are best for our community. He will keep Council and residents apprised of any changes to how we are operating. Council asked if they could do anything to help and CA Harding suggested that Council write letters to the State and County leaders.

CA Harding added that the city attorney also stated that we should have an ordinance

addressing emergency situations. We have an Emergency Management Plan, but not an actual ordinance. He suggested that we include this ordinance in our upcoming code update.

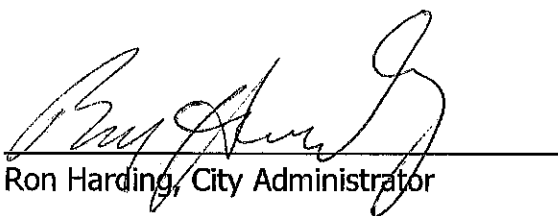
Councilor Bedwell moved to approve Resolution No. 4-20 A RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AUTHORITY TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ADDRESS THE EMERGENCY. Councilor Casarez seconded. Motion APPROVED 6-0: (Yes: Bedwell, Casarez, Case, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 PM without prejudice.



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Della Seney, Mayor Pro-tem



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Ron Harding, City Administrator