

ORDINANCE NO. 1632

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BONNEY LAKE, PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, DECLARING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AN EMERGENCY AND AMENDING BONNEY LAKE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.04.100, AND THE CORRESPONDING PORTIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 1474, TO ESTABLISH RULES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE EVENT OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Washington Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming the existence of a state of emergency in all Washington counties due to the outbreak of COVID-19, a novel coronavirus disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which can result in serious illness or death; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier issued a Proclamation of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that COVID-19 disease is a global pandemic, which is particularly severe in high risk populations such as people with underlying medical conditions and the elderly, and the WHO has raised the health emergency to the highest level requiring dramatic interventions to disrupt the spread of this disease; and

WHEREAS, current information provided by the CDC and local public health authorities demonstrates that COVID-19 continues to spread, with continued increases in confirmed cases within Pierce County; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr., signed a Proclamation of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of Washington issued an emergency order requiring all K-12 schools in Washington to be closed from March 17, 2020 through April 24, 2020, to combat the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency to allow the government to marshal additional resources to combat the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Governor of Washington issued an emergency order prohibiting gatherings of 50 or more people; prohibiting smaller gatherings if specific social distancing and other measures are not in place and enforced by a designated individual; and closing all restaurants, taverns and similar places of accommodation to on-premises food and beverage service; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, the federal government issued guidelines recommending that Americans avoid gatherings of more than 10 people on a temporary basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Bonney Lake ordains as follows:

Section 1. The COVID-19 crisis constitutes an emergency within the City of Bonney Lake, which justifies amending the City Council rules, found in Chap. 2.04 of the Bonney Lake Municipal Code, on an emergency basis.

Section 2. Section 2.04.100 of the Bonney Lake Municipal Code, and the corresponding portions of Ordinance No. 1474, are amended as follows:

2.04.100 Emergency eCouncil meetings in the event of a disaster or emergency.

A. Special emergency meetings may be called by the mayor or a majority of the council in less than 24 hours, and without the notice required in BLMC 2.04.090, to deal with emergencies involving injury or damage to persons or property or the likelihood of such injury or damage if the notice requirements would be impractical or increase the likelihood of such injury or damage as provided in RCW 42.30.080.

B. If local, state, or federal authorities proclaim a disaster or emergency, including but not limited to an epidemic or pandemic, that interferes with the safe and normal conduct of council meetings, the Mayor or designee, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor, shall have the authority to take any or all of the following actions:

1. Remove non-essential items from council agendas, or postpone such items for consideration at a later date.
2. Place emergency items on the council agenda without providing the required or customary notice.
3. Arrange the council chamber to allow for safe conduct of council meetings and change meeting locations to allow for same.
4. Arrange for councilmembers to participate in meetings via telephone or web-based video conferencing, and for council meetings to be broadcast or live-streamed for simultaneous public viewing. If warranted by the disaster or emergency, any number of councilmembers may participate remotely, even when remote participation is not necessary to establish a quorum. If required by the Open Public Meetings Act, the Mayor or designee shall establish a location on City property for the public and media to watch or listen live to remote council meetings.
5. Cancel or limit Citizen Comments at meetings and encourage comments to be emailed, posted, or sent live to a designated address.

6. Cancel regular or special meetings on less than 24 hours' notice.

7. Direct the City Clerk to make agendas available to the public only on-line and not in paper copy.

C. Actions taken under subsection B of this Section shall be deemed to automatically suspend and supersede any provisions of Chap. 2.04 BLMC that are to the contrary.

Section 3. Effective date. This public emergency ordinance, being necessary for immediate preservation of public peace, health, and safety and for the support of city government and its existing public institutions, shall become effective immediately upon adoption as provided for in RCW 35A.12.130 and RCW 35A.11.090.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this 24 day of March, 2020.



Neil Johnson, Jr., Mayor

AUTHENTICATED:



Harwood T. Edvalson, City Clerk

City of Bonney Lake, Washington
City Council Agenda Bill (AB)

Department/Staff Contact: Executive/Vodopich	Meeting/Workshop Date: 24 March 2020	Agenda Bill Number: AB20-44
Agenda Item Type: Ordinance	Ordinance/Resolution Number: 1632	Sponsor: --

Agenda Subject: Council Meetings in the Event of Emergency.

Full Title/Motion: Ordinance 1632: An Ordinance Of The City Of Bonney Lake, Pierce County, Washington Declaring the COVID-19 Pandemic an Emergency and Amending Bonney Lake Municipal Code Section 2.04.100, and the Corresponding Portions of Ordinance No. 1474, to Establish Rules for Council Meetings in the Event of Emergency.

Administrative Recommendation: Adopt

Background Summary: The President of the United States, the Governor of the State of Washington, the County Executive of Pierce County and the Mayor City of Bonney Lake have declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. One of the effective deterrents for spreading the virus is social distancing of at least 6 ft. It is difficult to continue with public meetings in this emergency setting, and it is easy to imagine future emergency settings where maintaining the level of public participation in public meetings called for in the Bonney Lake Municipal Code may be very difficult or even untenable. It is proposed that the Council determine that an emergency exists for the City of Bonney Lake and amends their Council Rules (Municipal Code) to facilitate the expeditious handling of City business in Council meetings while giving the greatest protections to the public, elected and employees of the City.
Attachments: Proposed Ordinance 1632.

BUDGET INFORMATION

Budget Amount	Current Balance	Required Expenditure	Budget Balance	Fund Source
				<input type="checkbox"/> General
				<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities
				<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Budget Explanation: There is no anticipated impact to the City's budget.

COMMITTEE, BOARD & COMMISSION REVIEW

Council Committee Review:	None.	<i>Approvals:</i>	Yes	No
	Date:	Chair/Councilmember	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Forward to:	Consent Agenda: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Commission/Board Review:	None.			
Hearing Examiner Review:	None.			

COUNCIL ACTION

Workshop Date(s):	Public Hearing Date(s):
Meeting Date(s): 03/24/2020	Tabled to Date:

APPROVALS

Director: JPV	Mayor: NJ	Date Reviewed by City Attorney: 03/18/2020 (if applicable)
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