

# City of Brookings

## CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers, 898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415  
Monday, April 6, 2020

### Call to Order

Mayor Pieper called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM

### Roll Call

Council Present: Mayor Jake Pieper, Councilors Bill Hamilton, by Conference phone, Brent Hodges, John McKinney, and Ron Hedenskog; a quorum present

Staff present: City Manager Janell Howard, Public Works and Development Services Director Anthony Baron, Deputy Recorder Amber Nalls and Visitor Center, Averi Carroll, Councilor Brad Alcorn joined the meeting after being sworn in.

Media Present: Brian Williams from Curry Pilot present

Others Present: Approximately 1 audience members

### Oral Requests and Communications from the Audience

1. Cora Rose – PO Box 490, Brookings, OR addressed Council regarding Homeless Temporary Housing. This request was emailed in by Cora Rose who was not present at the Council Meeting. Cora Rose is in support of the proposed adoption of Homeless Temporary Housing and Temporary Emergency Rule 2020 -1. Public comment was not read out loud at the Council Meeting. Public Comment is attached.
2. Beth Barker-Hidalgo – PO Box 349, Gold Beach, OR addressed Council regarding Homeless Temporary Housing. This request was emailed by Beth Barker-Hidalgo who was not present at the Council Meeting. Beth Barker-Hidalgo is in support of the proposed adoption of Homeless Temporary Housing and Temporary Emergency Rule 2020-1. Public comment was not read out loud at the Council Meeting. Public Comment is attached.

### Staff Reports

**1.** Declare Council Seat Vacant and Determine Method of Selection  
Janell Howard presented the staff report.

**Councilor Hedenskog moved, Councilor McKinney seconded and Council voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Councilor Bill Hamilton and declare Council Position 1 vacant.**

Mayor Pieper expressed the need to have five council members in place due to the current state of emergency. Council Discussed. Mayor Pieper suggested the appointment of resident Brad Alcorn to fill vacant position 1, term to expire January 11, 2021.

**Councilor Hedenskog moved, Councilor McKinney seconded and Council voted unanimously to appoint Brad Alcorn to Council Position 1.**

Bran Alcorn took seat 1 on the Dias and participated in the council meeting.

**Councilor Hedenskog moved, Councilor McKinney seconded and Council voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Parks and Rec Commissioner Brad Alcorn from the Parks and Rec Commission**

**2. Homeless Temporary Housing**  
Janell Howard presented the staff report.

**Councilor Hedenskog moved, Mayor Pieper seconded and Council voted unanimously to adopt Temporary Rule 2020-1 allowing provisions included in ORS 203.082 Camping by Homeless on property of religious institution, limited to the period we are under the Governors "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order for COVID-19, and only to those who have been residents over six months. Institutions must notify the City Manager**

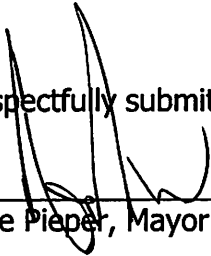
**3. Financing of Smart Water Meters**  
Janell Howard presented the staff report.

**Councilor Hodges moved, Councilor McKinney seconded and Council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 20-R-1177, authorizing the financing of smart water meters.**

**Adjournment**

Councilor Hedenskog moved, Councilor Hodges seconded and Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 4:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Jake Pieper, Mayor

ATTESTED:  
this 13th day of April, 2020:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Janell K. Howard, City Recorder



# PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Please turn in this form completed prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will be limited to five (5) minutes and restricted to the topics indicated below. All remarks and questions must be addressed to the presiding officer only. Comments must be respectful, harsh and/or abusive language will not be permitted.

*I would like to comment on:* Special Meeting April 6, 2020

Agenda Item #: E2  in support of  in opposition to  as an interested party

Item Title: Homeless Temporary Housing

An Item NOT on the Agenda (Under "Oral Requests" - briefly describe subject):

Name: Cora Rose

Address: PO Box 490 Brookings Phone: 541-247-1524

Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_



# PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Please turn in this form completed prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will be limited to five (5) minutes and restricted to the topics indicated below. All remarks and questions must be addressed to the presiding officer only. Comments must be respectful, harsh and/or abusive language will not be permitted.

*I would like to comment on:*

Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_  in support of  in opposition to  as an interested party

Item Title: \_\_\_\_\_

An Item NOT on the Agenda (Under "Oral Requests" - briefly describe subject):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Public Comment  
Brookings City Council Special Meeting  
April 6, 2020  
Re: Amended Agenda #E2

Good afternoon, my name is Cora Rose, and I am a resident of Brookings who grew up here and graduated from Brookings schools. I am a seminary student and participate in a local faith community. Thank you for the opportunity to make comment by writing so that our household can continue physical distancing to protect our elders and healthcare workers, and to help Oregon flatten the COVID-19 curve.

I encourage an **affirmative vote** on Agenda Item E2, to incorporate ORS 203.082 into Brookings' code. I support the proposal for three reasons, and make suggestions for technical clarification:

First, I applaud the proposal for **creating common-sense parameters for religious institutions to make use of their property for the community good** and for the good of our neighbors who — whether from fire, abuse, job loss, or other misfortune — have lost everything except their vehicle. Other towns in Oregon have already adopted three-car programs at churches, synagogues, and religious institutions and are ready to share their program materials with us.

Second, I support the proposal for **freeing up our local law enforcement resources** from needing to enforce a no-overnight-parking ban where there is a legitimate program in place for up to three vehicles. This will free up law enforcement resources for true public safety needs. Additionally, it must take a psychological toll on our officers to have to tell people trying to sleep to “move along” with no alternative location to suggest that they move *to*. This would create an emergency program where the person could register to have an overnight space.

Third, I support the proposal for **promoting the public health**. We know that a good night's sleep is important to immunity. Creating a way for people to sleep, unhassled, in their vehicles overnight with a access to sanitation facilities mean that our essential-but-low-wage workers, veterans, and people with disabilities who reside in their vehicles will have greater chances of good health during this pandemic.

1. I suggest that the **Brookings ordinance track the statutory language in ORS 203.082: “property of religious institutions”**, to make clear that *all* religious institutions, not just Christian churches, are equally authorized to participate in the exception.

2. I suggest that the **Brookings ordinance specific that a “resident” is a person who resided within Curry County during the statewide pandemic emergency order that dramatically reduced travel and job opportunity, or who has resided within Curry County for six months.**

**3. I also encourage the Council to resolve to identify local government-owned property that can be used in such a manner; so that empty school parking lots or public lots unused at night could become a safe place for, as an example, households with children in need of shelter to have a bedtime routine of a safe place to park and be able to get a full night's sleep.**

Finally, I confirmed with St. Timothy's Episcopal Church that they have a team ready to design their program to pitch in during this unforeseen pandemic crisis following the model of other churches throughout the state. **I encourage other local faith communities to step forward to serve with their empty overnight parking lots and I am willing to share examples of materials that other faith communities in the state have used in putting together their overnight program.**

Thank you.

**Janell Howard**

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**From:** Jake Pieper <jpieper@brookings.or.us> on behalf of Jake Pieper  
**Sent:** Monday, April 6, 2020 9:23 AM  
**To:** Janell Howard  
**Subject:** Fwd: Online Form Submittal: Contact Mayor or City Council

Jake Pieper  
Mayor  
City of Brookings  
541-469-1104

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Date:** April 6, 2020 at 6:49:53 AM PDT  
**To:** jpieper@brookings.or.us  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Contact Mayor or City Council

**Contact Mayor or City Council**

<b>First Name</b>	Beth
<b>Last Name</b>	Barker-Hidalgo
<b>Email Address</b>	curryhomelesscoalition@gmail.com
<b>Phone Numbers</b>	541-425-0426
<b>Address</b>	PO Box 349
<b>City</b>	Gold Beach
<b>State</b>	OR
<b>Zip</b>	97444
<b>Council Member You Wish to Contact</b>	Mayor Jake Pieper
<b>Message</b>	Hello Mayor Pieper;  I trust this email finds you healthy. It's times like these we learn who our leaders are. It's difficult enough to lead during "blue sky days", but true leaders emerge during more difficult times

and you have taken measures like putting yourself out there for the public to both listen to and criticize like no other elected official in Curry County with your nightly live Facebook videos.

I'm writing to you as both a citizen of Curry County and the Director of the Curry Homeless Coalition. When I contacted you regarding placement of porta pots, you spared no time responding with an emphatic yes! I/we are impressed with your ability to recognize that we can all mitigate spread of COVID-19 by providing access to sanitation and hygiene for our community members, housed or otherwise, is a prudent, humane action to take for the greater good.

I would like to attend tonight's Council meeting however given the most recent COVID-19 updates for OR and Curry County, I have chosen to email you instead. I would like a statement read into the record at tonight's meeting. Here goes:

The Curry Homeless Coalition would like to show our gratitude to Mayor Pieper, City Council members and staff for taking immediate action to address the needs of our whole community. Not only have you shown support and implemented measures to provide access to services during these unprecedented times, you've done so with swift, decisive action. We would also like to recognize agenda items E (2) a & b, and show our support for these proposed action items.

Allowing locations wherein homeless people can gather, at least overnight, without fear of citation or negative law enforcement contact provides for greater opportunities to screen community members, lessens stress which is helpful to maintain a healthy immune system, and most importantly demonstrates the City's humanity during most difficult times.

We thank you for stepping up, demonstrating your leadership skills during this time, taking every citizen's best interest under consideration, and leading your community through this public health emergency.

We will get through this together.

Thank you,  
Beth Barker-Hidalgo, Director  
The Curry Homeless Coalition  
PO Box 349  
Gold Beach, OR 97444  
541-425-0426