

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF BRAZORIA

CITY OF LAKE JACKSON

BE IT KNOWN that the City Council of the City of Lake Jackson met on Monday, June 30, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in Special Session at 25 Oak Drive, Lake Jackson, Texas, in the Council Chambers at the Lake Jackson City Hall with the following in attendance:

Bob Sipple, Mayor
Jon J.B. Baker, Council member
Matt Broaddus, Council member
Gerald Roznovsky, Council member
Buster Buell, Council member
Vinay Singhania, Council member

William P. Yenne, City Manager
Modesto Mundo, Asst. City Manager
Alice A. Rodgers, City Secretary
Sherri Russell, City Attorney
Meagan Borth, Asst. to City Manager

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RATIFYING THE MAYOR'S ORDER THAT BEGAN ON JUNE 29, 2020 REQUIRING COMMERCIAL ENTITIES PROVIDING GOODS OR SERVICES DIRECTLY TO THE PUBLIC MANDATE THE WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS IN THEIR FACILITIES

Mayor Sipple explained that this item was not necessary for the agenda. Under Section 418.108 of the Government Code this order cannot be overruled.

Leo Novak 209 Arrowwood said what he had seen is a rush to judgement by entities based on information that is not correct. He mentioned different studies and also misinformation that was circulating. He did not feel mask were the only way we can protect ourselves. Best practice for wearing a mask is to use an N95 or surgical mask.

Leslie Leondas 110 Parking Place she has small businesses downtown. She said she had an elderly person have a panic attack today because they had to wear a mask. She has 7 employees in 2 buildings and has to follow the same procedures as a business as an HEB. She was not pleased with the order.

Mr. Yenne stated that social distancing is fine for her business. If her employees can social distance and do the same with the customers that is all that is needed.

Sherri Russell stated that there are exceptions for wearing masks for those who have health conditions.

Tray Shaddock 224 Forest Drive said he is not a fan of the order. His mother went to get toilet paper and is not a fan of having to wear a mask, so she went to Richwood. She put on the mask and goes into the Dollar General store, in less than 30 minutes she starts hyperventilating. She has to sit down and then get help from an employee. That is just one person. How many more are going to be in this situation. Is this how we are going to live? Is this going on forever? Why are we here if this does not need to be ratified. He finds this disgracing, people are touching

their face and moving their masks around. This doesn't help. He stated that the city cannot fine him for not wearing a mask, so they are going to fine the businesses and make them enforcers.

Brian Cantrell 509 Southern Oaks said he was against the mask mandate for a number of reasons. He wants people to be aware of the dangers of wearing a mask. Oxygen levels decrease severely when wearing a mask. The ADA and HIPPA have an exemption for those who can't wear a mask. He asked how deaf people were going to read lips.

Mandy Mendo 102 Acacia stated the post from the city manager stated there would be more clarification coming and she has not seen that. She did not approve of having to wearing a mask. She did not like having to wear the mask everyday for an 8, 9 or 10 hour shift and then not being able to go to a store without having to wear one. She did not feel she should be forced as someone who has problems breathing. She should not have to explain why she cannot wear a mask. Texas has a 98% survival rate, so why is this necessary. She should not be punished for not being able to breathe. She asked why everyone is being forced when the death rate is at 1.5%.

Gerald Roznovsky stated one of his roles was industrial safety, one of the things you want to create is an environment that people do not have to wear PPE's. This is new territory to all of us. We are all trying to do what is best for everyone.

John Smith 106 Honeysuckle, said he does not agree with the mask. He is a retail vendor and travels to several cities in the county. He does not wear a mask. Some of the businesses require him to wear a mask. He does not know anybody who has gotten the virus. He said he has heard that if you had the sars virus you will test positive for Covid-19 even if you do not have COVID-19.

David Stafford state he is an engineer and works with function. He did not understand the function of the masks.

Ron Parker 124 Papaya said he does not agree with the masks, he felt it violated his constitutional rights. It is troubling to him that leaders of his community were taking this approach. He felt the council was doing the best they could in a crazy situation. The CDC's best estimate was if they could test everybody the survival rate would be 99 %.

Billy Bob Coburn 522 Oak Drive said he is very disappointed. He cares about his family and his community. He is struggling today in his office that he is now the police for the city's mandate. So that he does not receive a \$1000 fine he has to tell everyone that walks into his clinic they have to wear a mask. It is not fair that he has to be the police and the one speaking for the city or be fined. The patient is now ticked off at him for something the city is making him do in defending the city's mandate.

Mr. Yenne stated that things were going fine until the spike hit. The governor was shutting down bars and other businesses. We had to do something because we don't want contractors to lose their jobs or businesses to lose their business or have to shut down. A piece of cloth seems like a fair trade off to keep people from losing their businesses and their jobs.

Billy Bob Coburn said but you are fining him if his patients don't wear the masks.

Mr. Yenne stated the numbers are up ...

Mr. Coburn said he doesn't want to argue numbers. He just does not want to be the city's police. Penalizing the businesses is not right.

Jon Baker asked if there was a way to issue warnings first and then fines.

Mark Lange 59 Mahogany Court said tonight council has touched their mask 20 times. That defeats the purpose of wearing the mask. He did not agree with wearing of masks.

Jason Knight lives in Jones Creek and has a business in Brazoria County. He is in good health but feels this is bogus. The problem he has is the government telling him how to live his life.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – UNDER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.074(A)
PERSONNEL MATTERS – TO DELIBERATE AND SET COMPENSATION FOR THE
POSITION OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED CITY MANAGER

Mayor Sipple convened the meeting to executive session at 7:48 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Sipple reconvened the meeting to open session at 8:30

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER SETTING COMPENSATION OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED
CITY MANAGER

Mayor Sipple stated the city attorney will review the employment agreement and the salary will be voted on July 6.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

These minutes read and approved this _____ day of _____ 2020.

Bob Sipple, Mayor

Alice A. Rodgers, City Secretary