



**MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
GLADSTONE, MISSOURI
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020**

PRESENT: Mayor Carol Suter
Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore
Councilman Bill Garnos
Councilman R.D. Mallams
Councilman Kyle Yarber

ALL COUNCILMEMBERS ATTENDED VIA ZOOM

City Manager Scott Wingerson
Assistant City Manager Bob Baer
City Clerk Ruth Bocchino
Attorney Chris Williams-via Zoom

Item No. 1. On the Agenda. Meeting Called to Order.

Mayor Suter opened the Regular City Council Meeting Monday, March 23, 2020, at 7:30 pm.

Item No. 2. On the Agenda. ROLL CALL.

All Councilmembers were present via Zoom. The City Manager, Scott Wingerson, the Assistant City Manager, Bob Baer, and the City Clerk, Ruth Bocchino, were present in the City Council Chambers, 7010 North Holmes, Gladstone, Missouri.

Item No. 3. On the Agenda. Approval of the March 9, 2020, Closed City Council Meeting Minutes.

Councilman Mallams moved to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2020, Closed City Council meeting as presented. **Mayor Pro Tem Moore** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman Kyle Yarber, Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilman Bill Garnos, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

Item No. 4. On the Agenda. Approval of the March 9, 2020, Regular City Council Meeting Minutes.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore moved to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2020, Regular City Council meeting as presented. **Councilman Mallams** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman

Kyle Yarber, Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilman Bill Garnos, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

REGULAR AGENDA.

Item No. 5. On the Agenda. Communications from the City Council.

Councilman Yarber stated: *"Yes, I've been talking with some of our local businesses to see how they are doing. I stopped in at Bubbles and they are going to be open. I wasn't sure if they were considered essential; apparently in times of crisis alcohol is essential. They are also doing their best to hire extra people. They are hiring bartenders from other bars that have been closed in Gladstone. They had a new employee working today who worked at the Hard Core Café on 72nd Street, the motorcycle one. I stopped in at Giovanni's and they were hopping and they are also looking for extra help, too. It's good to see that not every place is closed down and that they are doing what they can to take on extra people in this time when so many people are just flat unable to do anything. Kind of like us at the theater."*

Mayor Suter stated: *"Of course tomorrow new restrictions start so it will be different starting tomorrow."*

Councilman Garnos stated: *"The only thing I had is I wanted to note the passing of Beth Saluzzi. I'm very sad to hear about that in the FYIN. She was with our Finance Department for 26 years and I know she was always the person behind the scenes that got all the work done on the budget and finance stuff that we all take a lot of pride in and credit with. I always, right or wrong, gave her most of the credit for keeping all of that in line year after year and doing it very quietly and behind the scenes from City Council and I always appreciated the work that she did and I just wanted you to know that. That's all I have, thank you."*

Councilman Mallams stated: *"Thank you, Mayor. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our Mayor, Mayor Suter, and our City Manager. You both have been working tirelessly. A thank you is extended to the Leadership Team and also every member of our city staff as they work together and will continue to work together to meet the needs of our residents, our families, our businesses within Gladstone; and working together, with rational, well thought out decisions, we will successfully meet the upcoming challenges created by the virus. Thank you, Mayor."*

Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated: *"I would like to echo the comments of Councilman Mallams about all the efforts that the city staff has done so diligently and also you, the Mayor. I also want to give a special shout out to our Public Safety and Fire EMS who are on the front lines of this. When the rest of us are inside or doing what we need to do, they are out there in the front lines. I just wanted to say a big thanks to them and just echo everybody's sentiments for them to stay very safe."*

Mayor Suter stated: *"So noted. My sentiments along that same line. I've tried to communicate to staff going forward, especially beginning this week; as we've gone to a whole new kind of schedule and organization which Scott will tell us a little bit more about. This is the beginning of a really different reality for our city staff. It's hard to believe when I look back at the calendar*

for the last two weeks that it was like a whole different world two weeks ago, it feels like. I want to thank Mayor Pro Tem Moore for filling in for the Northland Regional Leadership Course. They had two different sessions; one for youth and one for their adult leadership and had Mayors attend all of them. I did one and thank you, Jean, for doing the other one."

Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated: "Actually, Carol, they cancelled it."

Mayor Suter stated: "Oh, did they? We had the volunteer recognition lunch for the Atkins-Johnson Friends of the Farm folks and they were all there. That was a really busy day at Stroud's, because that was the beginning of social distancing and yet people were comfortable, I guess, to go. It turned out to be a nice lunch and I'm glad we were able to pull that off. It had to be rescheduled because it was cancelled because of bad weather earlier this year. They were pleased that we were able to continue to do that. The City Manager and I had lunch with the Chancellor of the Metropolitan Community College, Dr. Beatty, and the President of Maple Woods, Dr. Lee, which was a really fun and interesting conversation. They are working to implement a Culture Institute, each of their campuses are going to have a different focus and that is what they have chosen for Maple Woods. This is because they have a veterinarian certificate program there already and so they are planning to expand it to a full Ag curriculum. We had some really good conversation about opportunities with the Atkins-Johnson Farm property at the city and that will continue. Over the weekend I had a phone conversation and also a meeting with all the Clay County Mayors. We met with the Public Health Director. While people are wondering about the Public Health Director making decisions, he hasn't been doing it in a vacuum; he has been meeting with the elected officials before decisions have been made. This one, of course, is a big one to decide to go to safe at home. Mayor Lucas has been hosting regional conversations, again all these are phone conversations, to check in with each other and be able to talk; as someone said today, 'unfiltered', with each other so we can clear the air on things and be more effective on our planning. Out of these meetings a couple of things have emerged: One is what I've been hearing a lot from folks online and hearing some others is that because the Public Health people have been taking the lead on this pandemic, a lot of people feel like they should be hearing more from the elected leaders and they have not been hearing much from the elected leaders. Scott and I talked about it today and we will be doing a story or a release for the Dispatch this week and so we will try to make that one where some of us will be quoted in so far that people hear from us, the elected officials. It seems to make people feel more confident when they hear from their elected officials. It's hard for people to understand why Public Health Directors are the ones who are making the decisions. I keep trying to inform people about how agreements came together and how the law works for Public Health. That is one of the issues. The other big issue that really hasn't come up, and we all felt the same way, is that, as someone said today during the conversation, we all look like chickens running around with our heads cut off because communication is so splintered and everybody is doing their thing separately and at different times. That is not going over well and it is not being helpful because it just seems to be confusing the population everywhere. When things like the Core 4; Wyandotte, Johnson, Jackson and Kansas City make announcements about things without having talked with anybody else or include anybody else, that was not helpful. If we all had to scramble to figure out what we were doing, the media still hasn't caught up and still is just copying their press release when Platte, Clay County, Cass County, and Leavenworth County, have all also approved the same thing. We are really scrambling to try to get word out so that people know

who all is included in this thing and trying to make sure that everybody's proclamations are the same. Again, it is not helpful to have a different list of what is allowed or what isn't allowed from one side of the street to the other. We have had a lot of good conversations about that today and we are committed to try to figure out helping better going forward so that we can all be on the same page and speak as one voice for the region and make sure our timetables are good. Kansas City announced theirs on Saturday. We didn't announce ours until Sunday because we didn't know they were going to do theirs on Saturday. Our businesses have one day less time to prepare for tomorrow. Their businesses had two days; our businesses have one. We are trying to make sure that doesn't happen again. It will take a lot of work on everybody's part to make sure that happens. There are a lot of players that have to be coordinated. As of today, the Mayors of the region are committed to it. Lastly, I'm going to be doing an interview tomorrow morning on KCUR at 9:00 am. They are doing a series with Mayors about what all we are doing and how things are going. Scott was keeping me updated to anything that happens here at the last minute. We will have an opportunity again to hopefully get the story out and help people to understand a little bit better who does what to whom and why. That is for tomorrow. That is what I have."

Item No. 6. On the Agenda. Communications from the City Manager.

City Manager Scott Wingerson stated: *"Mayor and members of the City Council, thank you very much and congratulations on being part of the first ever video hosted City Council meeting in the history of Gladstone. I wish it was under different circumstances for sure. I thought I'd start with a little bit of an operational update. It's based primarily on the email that I sent last night about staffing and operational challenges and our response to those types of things that we are anticipating. I'll talk a little bit about the Resolution that is pending on your agenda tonight. To put us all in the right frame of mind, there are now three confirmed cases of COVID 19 in Clay County. We think that number is going to do nothing but grow and probably on an exponential basis and when you realize that testing hasn't been being done for the first week or so of this process. You can imagine the numbers even larger than those that are officially reported. Starting with Friday, March 13, we declared a State of Emergency in the City of Gladstone and activated the Emergency Operations Plan and established an Emergency Operations Center. On Sunday, March 15, the first EOC meeting was held with limited key personnel; primarily Department Directors. On March 16, the first full EOC meeting was held and that is comprised of the Leadership Team and Emergency Management personnel. That group has met in person or through this technology every day since March 16. I want to assure the City Council that decisions being made are difficult to list comprehensively. There are a lot of details up in the air and a lot of details being coordinated. All of those decisions find guidance in the Emergency Operations Plan and focus on what is our core mission of serving our community and protecting our most valuable resource, and that is our people. I'd like to pause for a second. Director Hasty is a big, big part of this response as 50% of the organization is on the front lines as Mayor Pro Tem Moore mentioned; I'd like to pause and allow Mike to talk about shift adjustments that they have implemented today in the Public Safety Department. Mike, if you could also talk a little bit about PPE's and access to those as well in your remarks, that would be great."*

Director Hasty stated: *"Sure, Thank you, Scott. Well, we first started with a comprehensive assessment of where we were with personnel and our resources so we could develop a strategy to create some sort of a sustainable response posture to serve the citizens into the future and work*

with our partners in the region. We started out by just cancelling or restricting all of our vacation and holiday time that had been scheduled. I haven't had any push back from personnel on that. They are very understanding of that. We've also implemented some work restrictions on off duty work which is something that you had mentioned earlier from the Mayor at Pleasant Valley. I don't suspect that this is going to be something that is going to impact them too severely. We wanted to limit the opportunity for exposure in a variety of ways you can contract the COVID 19 virus but also then still remain responsive in the Public Safety Department and in our community to make people feel safe. We have come up with an idea of how to assign our personnel as ready reserves. What that means is, we developed a built-in time to these schedules to where they will actually stand down or they can go home and be on some time where they are actually committed to us to where they would respond immediately, use some situational awareness but would not be out in the field contacting people or one another so we could kind of limit some of that exposure so we can actually spread our work force out for the extended period of time that you expect to be in this posture. So if the need arises, we would be immediately available to respond from home and they will be able to actually get some work done from their home too so that we can implement ways for them to access reports, access training, do these things that they could do and be productive from home but yet not be out in the risk of exposure. We focus a lot on personnel and scheduling. I'll start out first with what we did with the 911 Call Center in Public Safety Dispatch which is probably one of the more challenging areas in the department and in the conversations I've had with the Chief from Kansas City, and other Chiefs in the Northland, we are all in the same line that is where our biggest challenge in the region exists right now so we need the appropriate ability to enter that 911 call when it comes in and so we are committed to keep an eye on that. So we actually built in a new schedule for them that we implemented today and they got some reserve time as well and they can be stepped away from the console and we still are able to answer the 911 calls because we have the shifts spread out enough to where we can keep the 24/7 coverage. We have a little bit of overlap so that we can keep two dispatchers on at peak times and then we will use part-time communications officers to fill in some coverage there and we have been very, very lucky that they are willing to step up as well and we have used available personnel from City Hall that, like for example, someone from Community Development has been assigned to us to come down and learn how to answer the phone calls and help support the dispatcher that is on duty there so that is going to help us sustain this for the long haul. We will continue to supplement the communications center with personnel as they become available. I believe this schedule provides flexibility to a response of the unexpected where we, when something comes up on a moment we can adjust to it without being in a crisis. We started that scheduling already. Now for the Law Enforcement Officers, they're assigned to 12 hour shifts. One of the issues about 12 hour shifts that has concerned me for some time is the fatigue factor and this is not a time that you want fatigue in your officers; that could make them more susceptible to the illness. So what we have done is split, we have assigned all of our officers on different platoons, we pulled people out of community policing to augment that. We have actually been able to set up a process where half of a shift will be six hours on the street patrolling and answering calls, and the other six will be on ready reserve; so in other words they could be at home, they could be listening to the radio, they could do the reports from home and be available in case we need them but we have segregated for the potential of the COVID 19 virus. We started that schedule today and we can still make adjustments to that if we experience staff shortages. We also included Detectives in that as well so we have spread them out. They will actually work different shifts starting from 8:00 am to

midnight. They will work half of their time and will be provided the ability to do some work from home but primarily they are going to be available and have their uniform ready in case we start to experience significant shortages on the street and I have to put them in uniform and have them respond on calls. That was implemented this week as well during the day. So, the idea is to make sure that we are not overloading any particular shift or any particular group in our department so that we kind of spread it out to where we can all absorb that. We are still going to be able to respond to calls but we are doing some things like trying to screen the calls when they come in to make sure that we aren't, that we can get the first responders the necessary information in case they come into contact with someone that is potentially infected and they can take necessary precautions. We are also kind of focusing on some areas in patrol like grocery stores and pharmacies, there has been some intelligence from the East coast that what has kind of emerged is some individuals that will go inside a grocery store in particular or a pharmacy, announce to the whole group that they are infected with COVID 19 and then just fill up a cart; people are afraid of them, they get away from them, and they steal a whole cart full of merchandise out the door. Those types of incidents are already starting to show up. We have not had reports here, but we certainly are trying to be poised to deal with a response if that becomes an issue in this area. So beyond that, we've got the Fire and EMS personnel. I can't really change, or we couldn't figure out a way that we could really change much in their scheduling but we do implement social distancing so that they can kind of keep themselves isolated when they are on shift as much as they possibly can. We have developed a strategy of response that affects them that we implemented today and I call it an advance vehicle where we actually have an SUV staffed with a paramedic who will respond to EMS calls to evaluate patients before the ambulance crew. They will still go on the call, but once the evaluation is done by the advanced medic, then the ambulance crew can then make contact if the patient is appropriate for transport. The main reason for that is there are going to be many of these cases where people call for EMS and we will work with our medical control and Medical Directors within the protocols to evaluate these people as we see them; work with the hotline that the State has established with professionals to evaluate these patients to make sure it is the appropriate response to take them to the hospital because hospitals are really concerned, obviously, about being overloaded so we are going to put this in play to help manage that at the front end and if we can assess these patients and if they fit certain criteria, we can redirect them to another area for treatment if needed. So we have implemented that today. We are also in the process of contacting Kansas City Fire because we have had to pull medics off of firetrucks to implement this strategy. We still have them on duty so they can still go to fires if they come up, they won't be on the firetruck but they can still be on the fire ground fighting fires if we have them. We actually have enough Paramedics on staff that if we need to we can put both of our reserve ambulances in the front line service; we have enough equipment, we have enough personnel, but it would be at the expense of our firefighting posture and so we are going to work with Kansas City to see if that is something we can partner with them and maybe provide a service to maybe a little wider area and we are just going to see how this kind of works out with the EMS calls. Right now, we are not really seeing any increase in EMS calls. It's maintaining pretty level at this time but we don't know when this may change so we want to be able to respond to that so we have plans in place to do that. We made some adjustments to the work schedule of the EMS Chief that is over there, she is actually going to work on particular days of the week to make sure she can keep supplies ordered when needed; particularly the PPE and also the function of her quality control and EMS. She is going to be able to work on that from home. The Fire Marshall services are Emergency Management

Specialists so he will also be working from home half the time as well. Animal Shelter: it was closed to the public and we implemented work schedules today; there are only two people assigned out there but they will split the duties between themselves and then will also be available to respond if we have to take in an animal; say some citizen has to go to the hospital and they don't have somebody to care for their animal, we will take that animal in and we are also trying to work with our other partners in the not-for-profit world to see if we can't move some of the animals we currently have out there to shelters in other places so they can be adopted. The other members of staff and support like the Records Unit, we've implemented some work from home options for some of them but we will keep one person in the Records Unit during business hours that can take care of things that they need to do during the day. We are still accepting some of the business that walks up. We are getting copies of reports, we are not doing liquor license processing right now, anything that requires face-to-face contact with a citizen, that is on pause for right now. The City Manager mentioned the Personal Protective Equipment. We are monitoring our inventory and we are like everybody else. We are very concerned about exhausting inventory we have. It's becoming more difficult to try to keep stock and add stock but I have been monitoring with the Department of Public Safety on the cache of Personal Protective Equipment that they maintain and have access to. We are going to be able to pick up, we hope, the first group of that this week and we will continually place orders every week through the process they set up to keep our Personal Protective Equipment in stock. The Department of Public Safety has also purchased enough Personal Protective Equipment for every Law Enforcement Officer in the State and they have a plan to deliver that to each region so we are waiting to hear when ours arrives and we will go pick that up and have that ready as well. We actually discovered some other PPE that we probably had from other, when we were preparing for other issues more than twenty years ago, that is still good so we are trying to repurpose that as well. That pretty much sums it up. Was there anything else?"

City Manager Wingerson stated: "Mike thank you very much. We can do questions now if you have questions for Director Hasty or I can finish the operational update, whatever your preference is Mayor."

Mayor Suter asked if anyone had a question for Director Hasty.

There were none.

City Manager Wingerson stated: "So the rest of the organization's personnel response plans were based on the principles that Director Hasty just outlined. If you can compare the Dispatch function that Mike talked about to the Water Treatment Plant, they are very similar in that they are very essential and have limited personnel that are trained to manage it. They are staggering shifts at the Water Treatment Plant and training back-up people in the same way that Dispatch is. The crews, the Public Works crews, have gone to two crews during the day Monday through Friday broken up into very small groups of three and one after hours call-in emergency response crew. Those crews will rotate every five days so one of the crews will go from emergency on-call to working during the day and one of the crews will shift over. Parks crews are mirroring for the most part. The same approach as the Public Works crews and for the vast majority of everybody else, we are on a day on, day off schedule to alternate and try to preserve our personnel resources the best we can. In terms of the facilities themselves, on March 16 we closed facilities

to the public. I think that was the right move. It was not taken lightly. It is the first time that City Hall has been closed for anything besides Gladfest. Our normal working day as far back as we can see and I struggled painfully with that because the opening of City Hall and being open to the public has some meaning to the residents of Gladstone. We did not take that lightly but we did end up doing it for social distancing reasons and to encourage the public to start taking precautions as it related to COVID 19. That said, the Public Safety lobby remains open. It's a very small lobby and I don't think they are seeing a lot of everyday traffic. Most of the services are available online or via a phone call or an email and we can get most of the public taken care of. At the same time, we closed the facilities, we canceled or postponed many programs specifically in the recreation department; again, not taken lightly. That department has been processing credits and refunds to make people whole financially through their loss of services so far. On March 18, we directed the community of Gladstone to follow the Clay County Order regarding social distancing and changes to the service of food and beverages; we weathered that storm. It wasn't very nice but our businesses ultimately understood the need for it and I believe are supportive. Before we go into the Resolution that is pending to the Council, I would just like to thank some of our community partners who are providing support and really it is about Gladstonians stepping up. Our faith based community has been awesome. Antioch Bible Baptist Church went to online services before the Governor's Declaration of Emergency and almost before the President declared an emergency. That is how committed they are to keeping our community healthy. Mid America Regional Council on a lot of levels is the coordinating body for the region but a special resource to Gladstone. Our Mutual Aid partners in Law Enforcement and Fire EMS/Dispatch are all engaged in participating and supportive of each other and we appreciate that. The Missouri Municipal League is gathering information across the State and has been helpful. The Clay County Emergency Management function took a little bit to get going but now it is functioning at a very, very high level and we are proud of their efforts and proud to be associated with them. Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, you will be hearing more about their plan in the next couple of days. They provide our bus service and are working with us very closely. There is a lot of others; much too many to thank, but the community is really coming together. Starting the conversation about the Resolution, I'd like to first thank the Mayor and City Council for your calm and steady leadership; for staying focused on the important things; and your willingness to be patient while we chart new territory here. I'd like to thank every employee in our organization from 35 year veterans to the people who just started two weeks ago. I appreciate their trust, their support, and their adherence to our core mission of serving the public under what has become pretty extenuating circumstances. I'd like to thank our residents for mostly cooperating with the recommendations designed to slow the spread of the virus, protect the most vulnerable in our population, and preserve the ability for our health care system to function. I don't think that can be understated or stated frequently enough. This entire effort is about preserving the ability of our health care system to function under trying times that they have never seen before. Finally, and most importantly, I'd like to thank every business in the City of Gladstone. We clearly understand the financial impact that this national emergency is having on service businesses today and all businesses tomorrow. We appreciate your innovation, your creativity, your dedication and commitment. Our small businesses should be an inspiration to all of us. Related to the issue at hand, the Resolution, on March 13, President Trump declared a National Emergency. Also on March 13, Gladstone declared a State of Emergency, activated the local emergency management plan and established an Emergency Operation Center. On March 18, the Governor took similar action. On March 18, the Presiding Commissioner also

took similar action. Also on March 18, the Director of Clay County Public Health issued an Executive Order that fundamentally required social distancing and provided restrictions on restaurants, bars, and taverns and similar businesses. On March 22, the Clay County Public Health Director issued an Executive Order that fundamentally ordered Shelter in Place except for essential activities and limited business activities to essential functions as defined in the Order. All of these Orders by the Clay County Health Department Director are consistent across the major counties within the Kansas City Metro Area and have been adopted by many, many cities in the region. The purpose of the Resolution in your packet and for your consideration tonight for the Mayor and City Council is to officially proclaim a State of Emergency in Gladstone and to mirror the Order of Clay County Health for consistency reasons across the county. The Clay County Health Order will go into effect if approved by the Council, it will go into effect even if not approved by the Council, at 12:01 am Tuesday and expire 11:59 pm on April 24, unless extended by the Clay County Public Health Department. The Proclamation itself, declaring the State of Emergency, will continue until the health emergency has ended. I'd like to take just a second and read from the Clay County Order in a paraphrase fashion. The Resolution suggests things that people can do and not do and should always do: What can be done: People can go to the grocery store or pharmacy; visit a health care provider if you are sick or have an emergency medical need; enjoy the outdoors while practicing social distancing; perform your job that is essential to the health and safety of the community; perform your job or communicate through phone calls, video calls, online, or through other channels, that are not in person; you can take care of elderly relatives, young children, and those with medical needs or pets. What can I not do: Dine in a restaurant or drink in a bar; go to a nail or hair salon, clothing store, gym, fitness studio or get a massage; you can't go to a movie, a concert, a sporting event or worship service, attend a wedding or a funeral; or visit with friends and family who do not live with you, especially those who are at high risk of getting seriously ill from COVID 19. I think that is a key point. What people should always do is keep physical distance between yourself and others, about six to ten feet; wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds; clean and disinfect frequently; stay home and away from others when you are sick; cough or sneeze into your elbow; and always cover sneezes and coughs with a tissue that is promptly thrown away. I think most importantly in all of this effort is that people stay calm and try to follow trustworthy sources for their information. Our website is a good example of that. It references the CDC, the World Health Organization, Clay County, and frequently asked questions from Gladstone residents. With that Mayor, I'll turn it over to you to see if there are any questions and staff is clearly recommending your action tonight on adopting the Resolution on your agenda. Thank you."

Mayor Suter thanked City Manager Wingerson and stated: "I know I speak on behalf of all the Council when I express our appreciation to you and your leadership team. What a creative, diligent effort you have put into figuring this all out. It's quite a challenge to figure out how to keep the city functioning and keep our employees safe at the same time so I really appreciate the result. I think we got off to a good start today. Hopefully it will work well and we won't have any other emergencies. We are coming into storm season so we just all pray that we don't end up with other kinds of natural disasters. Do the Councilmembers have questions?"

Councilman Garnos stated: "Just a couple. I am so appreciative of the Leadership Team. I particularly like the creativity that you have put into these staggered shifts and the ready reserve

shifts in Public Safety to try to do what we can to maintain coverage and yet still try to provide some protection to the officers and I appreciate that. I have on my calendar that April 1st is Census day but I have not heard anything on the news about that being suspended or activities involved with the Census and I didn't know if there were any updates on that. Since everybody is going to be filing for that online, maybe it is not affected but I was curious about that. Finally, I just wanted to mention that I bet I have had six calls from people asking about the imposition of Martial Law in Gladstone. Talking about confiscating weapons and companies using letters to their employees so that if they get stopped by the police they can show their passes that they are coming and going from their work. I've done my best in each case to try to explain what the restrictions are and are not. I just wanted to let you know there is an amazing amount of paranoia or if they are just all calling me."

Mayor Suter stated: *"There is lots of crazy stuff going around online. I did want to update you on the Census, though. Just today the Census issued a new timetable. They are extending all of the deadlines, actually pushing them back so we don't have real people travelling neighborhoods. That is all pushed back; the projection is still that the Census will be able to be completed on time as expected. It will be done by the end of the year, that is where we are right now. We are having a phone conference call tomorrow with the Governor. I know a couple of Mayors just spoke with him yesterday and we do not expect that he will be making any new restrictions. I think one of the challenges that lies ahead for us with this Resolution and some of the things that we have done in this whole region will be next week when it appears as though the President is readying to actually lift all the restrictions and so then the world will be even more confused than it is now. I expect we will have lots of conversations happening again in another week. If that is it for the City Manager, anything else?"*

There was not.

Item No. 7. On the Agenda. RESOLUTION R-20-14 A Resolution proclaiming a State of Emergency in the City of Gladstone, Clay County, Missouri.

Councilman Mallams moved to approve **RESOLUTION R-20-14**. A Resolution proclaiming a State of Emergency in the City of Gladstone, Clay County, Missouri. **Mayor Pro Tem Moore** seconded.

Mayor Suter stated: *"I have no questions but I do want to say, not only in my tenure in Gladstone, we have seen a lot of great times. We have had a lot of successes and a lot of fun in this city. We have also had some hard times, a couple of tornadoes and some other losses in the community, but nothing compares to this and to the action that we have to take. I just want to thank each of you, my colleagues, for having the courage to step up. It's so hard to balance the needs of everyone in the community and in this case pretty much everyone gets hurt, no matter what we do. Not every community, by far, not only a fraction of the State stepped up; so we are among the leading edge of folks willing to step up. I very much applaud your courage and, I think, your wisdom in taking this action which I will support."*

The Vote: "aye", Councilman Kyle Yarber, Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilman Bill Garnos, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

Item No. 8. On the Agenda. Other Business.


There was no other business to come before the Council.

Item No. 9. On the Agenda. Adjournment.

Mayor Suter adjourned the March 23, 2020, Regular City Council meeting at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Ruth E Bocchino
Ruth E. Bocchino, City Clerk

Approved as presented:  _____

Approved as modified: _____



Mayor Carol J. Suter