

**MINUTES
CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**

April 8, 2020

Website - <http://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com>

CALL TO ORDER

10:02 a.m., Council Chambers, 2250 Las Vegas Boulevard North,
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030

ROLL CALL

(Most attendees attended the meeting virtually via telephone)

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Lee
Mayor Pro Tempore Black
Councilwoman Goynes-Brown
Councilman Barron (joined meeting at 10:07 a.m.)
Councilman Cherchio

STAFF PRESENT

City Manager Juden
City Attorney Moore
City Clerk Raynor
Assistant City Manager Melesio
Chief Innovations Officer Gavan
Information Technology Director Moriarity
Land Development and Community Services Director Jordan
Neighborhood and Leisure Services Director Palmer
Police Chief Ojeda
Public Works Director Daffern

WELCOME

Mayor John J. Lee

VERIFICATION

Catherine A. Raynor, MMC
City Clerk

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Lee stated that the purpose of the meeting was to enable the City to impose violations and penalties on those businesses and individuals that do not comply with the Governor's Directives. He acknowledged the receipt of 33 public comments submitted prior to the meeting and he noted that the City does not have answers to the several questions asked regarding non-payment of rents and eviction proceedings.

AGENDA

1. CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA OF APRIL 8, 2020. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

ACTION: APPROVED

MOTION: Mayor Lee

AYES: Mayor Lee, Mayor Pro Tempore Black, Council Members Goynes-Brown, Barron and Cherchio

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ORDINANCES - FINAL ACTION

2. PASS AND ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3024, AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE, AMENDING SECTION 070 OF CHAPTER 32 OF TITLE 2 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO STATE OF EMERGENCY - POWERS BY ADDING 2.32.070(A4) AND MODIFYING 2.32.070(B) AND PROVIDING OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO. (CITYWIDE) (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Ordinance No. 3024 was read into the record by the City Manager as posted on the agenda.

City Attorney Moore stated that the ordinance would allow the City to follow the orders and impose violations and penalties for individuals not complying with the Governor's Directive 008 issued on April 1, 2020 preventing eviction proceedings or illegal lockouts for non-payment of rent during the emergency declaration for commercial and residential properties.

Councilman Barron stated that he received a numerous amount of feedback from members of the community, especially those in Ward 1. He stressed that the COVID-19 pandemic is beyond the control of the City. He stated that in the interest of public health and the safety of the residents of the State of Nevada, Governor Sisolak declared a state of emergency and issued several directives. He noted that there are landlords working with their tenants and others were trying to circumvent the Governors' directives. He noted that Ordinance No. 3024 would prevent residents from being unnecessarily locked out of their homes during this time.

Mayor Lee opened the public comment, there were no callers, and he closed public comment.

Mayor Pro Tempore Black stated he had read through all the comments received and had questions regarding the obligations to pay rent. City Attorney Moore encouraged tenants to work with their landlords on payment arrangements. She stated the ordinance was not a green light to take advantage of the situation but rather assistance for those tenants having hardships during the pandemic. Mayor Pro Tempore Black noted there was information on the City's website for business resources and he recommended posting guidelines and resources for landlords and tenants. It was also noted that the ordinance is relative to violations of all emergency declarations and directives but the topic for the meeting dealt specifically with evictions.

City Manager Juden stated the ordinance gave the City the ability to respond to the Governor's directives immediately. He noted that as the Governor sends the directives, the City can enforce the directives quickly to protect the public's health and safety. The penalties will prevent landlords from evicting tenants for not paying rent so they can have a place to remain in quarantine and deal with the current health crisis.

Mayor Pro Tempore Black urged the landlords and tenants to work together.

Councilman Cherchio reiterated that the purpose of Ordinance No. 3024 was to give the City the ability to follow the Governor's directives and enforce them. He did not want to see anyone put on the street and not have a shelter to place. He thanked City Manager Juden for clarifying the purpose of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Goynes-Brown thanked the City's administration and legal team for their efforts. She noted the future is unknown and the City is obligated to protect its residents. She stressed the importance of dealing with the issues head on and contacting landlords to make arrangements.

Mayor Lee re-opened the public comment.

Edward Kania, 10200 Giles Street, Las Vegas, President of Southern Nevada Eviction Services stated he was following the directives very closely. He noted there are provisions in the law to address lockouts and tenants could file with the North Las Vegas Justice Court. He encouraged tenants to reach out to their landlords to discuss a willingness to pay or to make payment arrangements.

ACTION: PASSED AND ADOPTED

MOTION: Councilman Cherchio

AYES: Mayor Lee, Mayor Pro Tempore Black, Council Members Goynes-Brown, Barron and Cherchio

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC FORUM

City Manager Juden advised tenants and/or landlords that have issues or concerns to call the City Manager's Office, or contact Legal Aid, the Governor's Office or the Attorney General's Office for legal opinions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

APPROVED: May 6, 2020

/s/ John J. Lee
Mayor John J. Lee

ATTEST:

/s/ Catherine A. Raynor
Catherine A. Raynor, MMC
City Clerk