



**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE
JANUARY 12, 2022**

The City Council of Prairie Village, Kansas, met in special session on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Councilmembers attended a virtual meeting via the Zoom software platform. Mayor Mikkelson presided.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called by the City Clerk with the following Councilmembers in attendance: Chad Herring, Cole Robinson, Inga Selders, Ron Nelson, Lauren Wolf, Bonnie Limbird, Dave Robinson, Piper Reimer, Greg Shelton, Courtney McFadden, Ian Graves, and Terrence Gallagher. Staff present: Byron Roberson, Chief of Police; City Attorney David Waters, attorney with Lathrop & Gage; Wes Jordan, City Administrator; Jamie Robichaud, Deputy City Administrator; Tim Schwartzkopf, Assistant City Administrator; Meghan Boom, Assistant City Administrator; Nickie Lee, Finance Director; Adam Geffert, City Clerk.

Dr. Sanmi Areola, Director of the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, was also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the agenda for January 12, 2022. Ms. Reimer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:07 p.m., Mr. Herring made a motion for the City Council to recess into executive session for a period of 20 minutes for the purpose of discussing legal issues related to proposed legislation with the City Attorney, which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2). The motion was seconded by Ms. Reimer, and passed unanimously.

The open meeting resumed at 7:27 p.m.



NEW BUSINESS

COU2022-03

Ratify the decision to conduct City meetings (committees and Council) in a virtual format

In accordance with Municipal Code 1-203 (e), the Mayor and Mr. Jordan conferred and recommended the City Council approve the continuance of all City meetings in a virtual meeting format. This action followed Johnson County's action to move to virtual meetings in an effort to provide for and ensure the health, safety, security, and welfare of the people Johnson County. The virtual meeting format would continue until the City Council felt comfortable moving back to a hybrid or in-person meeting format.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to ratify the decision of the Mayor and City Administrator to conduct City meeting (committees and Council) in a virtual format until the City Council felt comfortable moving back to a hybrid or in-person meeting format. Mr. Graves seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

COU2022-04

Consider an ordinance regulating public offenses within the City of Prairie Village, Kansas, amending Chapter 11 (Public Offenses & Traffic), Article 2 (Local Regulations) of the Prairie Village Municipal Code, requiring the wearing of face coverings or masks during the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery

Mayor Mikkelson provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that newest wave of the virus was causing staff and equipment shortages at hospitals, as well as increasing cases, hospitalizations and death rates. The number of COVID patients in emergency rooms and intensive care units around the region was forcing hospitals to delay service to other patients. The seven-day percent positive rate in Johnson County had increased to 30.6%, and the death rate had doubled from one per day to two.

Due to the current state of the pandemic, the Mayor stated that the time to act to ensure the health, safety, security, and welfare of the people in Prairie Village had arrived. At the request of the Mayor, City staff prepared an updated masking ordinance for the Council's consideration, with several changes relative to previous ordinances. The two most significant modifications were as follows:

- The draft ordinance removed enforcement obligations that businesses or organizations be responsible for requiring employees, customers, visitors, or members of the public to wear masks or other face coverings.
- A requirement that businesses post signage was not included in the draft ordinance. The ordinance was drafted to remove as much responsibility from businesses as possible.



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If passed, the ordinance would go into effect January 18, and expire on February 16, unless extended by Council. The Mayor noted that the cities of Mission and Roeland Park were also currently meeting in special session to consider enacting similar ordinances.

Mrs. McFadden moved to approve Ordinance #2465, amending Chapter 11 (Public Offenses & Traffic), Article 2 (Local Regulations) of the Prairie Village Municipal Code, requiring the wearing of face coverings or masks during the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery. The motion was seconded by Mr. Graves.

After further discussion, Mr. Gallagher made a motion to call the question. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nelson and failed 11-1, with Mr. Gallagher in support.

A roll call vote on the original motion was taken with the following votes cast: "aye": Herring, J. Nelson, Selders, R. Nelson, Poling, Limbird, Myers, Reimer, Runion, McFadden, Graves, Gallagher. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mikkelson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Adam Geffert
City Clerk