



**CITY OF KETCHUM, IDAHO SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Saturday, April 11, 2020, 2:00 PM**  
**480 East Avenue, North, Ketchum, Idaho**

In recognition of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the public may observe the meeting live on the City's website at [ketchumidaho.org/meetings](http://ketchumidaho.org/meetings). If you would like to comment on an agenda item, please submit your comment to [participate@ketchumidaho.org](mailto:participate@ketchumidaho.org) by noon the day of the meeting. Comments will be provided to the City Council.

### Minutes

- CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Neil Bradshaw  
Mayor Neil Bradshaw called this Special Meeting of Saturday, April 11, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. to order.

- ROLL CALL  
All PRESENT by Video Teleconference  
Mayor Neil Bradshaw  
Council President Amanda Breen  
Councilor Michael David  
Councilor Courtney Hamilton  
Councilor Jim Slanetz

#### ALSO PRESENT

City Administrator Suzanne Frick  
Director of Finance & Internal Services Grant Gager  
Fire Chief Bill McLaughlin  
City Attorney Matt Johnson by Video Teleconference

- COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCILORS

Councilor Courtney Hamilton thanked the staff for their communication and the hours they have put in. Council President Amanda Breen echoed Courtney Hamilton's sentiments.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw's thoughts go out to all members of the community who are affected by the virus. He thanked Council for their attendance on a Saturday to address this important matter.

- NEW BUSINESS (no public comment required)

#### 1. Recommendation to Approve City of Ketchum Health Order 20-02

Mayor Neil Bradshaw clarified that the county and city have put more restrictions in place than the state. He gave an update on how the community has responded to this, stressing that we must balance physical, mental and economic health. Mayor Bradshaw advised that we will be dealing with this for at least another year and there is no indicator to tell us how to move forward. He talked about construction being the first step in moving things back to normal and stated that the key is to be vigilant and to monitor the health of construction workers. If construction workers do not comply, we can shut down industry again. We must be able to change course on what needs to be done at any moment. The

other restrictions that were put in place with Health Order 20-01, are being recommended to stay in place. Mayor Neil Bradshaw stressed the importance of showing leadership to the county and other communities on how to move forward in a responsible manner. There is no right or wrong answer. He asked council for questions and comments.

Councilor Jim Slanetz suggested to go back to the State Order stating the curve has been flattened and our restrictions should be lightened now. There is availability of beds and respirators. If you are at a high-risk group, you will want to isolate. We are now more prepared if there is a spike. He does not think we're getting ahead by keeping people in isolation.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton disagrees with Councilor Jim Slanetz and would suggest keeping the restrictions in place. She talked to health care professionals and they advised that when we see 14 days of continued decline in numbers would be a time to make changes. She said the construction restrictions are impossible to follow. At this time we need to continue isolation. She talked about the difficulty in getting masks and does not want to take masks from the health care industry. She would rather be too strict to save lives. Courtney Hamilton also stated that if we were to open construction sites, we will be welcoming workers from other community's back into ours. She would like to continue to ban construction.

Council President Amanda Breen agrees with Councilor Courtney Hamilton. She does not see construction in Ketchum being an essential business. She does not believe the curve has been flattened. It is way too soon. Many construction workers are coming from other communities. Social distancing needs to be followed. Amanda Breen does not believe it will easy to shut things down again if the curve goes back up and suggests holding off to see what the data looks like in two weeks. She does not want to lift too early and does not want to change the existing order.

Councilor Michael David agrees with all councilors stating that none of us know what lies in the future and suggested extending this to the 20th like Hailey and Bellevue. That would give the industry 1 week to get protocol lined up and in place. Michael David sated that we are going to have to ease back into this at some point and this would also give us some consistency throughout the rest of the county. We will still need the ability to stop this if the numbers were to spike but does not think Monday is the day to open things back up.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton thinks that might create false hope. She talked about the curve and thinks we are a week out. She is uncomfortable saying we can move forward Monday and then take it away again, nor is she comfortable saying we are good to go on the 20th.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw talked about Michael David's suggestion, stating, giving people visibility is very important. He talked about all the people who have lost employment, people in abusive situations, hungry, etc. He doesn't know why some people can hike and some can't hammer nails. Michael David also suggested scheduling another meeting on Friday to touch base and see how things are. He understands false hope, however, he would like to give them something.

Council President Amanda Breen understands; however, public health does involve enforcement. She thinks because of the unprecedented times we need to have another meeting and make a better decision with more information.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw would like to show leadership rather than kick the can down the road for another week suggesting they follow Michael David's suggestion.

Fire Chief Bill McLaughlin talked about the current data stating that in early March there were more cases than we thought in the Valley. March 20th was when we hit our high. Right now, we are getting a better picture. We are dropping back. The people in the community did a fantastic job flattening the curve. Everybody did their part. We need to keep the curve flat, but it's going to be a long time before we have definitive data. The attempts to flatten the curve have worked well. We feel a lot better about what is going on out there right now.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw said at what point do we address the other challenges. Mayor Bradshaw would really like to set a date that we could revisit if we need to. We can't run scared. We need to create visibility and help the health and confidence of our community.

Council President Amanda Breen thanked Fire Chief Bill McLaughlin for the update. She still would like to act on the side of caution. She does not want to open the spigot too early and bring home the virus to families. She will protect public health. Terry O'Connor has advised to keep doing what we're doing. There has not been enough time yet.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton advised we need to take the medical advice that we are receiving. She's concerned about more loss of lives. She talked about construction needing to be restricted. We need to show leadership with sharing the information with the public. The economics are important, but she wants a healthy community as well. We need to continue what we're doing.

Councilor Michael David said the council is not that far apart on this. He would like to set the 20th without a guarantee and have another special meeting on Friday or Saturday to re-assess. If we just extend to the 19th then even if things are headed in the right direction, they will not be ready on the 20th to start.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw does value Terry O'Connor opinion, but we need to look at mental health and economic health as well. Physical health is one of 3 pillars. He suggested looking at the alternative plan that was sent to council about an hour ago.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw outlined the alternative plan in the packet explaining that the community would benefit from a plan. Let's give some visibility to the construction industry. Mayor Bradshaw asked if we are economically penalizing our county? He asked if there is a compromise among the council and reiterated Michael David's proposal and asked council if they are willing to compromise.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton asked how construction will get their equipment. City Administrator Suzanne explained that the devices are not medical grade equipment. They are construction grade. Bandanna or scarf. From our perspective there is not competition with what the construction company's need as opposed to the medical profession needs.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton thinks we need to see an enforcement plan. She is not willing to budge. Who is going to drive around to each job site? City Administrator Suzanne Frick said this will be enforced by the building department and community service officers. There will be a COVID supervisor on each job site and Building and CSO's will be interfacing with the COVID Supervisors. Courtney Hamilton has concerns with using that tactic. She would like to see a stop order issued for a first offense.

There are some people who would rather break these rules if they can keep working. The community needs to understand the severity. Mayor Neil Bradshaw said that education is more effective and the ability to write a ticket is very educational. If people are not complying, we will have the ability to shut down the job site if we don't see compliance.

Council President Amanda Breen said the language in the proposed Health Order must be more exact. Mayor Neil Bradshaw explained that there is one person responsible for the whole job site. He asked council how they would like the Health Order to read.

**Councilor Michael David made a motion to adopt this ordinance with the date to start back on the 20th with additional language saying 2 violations and then they will be red tagged until the restrictions are lifted**

***There was no second – Motion failed.***

Councilor Jim Slanetz said this is better than leaving the restrictions, but he does not think it is better for our community at large. Jim Slanetz would like to go back to the state restrictions.

Councilor Michael David advised that his suggestion is very similar to Hailey, Bellevue and the County. This will help construction companies set up for success. They will not be ready if we don't give them time to prepare.

Councilor Courtney Hamilton said that the standards in general cannot be enforced and are infeasible. Mayor Neil Bradshaw said the list of 18 restrictions are broadly used in other areas. He said education is really going to be the key. If we wait until the medical professionals say it's ok to reopen, he is worried we will wait too long for economic and mental health. We need to follow best practice.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw suggested we discuss all the options next Friday and revisit that plan. Councilor Courtney Hamilton would like to continue the way it is until we meet next Friday. She suggested the construction company's start getting ready without a suggested date.

**Councilor Courtney Hamilton motioned to continue order as it currently stands thru April 19<sup>th</sup>.**

***There was no second. Motion failed.***

**Motion to adopt public health order 20-02 with a date of April 20th to resume construction on residential and commercial and adding language that upon 2 infractions they get red tagged until restrictions are lifted by the state and county and to schedule a meeting on Friday to reassess the situation.**

***Motion made by Councilor David, Seconded by Councilor Hamilton***

***Voting Yea: Councilor David***

***Voting Nay: Councilor Slanetz, Council President Breen, Councilor Hamilton***

***Motion Failed***

Mayor Neil Bradshaw explained if we don't do something construction will resume on Monday.

**Motion to continue Public Health Ordinance 20-01 as it currently stands and to revisit the standards including the proposed restrictions on or before Friday April 17<sup>th</sup>.**

***Motion made by Councilor Hamilton, Seconded by Council President Breen***

***Voting Yea: Council President Breen, Councilor Hamilton***

***Voting Nay: Councilor David, Councilor Slanetz, Mayor Bradshaw***

***Motion Failed***

Council discussed setting a definitive date. Mayor Neil Bradshaw talked about taking leadership and signaling an intention and plan. Council President Amanda Breen said that since they are at an impasse, we need to be consistent with Hailey and Blaine County and meet again on Friday. Councilor Courtney Hamilton agrees, she is not comfortable with the restrictions and without a plan. She would like to continue and have another meeting next week to discuss the restrictions.

Mayor Neil Bradshaw asked Councilor Courtney Hamilton what she would like changed in the current document. Courtney Hamilton would like to know what each company does that is involved in construction. City Administrator Suzanne Frick said the guiding authority is the state of Idaho Health Order. She advised we are focusing on construction activity, electrical and landscaping. The other businesses are operating under the state order. Lumber Stores and Hardware stores are already open and considered essential services. Courtney Hamilton said that the biggest outlying factor is landscaping.

City Administrator Suzanne Frick explained #2 in the Public Health Order which requires the sanitizer stations. There have been modifications made to address the landscapers. Councilor Courtney Hamilton does not think these standards can be enforced stating, there are a lot of feasibility issues. It is not possible to go on a job site and be guaranteed of all restrictions. She does not think this is in the best interest of public health.

Councilor Jim Slanetz talked about people making a personal choice. He questioned how long were going to do this and talked about opening Construction and Landscaping up on Monday with restrictions.

**Motion to adopt the Ketchum Health order 20-02 with the date of April 20<sup>th</sup> as the start date and schedule a meeting for Friday the 17th to reassess and include the language, 2 violations will result in the building official issuing a stop work order on the project, suspending all work until all restrictions are lifted.**

***Motion made by Councilor David, Seconded by Councilor Slanetz***

***Voting Yea: Councilor David, Councilor Slanetz, Mayor Bradshaw***

***Voting Nay: Council President Breen, Councilor Hamilton***

***Motion Passed***

Mayor Neil Bradshaw said there is no right or wrong answer. There is no navigation. There is a plethora of information to take on board and he looks forward to continuing discussion on Friday. Plans can change and we will continually monitor the situation for our town. Health data is encouraging but distancing must continue. He appreciates all the leadership the Council is showing. Everyone is scared and this is new territory. He thanked the other cities and commissioners for all their work.

- ADJOURNMENT

**Motion to adjourn**

***Motion made by Councilor Hamilton, Seconded by Councilor Slanetz.***

***Voting Yea: Council President Breen, Councilor David, Councilor Hamilton, Councilor Slanetz***

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Neil Bradshaw, Mayor

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Robin Crotty, City Clerk