

JUNE 2, 2020
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
GOVT. CTR. – RM. 100

PRESENT: Mayor Bo Dorough
Mayor Pro Tem Jon Howard
City Commissioner: Chad Warbington
City Attorney: C. Nathan Davis

Mayor Dorough called the (virtual) meeting to order at 9:58 a.m., (please see Special Called Meeting minutes for attendance).

Mayor Dorough noted the priorities listed on the agendas, stating that he was not involved with making the decision regarding City priorities and suggested that until this current Commission sets its priorities, that should not be on agendas.

SPEAKER APPEARANCE

1. Charlee James discussed the Dangerous Dog ordinance requiring a surety bond by the owners of dog deemed to be dangerous; however, no companies offer this type coverage. She stated that the Dangerous Dog ordinance of the State of Georgia requires either insurance or a surety bond and asked that the City of Albany review its dangerous dog ordinance and make it ‘either/or’ regarding insurance/surety bond or remove the surety bond. The surety bond is coverage for homeowners once a dog has been declared dangerous; however, insurance does the same thing.

Commissioner Young asked if there was an incident precipitating her concern. Ms. James explained that her two dogs were deemed dangerous and that she has provided fencing, underground wiring, pens, signs, etc. She obtained insurance above the required amount but is unable to obtain a surety bond, therefore, her dogs remain at the Humane Society.

Mayor Dorough referred to the City’s Dangerous Dog ordinance, noting that if an owner of a dangerous dog moves from Albany, what authority does the City have to notify animal control in the city to which they move. He added that our ordinance is not consistent with the present State law. Mr. Davis agreed and advised that State law does not require a surety bond, only liability insurance, with the City Code requiring both. He explained that a surety bond offers ultimate protection, even if contested, a company would have to pay and protects the public; liability insurance lacks that protection.

In response to Commissioner Warbington, Mr. Davis explained the criteria to declare a dog dangerous and discussed the circumstances of Ms. James’ dogs being declared dangerous. He also discussed due process with the owner being notified/served since someone suffered injuries, a hearing was held before the Animal Control Board and in this case, orders were issued by the Board.

Commissioner Warbington asked if her statement about no company providing a surety bond only apply to a company in Albany and/or is a company in a different geographical region willing to provide a bond for someone in Albany. Ms. James stated that the company she called advised that a surety bond for her situation was too high of a liability; this prompted her to review Albany’s, Leesburg’s and the State’s ordinance.

In response to Commissioner Young, Ms. James agreed that there was an incident last year in which an individual was injured. Mr. Davis added that once a dog has harmed someone, it is declared to be dangerous.

Mayor Dorough stated that he has no problem bringing the City’s ordinance in-line with State law and asked that it be on an agenda for consideration. He added that some homeowner’s policies have an exclusion for

dangerous dogs, particularly if a past claim have been paid and asked if someone is injured again by the same dog, must they be put down; Mr. Davis explained that it would come back for consideration. Mayor Dorough asked if the Board has the authority to order an animal to be euthanized; Mr. Davis replied in the affirmative.

REINSTITUTING STATE OF EMERGENCY

Mayor Dorough mentioned the recent letter he sent the Commission regarding the City being under a State, as well as local, state of emergency, adding that he wanted to consult the Commission before taking action about the necessity of reinstating a state of emergency. He commented on Ms. Subadan concerns regarding the risking of the allocation of funds if there is no local state of emergency in place.

In reply to Mayor Pro Tem Howard, Mr. Davis stated that he will ascertain the expiration date of the Governor's current order. Mayor Dorough stated that the City's and Dougherty County's state of emergency expired and that he needs direction if the City needs to reinstate its own. Ms. Subadan stated that she wants to avoid any missteps and losing out on reimbursements because of a technical issue. Mayor Dorough stated that he does not know if there is a need for a local state of emergency when there is one state-wide. A discussion ensued with Commissioners being unsure if the City needs to take action since the Governor's state of emergency is still in effect. Commissioner Warbington asked that in the future the Commission be consulted when the City is put under a state of emergency. Commissioner Young expressed concern regarding the structure of emergency management operations, adding that he supports the EOC being open because he has directed citizens with questions to them.

Mayor Dorough stated that if the EOC continues to operate and the Task Force continues to meet there needs to be a local state of emergency and the City Attorney can give an opinion. The consensus was that if Mr. Davis determines that it is prudent action to take, the Commission will be consulted in the event a local state of emergency is reinstated. Mayor Pro Tem Howard recommended going forward; Commissioners Fuller, Warbington, Langstaff and Young concurred.

COVID-19 STATE OF ANTI-BODY TESTING

Mayor Dorough stated that recent discussion regarding the benefit of anti-body testing resulted in County Chairman Cohilas asking if the City is agreeable to sharing the \$80,000.00 expense and determining if the school system is interested in participating and sharing the cost. He briefly discussed the advantage of testing.

Mayor Pro Tem Howard mentioned Albany having been a recent hotspot and supported testing; Commissioner Fuller also expressed support.

Commissioner Warbington expressed concern regarding using taxpayer's money for an experiment with a starting price of \$80,000 and said he would need more information on the benefit for the citizens of Albany. Commissioner Young stated that he would also need more information.

Mayor Dorough mentioned that DeKalb and Fulton Counties are being tested by the Department of Public Health. He stated that if someone has the anti-body, it means they had the virus and the test identifies the percentage of individuals who had the virus.

Ms. Subadan advised that approximately 3,000 have been tested in this community; as of last week, approximately 17,000 coronavirus tests had been performed. She said that while she has no recommendation, she is unsure if there are any tangible benefits for the citizens of Albany.

Mayor Dorough noted that it appears the majority of the Commission is in support and directed Ms. Subadan to handle the issue as she deems appropriate. Ms. Subadan stated that she will report back.

PUBLIC SAFETY MATTERS

CODE ENFORCEMENT – DEPARTMENT STATUS

Mayor Dorough mentioned recent discussion regarding the Code Enforcement Department and suggested that it should be a separate, stand-alone department. He then recognized Commissioner Langstaff to address issues.

Commissioner Langstaff stated that the issue of whom the director of the department should report was discussed at the last meeting. Paraphrasing Mr. Davis, he said that it is up to the City Manager unless the City Commission dictates otherwise. Mr. Davis agreed, adding that GMA summed it up on page 17 of the agenda item and the Commission either accepts, rejects or modifies the City Manager's recommendation.

Mayor Pro Tem Howard supported Code Enforcement being a stand-alone department.

Commissioner Fuller supported it remaining under the police department; Commissioner Fletcher agreed with Commissioner Fuller.

Commissioner Warbington mentioned Commission priorities that were discussed at the retreat, with a lot of work to do with Code Enforcement. He referred to the addition of funds and the new fee recently imposed on blighted properties. He mentioned that he had asked for an agenda item to target extended stay hotels and suggested that as a top priority, it needs its own structure and reporting line based on the Commission's priorities.

Mayor Dorough mentioned Ms. Subadan's email. Ms. Subadan stated that her charge is carrying out the priorities of this Board, which on this matter is setting up staff and the reporting structure. She said that reporting structures are designed for results and having Code as a separate department is no problem; it has its own funding structure, as instructed by Commissioners, a director position was created in the budget and it can become a department as opposed to a division. However, since she is held accountable for the outcome, to meet Commission requirements she will need to deploy staff. Mayor Dorough mentioned Mr. Davis' letter to Commissioner Langstaff, with which he disagrees. He discussed the Commission amending the Charter in 2007, which specifically states that unlike almost any other department, Code Enforcement is subject to supervision of the City Commission and the City Manager. At that time, Code Enforcement was designated as a separate department. His opinion is that it should be a stand-alone department, with a department head who makes presentations to this Board. To provide Ms. Subadan the direction she requested, he asked the Commissioner if they believe that Code Enforcement should be a separate department. Ms. Subadan clarified that Commissioners want someone who will report to them, currently those who report to the Board are appointees; she asked if this will be an appointed position and, if so, the Commission would hire and supervise independently of the City Manager. Mayor Dorough again referred to the Charter, which states the 'City Commission and the City Manager will supervise'.

Commissioner Langstaff stated that the issues are: 1) what is meant by 'department' (division versus department) 2) to whom does the department head report and 3) if someone has a preference, it needs to be put forth in the form of a motion.

Mayor Dorough posed the question again - Do you believe that Code Enforcement should be a separate department with an independent department head or remain under the police department or some other department. Mayor Pro Tem suggested that it needs to be a stand-alone department, which reports to the City Manager, adding that APD does an excellent job, but its number one job is to ensure the safety of the citizens and community. He commented on the amount of work involved and stated that having a department dedicated to that work is best for this community especially as it pertains to blighted property in Albany. Mayor Dorough asked Commissioner Fuller if he still supports Code being under APD; Commissioner Fuller agreed, adding that he has no problem with a department head coming before the Commission. Commissioner Fletcher agreed with Commissioner Fuller. Commissioner Warbington stated that he supports it being a separate department. Commissioner Langstaff said he would leave it up to the City Manager to decide to whom the department reports. Commissioner Young stated that he has no concrete opinion either way; he discussed fines and if the department is complaint-driven or will there be an emphasis on certain parts of town. Mayor Dorough announced it is 3-3-1 and as stated in the Charter it should be an independent department. He stated that the City Commission's approach to blight has done a disservice to the community, which was identified as a priority at the retreat.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

REQUEST FOR DEFERMENT OF HUD SECTION 108 PAYMENTS

Community and Economic Development Deputy Director Phyllis Brown discussed information (copy on file), explaining that COVID-19 has greatly impacted revenue for the Hilton Garden Inn. HUD recommended that the City take advantage of a one-year principal payment deferment of the Section 108 loan due to the loss of revenue, however, is only allowing deferment of the principal payment in the amount of \$275,000 due by August 1 (interest cannot be deferred). By allowing the City to use a portion of Community Development Block Grant allocations, the interest payment will be satisfied. Staff is seeking a one-year deferment of the City's Section 108 loan repayment to HUD; additionally, Albany Holdings, LLC seeks a six-month deferment of its Section 108 loan repayment to the City, as well as a waiver for accumulated late fees (\$19,046.46). She briefly reviewed the history of the loan and advised that staff approves making formal, written request to HUD for deferment of the principal portion of the City's annual Section 108 loan repayment and approval of Albany Holdings, LLC's request for deferment of its Section 108 loan repayment for a six-month period. She explained that staff does not recommend elimination of the late fees that were previously approved and advised that Albany Holdings, LLC principal, Rick Patton, is available for questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Howard clarified that staff does not recommend elimination of late fees; Ms. Brown agreed, adding that the \$19,046.46 is a result of accrued late payments over the life of the loan. She explained the reason is because if the waiver is granted, AmeriNat, which retains all late fees, will hold the City responsible for paying the \$19,046.64.

In response to Commissioner Fuller, Ms. Brown stated that the last payment received from Albany Holdings was March 16; however, it was to satisfy the November 30, 2019 payment. Commissioner Fuller discussed three-month deferments offered by most financial institutions as opposed to the six months offered by HUD and said he supports three months as the three months prior to COVID-19 were not related to the pandemic. Ms. Brown replied that if the Commission desires, a recommendation can be made to Albany Holdings to bring the loan current as well as making the April, May and June payment. Ms. Subadan said that Albany Holdings, LLC was advised by the City to bring their loan current before considering their request. Albany Holdings

claimed to really need the six-month deferment, so we are at a stalemate as the City has already placed those stipulations on Albany Holdings. She said that the three months arrears took her by surprise, and had she been aware, she would have taken action earlier to negotiate correction of the arrears. Commissioner Fuller asked if Albany Holdings remains firm on the six months, what is the City's recourse. Mr. Davis explained that the City holds a second security deed to the hotel's property and could accelerate the note and demand payment in full, as well as exercise the power of selling its security deed.

Commissioner Fletcher said that is a little dramatic; however, this is taxpayer's money, as well as now having to help others going through the crisis. The problems the hotel is experiencing started long before the pandemic; they need to catch up and once caught up renegotiate with them.

Commissioner Warbington clarified that the late fees are not funds the City collects, but rather our third-party manager, with the City technically unable to waive those fees unless we pay them on Albany Holdings behalf; Ms. Brown agreed. In reply to Commissioner Warbington, she said that she is unaware if they have disputed the late fees. Commissioner Warbington asked Mr. Patton if he disputes the late fees; Mr. Patton did not respond; it appeared he was not on the call. Mr. Warbington noted that three months ago, a picture was painted that occupancy was high and the hotel was enjoying great success, even coming to ask for additional funding/deals, etc. then the coronavirus hit. However, when they came before the Commission, the coronavirus had not even hit Albany and they were not abiding by the terms of the loan. In his opinion, the late fees are off the table, adding that according to an email recently received, they are late 25% of the time.

Commissioners Langstaff and Young had no comments.

Mayor Dorough stated that he has no problem with the six months deferment; however, it is reasonable to require Albany Holdings to bring the note current and pay the late fees. He echoed Commissioner Warbington's concerns and asked if the City was aware that Albany Holdings was delinquent when Mr. Patton appeared before the Board earlier this year. Ms. Subadan replied that some staff was aware; however, she was not. Mayor Dorough recommended that in the future, whenever someone comes before the Commission with a proposal their current status needs to be documented, if they have any indebtedness or business relationship with the City. Ms. Subadan assured the Commission that something of this nature will ever happen to her again.

Commissioner Warbington suggested structuring a six-month deferral starting March through August, assuming they bring it current. Ms. Brown agreed, adding that they would resume in September, which was the original offer made to them.

Mayor Dorough announced that the consensus of the Commission is that Albany Holdings needs pay the late fees before making this request, as well as being preferable that the six-month period begin in April and ends September.

Ms. Brown stated that the CED needs guidance from the Commission regarding its request to deferring its annual repayment of its loan to HUD due to its loss of payment by Albany Holdings.

Commissioner Fuller asked the negative repercussions the City might encounter in the future on loans, grants, etc. Ms. Brown replied that the City would suffer no harm if it took advantage of the one-year deferment.

Commissioner Fletcher said as long as it doesn't come back on the City, she can support it.

Commissioner Warbington asked if the two items are linked or are, they totally independent of each other. Ms. Brown explained that they are linked due to the fact that the repayment from Albany Holdings for its loan is the City's source of repayment to HUD for our loan. Commissioner Warbington asked if HUD and Albany Holdings do not agree to the new terms the City is proposing, causing it to linger on, will that impact the City's request for deferment from HUD; Ms. Brown replied in the negative.

Commissioners Langstaff and Young voiced support. Mayor Dorough noted that there seems to be general support for the request for an extension.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE MATTERS

BUDGET DISCUSSION – FY 2021

Mr. Brown noted that the budget was presentation a few weeks back and asked for questions and/or comments.

Commissioner Warbington referred to the pay raise, stating that it is cleaner to operate off of grades as opposed to a dollar amount and recommended Grade 10 and down to be recommended for a raise. He mentioned recent discussion regarding projects that carry over and asked for a list of initiatives that were in previous funding years that carry over i.e. AMI, which is not mentioned in the budget other than highlights, but AMI is a project requiring tremendous resources going forward and he would like to see documentation of their status, along with the new projects. Ms. Subadan stated that in the past, an update was provided on the previous year's new initiatives and will be incorporated. Commissioner Warbington referred to the fiber hub movement from the Gordon Hotel, and, referencing a letter from Mayor Dorough, asked if it warrants investing another \$1.0 million in telecom and breaking even or maybe losing money, with SPLOST funds being used for a portion of the project. He suggested that is not an appropriate use of SPLOST funding, explaining that telecom is a customer's choice and serves a very small section while being unavailable to citizens. Ms. Subadan countered that the infrastructure supports the entire city and is not just for telecom customers, with the fiber hub being the basic on which the entire city operates. It is not just for external, for-profit customers; everything the City does runs on that base and connects to the fiber hub. She explained that even if there were no external customers, having a single point of entry for the City, as well as aged infrastructure, puts us at risk. The line item in SPLOST is for IT hardware and most all recent SPLOSTs have included it because of the recognition of a big, hardware item (police radios, technology in police cars, replacement of servers, etc.) are large capital expenses outside the City's ability to fund through general fund dollars, with external customers being the icing on top of the cake. She added that it supports the City and the County through the Service Delivery Strategy. Commissioner Warbington mentioned the detailed report Ms. Subadan sent regarding Municipal Court, which raised his concern on drastic trends over the past three-four years; revenue from Municipal has been trending down, with citations almost cut in half, while the expense of Municipal Court is trending up. He asked to see the official budget revenue of the court to determine if it is financially beneficial or if there another way to accomplish that goal and for a follow-up email to see the budgetary number.

Commission Young mentioned the IT equipment, stating that redundancy in the system is necessary to provide fail-safe back-up and it concerns him that we don't have it now. Regarding the overall plan for telecom, he said that discussion is needed regarding the City making the leap and discussed the opportunity

Albany had to go into telecom, with Commissioners at that time declining to do so. There are citizens in Albany still lacking good service, as well as businesses downtown lacking the services they want; as a revenue source, despite the cost of the investment, a thorough review is necessary.

Mayor Dorough stated that he understands the benefit of relocating that operation; however, he mentioned the Gordon Hotel, asking if we have been in contact with those developing the hotel. Ms. Subadan replied in the affirmative, adding that they, too, are somewhat behind, etc., as it pertains to COVID and the economy. She gave a brief update on being in contact with them and moving that along as well as preliminary design drawings, adding that she will have an update, report and revised timeline. Mayor Dorough asked if they are renovating the second floor to provide additional hotel rooms or is that beyond their budget. Ms. Subadan explained that they will likely use the space for events. The City has been reluctant to allow them to present anything that presumes we are moving without Commission approval. She said that the lease gives the City the right to stay in that space in perpetuity. If the Commission agrees and establishes a timeline, they would reprogram that space.

Mayor Dorough asked if there is documentation on the losses due to misconduct/malfeasance by the employees in Municipal Court. Ms. Subadan stated that she does not have the latest information. Mayor Dorough asked to get a number in the next few weeks, if there is an estimate.

OTHER PUBLIC ADMIN. AND FINANCE MATTERS

SWGA REGIONAL AIRPORT PRESENTATION

Transit Director David Hamilton advised that at the last meeting, a resolution was approved to accept the CARES grant award for the SWGA Airport in the amount of \$15.9 million. Using Power Point, he reviewed the information on the proposal of the extended CARES Act Grant and other Airport funding sources (copy on file). He advised that this same presentation was made before the Aviation Commission.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Howard regarding the CARES Act, Mr. Hamilton explained that the City was allocated \$18,0 million when the Act was first announced, with the actual amount being \$15.9 million. The City can apply for the balance of the \$18.0 million (slightly over \$2.0 million) to the FAA, but must demonstrate a need, which will not be an issue. He said that the City can apply after one year and once the need has been demonstrated, the grant is good for four years.

In reply to Commissioner Warbington regarding ideas/plan to maximize the Airport's potential in attracting new business, increase airport traffic, etc., Mr. Hamilton discussed the 85 acres of Airport property, with the airfield being certified; having to obtain FAA approval for proposed capital projects, being listed on the Georgia Economic Development website, which lists potential industries looking to relocate, etc.

Commissioner Langstaff added in response to Commissioner Warbington, that over the last few years, the Aviation Commission has discussed in great length using the Airport as a tool for economic development, which resulted in grant-certification of the 85 acres, revitalization of the hangars and the general aviation terminal. He suggested that having these projects ready to go was a big plus in being awarded the grant

and, having been awarded the grant, he said he is unsure of the ability to substitute a different expense now, but the Aviation Commission is open to and welcomes further discussion/suggestions.

In reply to Mayor Dorough questions, Mr. Hamilton discussed: the 82,000 commercial passengers and that number fluctuating daily (down approximately 90-95%); Eagles of American, the FBO (Fixed Base Operators) leasing the City's terminal and hangar for their operations and paying \$4,000/monthly; he will have to contact the FBO to ascertain their revenue for this year.

Mayor Dorough asked if the City has considered running the FBO as a revenue generator. As an Aviation Board member, Commissioner Langstaff, explained that it was discussed; however, the liability is a concern due to the nature of operations (fueling/towing planes), with it being outsourced by most municipal airports. He mentioned that the former FBO pulled out of Albany because of the condition of the general aviation facility and amount of traffic coming through, etc., issues which impact the inability to attract economic development prospects.

Mayor Dorough mentioned the approximate \$6.5 million set aside in CARES funds. Mr. Brown discussed the \$3.3 million in savings CARES funding will provide the City over the three years it will not have to subsidize the Airport. Mayor Dorough asked that the savings through CARES for the Airport and Transit be provided to the Commission. Ms. Subadan explained the difference between the grants for the Airport and Transit, with Transit being back online in 2022 as CARES funding for that department expires. She briefly discussed reducing the assumption for fees collected at the Airport and continued reliance on SPLOST IV funds as a local match for grants. Mayor Dorough recommended expediting construction at the Airport because of the escalation of construction materials.

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE – Municipal Court

Municipal Court Administrator Karen McWhite reported on the current vacancies; GBI training; a planned mock court session; plans to move, as much as allowed by law, to paperless; changes already implemented (records clerk no longer allowed to make changes to disposition of cases); the need to expand outreach for the Public Defender and Solicitor positions; and a shift in the timeline because of COVID-19; however, the schedule remains the same for hiring. She invited the Commission to view the video relaunch of Municipal Court.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Howard, Ms. McWhite stated that there will be three court sessions per day for a total of nine per week. Mayor Pro Tem Howard asked if the GBI investigation is complete; Ms. Subadan explained that the criminal investigation is ongoing, adding that no details of the investigation can be reported at this time.

Ms. McWhite concurred with Commissioner Warbington that court is held Monday, Wednesday and Friday, spread throughout the day at specific times, with defendants being notified of the time their case will be heard.

Commissioner Langstaff asked if only one professional staff resume meeting requirements was received. Ms. McWhite agreed, which was the Solicitor position. Commissioner Langstaff asked Mr. Davis if we are going to maintain the current Municipal Court functions, must we have a Public Defender because of the potential of jail time; Mr. Davis agreed. Commissioner Langstaff expressed concern about a qualified

Public Defender willing to work for the salary the City is willing to pay; if someone is not found, the Municipal Court will not function as it did in the past. Ms. McWhite discussed interim attorneys filling in for those positions, adding that this will be revisited once the Court moves toward reopening. Commissioner Langstaff mentioned the need to know how long a temporary person is willing to fill-in as it relates to hiring staff.

Commissioner Young asked if there have been any problems with anyone getting jail time and adjudicating their case in a timely manner. Ms. McWhite replied in the negative and explained that the attorney filling in as a Public Defender contacts individuals needing representation and that they are still able to go to the jail to meet with the defendant.

Mayor Dorough mentioned the one qualified applicant for the Public Defender position and asked if this occurred before or after the Commission amended the standards in the ordinance. Ms. McWhite replied that it was after the initial amendment reducing the age requirement, and it was in April. Mayor Dorough advised that this was before the ordinance was changed, with the minimum age being reduced to 25 on May 26. Ms. McWhite replied that the two bars associations (C.B. King and Dougherty County) are excellent sources for the information to be broadcast.

Mayor Dorough noted that Judge Weaver was on the line. Mr. Davis advised that once court resumes the plan is to bring abatement cases, as well as blight cases, and asked Judge Weaver if it will be as in the past, with mornings set aside for those cases. Judge Weaver replied that with the new schedule, it may be possible to do more cases.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Howard asked about the joint resolution with the County regarding wearing masks in the Government Center. Mr. Davis reminded that there is a concern regarding enforcement. Mayor Dorough suggested putting a statement in the ordinance that it will be a violation of the City Code. Mr. Davis said that he was under the impression that there was concern about local security and someone balks – that could lead to a problem. Mayor Pro Tem Howard agreed to having Ms. Subadan provide recommendations.

Commissioner Warbington mentioned Youth Baseball, with City facilities currently being closed and asked the plan for Youth Baseball for the summer. Ms. Subadan advised that staff is working on the reopening and should have something to Commissioners soon. She gave an update on various offices reopening, adding that public spaces will be incrementally reopened. Regarding youth sports, she advised that the CDC still recommends against it, but there is no guidance regarding social distancing and youth sports, adding that a concern is inherent liability if the City encouraged youth sports, but the reopening plan will be addressed. Commissioner Warbington asked if other municipalities in Georgia have opened baseball/youth sports. Ms. Subadan discussed a survey conducted by a professional association with 51% of leagues are completely cancelled; 27% is postponed and the remainder are undecided. She said that Albany is not ready to cancel but wants to postpone until it is safe for kids to play. She reported that Judge Weaver is a baseball coach and he reached out directly to the CDC, with the reply being that they are not recommending it and, it is not among the first tier of opening. She explained that with Transit opening next week, there are modifications to boarding/paying in order to protect operators. She reiterated that

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internal employees will follow, then the Municipal Court will reopen followed by a full-fledged reopening for all City facilities. She added that the City and County are coordinating especially public safety and the joint occupied facilities. In response to Commissioner Warbington, she said that City facilities are not yet open to the public.

Commissioner Young noted that Phoebe reported the lowest number of COVID cases since March, which he attributes to policy set forth by the Task Force. He asked that discussion begin about Commission meetings returning to the normal format.

Mayor Dorough asked the status of putting out an RFP for a lobbyist. Ms. Subadan stated that the draft has been prepared, adding that there seems to be a difference of opinion among Board members. However, she said she will move forward and the Commission can decide how to proceed. Mayor Dorough asked if there is an RFP for Carver Park: Ms. Subadan replied in the affirmative. Mayor Dorough mentioned the letters he has sent Mr. Davis regarding declaring a property on Wexford as a nuisance. Mr. Davis said he will provide a response.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

SISSY KELLY
ASST. CITY CLERK