



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

TOMMY HAZOURI
PRESIDENT
COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE, GROUP 3
OFFICE: (904) 255-5217
FAX: (904) 255-5230
E-MAIL: THAZOURI@COJ.NET

117 WEST DUVAL STREET, SUITE 425
4TH FLOOR, CITY HALL
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

July 15, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Honorable Tommy Hazouri, Council President

RE: Continuation of Virtual Meetings

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tommy Hazouri".

This correspondence is being forwarded to provide Council Members with timely communication on subject matters impacting our City and other aspects of Council operations.

The Governor, through Executive Order and, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has allowed for virtual quorum for local government boards and commissions. The Council will continue with the Council meetings and committee meetings through virtual meetings until the Governor requires physical presence for quorum, and will govern the meetings pursuant to the procedures adopted unanimously in Ordinance 2020-200-E.

Pursuant to the authority granted in the Governor's Executive Order 20-69ⁱ, the Council enacted Ordinance 2020-200-E which provides rules and procedures for attending Council meetings and committee meetings using communications media technology ("CMT"). The Council has primarily utilized CMT by using the Zoom application, which allows remote appearance, and for those without computer access, the ability to appear by telephone.

Council and committee meetings will be held in compliance with Ordinance 2020-200-E, Governor's Orders, the Mayor's Executive Orders, and CDC Requirements. There will be no City Council meetings or committee meetings in City Council Chambers until at least after July 31, 2020, or later if the Governor's virtual quorum Executive Order is extended.

In the meantime, all standing agenda and standing committee meetings will be held via Zoom. In addition, the Chambers will remain closed with only the Council Secretary/Director and Council technical staff (and other staff as authorized by the Council Secretary/Director), who are deemed necessary to conduct the meetings virtually. A Chair Person of a committee is permitted to attend a committee meeting in Chambers via Zoom but no other Council Members will be permitted so as to comply with the Governor's Order regarding social distancing, masks, access to government and the recommendations of the Attorney General's Office.



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

TOMMY HAZOURI
PRESIDENT
COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE, GROUP 3
OFFICE: (904) 255-5217
FAX: (904) 255-5230
E-MAIL: THAZOURI@COJ.NET

117 WEST DUVAL STREET, SUITE 425
4TH FLOOR, CITY HALL
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

Meetings will continue under the current processes and procedures, as we continue to be under the Governor's State of Emergencyⁱⁱ and will move from the Zoom procedures to live and in-person pursuant to a Transition Plan (which will be prepared by the Council Secretary/Director with my input and in consultation with the Office of General Counsel and the Ethics Office) when the public health and safety circumstances permit.

The Council Secretary/Director, Public Works Director, and other departments of the City of Jacksonville are working diligently to procure the necessary items for social distancing to meet the requirements and to prepare for the phase-in of a Transition Plan for "Live –In- Person" Meetings, subject to State and local orders pertaining to COVID-19 and the public health and safety. An update on the Transition Plan and Plexiglass installation will be forthcoming.

A few details for Committee and Council Week – Please refer to Legislative Services for all Zoom Virtual Notices:

Meetings Noticed and Posted for Virtual Zoom Meetings:

NCSPHS Standing Committee 9:30 a.m. 7.20.2020

TEU Standing Committee 2:00 p.m. 7.20.2020

Finance Agenda Meeting 9:00 a.m. 7.21.2020

Finance Standing Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. 7.20.2020

Rules Agenda Committee Meeting 1:30 p.m. 7.21.2020

Rules Standing Committee Meeting 2:00 p.m. 7.21.2020

LUZ Agenda Meeting 4:00 p.m. Monday 7.20.2020

LUZ Standing Committee Meeting 5:00 p.m. 7.21.2020

City Council Meeting 4:00 p.m. 7.28.2020



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

TOMMY HAZOURI
PRESIDENT
COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE, GROUP 3
OFFICE: (904) 255-5217
FAX: (904) 255-5230
E-MAIL: THAZOURI@COJ.NET

117 WEST DUVAL STREET, SUITE 425
4TH FLOOR, CITY HALL
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

During this virtual meeting time, and when we ultimately transition to in-person meetings, per Council Rule 2.201, the LUZ Committee Chair is authorized to schedule special meetings of the LUZ Committee to address specific bills. Such special LUZ Committee meetings shall be announced at a regular LUZ Committee meeting. While Council Rule 2.201 requires regular LUZ Committee meetings to occur after 4:00 p.m., with public hearings starting after 5:00 p.m., special LUZ Committee meetings may be scheduled at any time, with public hearings occurring at such special LUZ Committee meetings. Additionally, for regular LUZ Committee meetings, the LUZ Committee Chair is authorized to set a “time certain” for any, or all, bills. Such “time certain” shall be announced at the LUZ Agenda meeting. Items that exceed their “time certain” allotment, may be continued to the next regular LUZ Committee meeting, or continued to a special LUZ Committee meeting. The Office of General Counsel is directed to work with the LUZ Committee Chair, the Council Secretary, the Legislative Services Division and the Planning and Development Department to ensure that the City complies with all notice and public hearing requirements for special and regular LUZ Committee meetings.

This pandemic has tested our ability to live, work, and thrive in an ever-changing environment. Colleagues, you are meeting the challenges and have adapted. Special thanks for your patience as we navigate through uncharted and unprecedented obstacles that this pandemic presents. I will do my best to ensure that you are updated with as the situation changes and as we develop the Transition Plan for moving forward.

ⁱ On March 20, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-69, which allowed local government bodies to appear “virtually” at public meetings utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic and video conferencing subject to the requirements of section 120.54(5)(b)2, Florida Statutes. This Executive Order was extended by Executive Order 20-112 and further extended by Executive Order 20-150 until August 1, 2020.

ⁱⁱ On March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52, declaring a state of emergency for the entire state due to COVID-19. On July 7, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-166, which extended Executive Order 20-52, as extended by Executive Order 20-114. Thus, the COVID-19 state of emergency remains in effect.