

City Hall  
Council Chambers  
July 28, 2020

The special called meeting of the Mayor and Council was held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.

Mayor Phil Best called the meeting to order. Councilman Paul Griggs was present and Council members Bill Brown, Bennie Jones, Curtis Edwards, Gerald Smith, Chris Smith, and Jerry Davis were present via teleconference. City Manager Lance Jones gave the invocation followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE PROHIBITING FAIRS AND CARNIVALS

City Manager Jones read the Emergency Ordinance #20-13 a Declaration of a State of Emergency arising because of COVID-19; an ordinance taking immediate emergency measures. He explained the purpose of the called meeting was to discuss a Carnival that has been set up in the Home Depot parking lot, set to open on July 30, 2020. Staff has consulted with health officials. Due to the increase in COVID-19 cases in Laurens County, the emergency ordinance will last 45 days and could be extended.

City Attorney Powell stated that the ordinance was meant to supplement the Governor's Executive Order.

Councilman Bennie Jones asked if the city would be putting themselves in a position for ramification?

City Attorney Powell stated there could be the potential to have to defend the decision.

Councilman Jones asked if the city had a solution, what does Fairview Park Hospital and Dr. Craft recommend to slow the spread of COVID-19 down?

Mayor Best stated if cases are rising, why would we want to add additional cases by allowing a carnival.

Councilman Jones stated that he checked with the Mayor of Douglas where the carnival just left, and the city made them follow their orders. He also stated that the Mayor of Douglas said that the Carnival was not the problem it was the crowd that gathered. Why is the carnival being shut down now, when they already setting up?

Mayor Best stated that he received a call from Dublin City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Fred Williams, expressing his concern of allowing a carnival to open so close to schools starting back.

Councilman Jones questioned people traveling to Florida and High School Football starting back. Crowds will gather.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

