

**SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEBORO**

**MEETING DATE:** THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020

**MEETING TIME:** 6:00 PM

**LOCATION:** COUNCIL CHAMBER ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR OF  
ASHEBORO CITY HALL,  
146 NORTH CHURCH STREET,  
ASHEBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27203

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At 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 3, 2020, the Asheboro City Council will convene for a special meeting in the council chamber located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Asheboro City Hall, 146 North Church Street, Asheboro, North Carolina 27203. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the dramatic rise in COVID-19 infections and the resulting impact on city operations.

The city manager will provide the governing board with the latest pandemic related information that he has received. In response to this information, the governing board may adopt a resolution expressing support for best practices to mitigate the threat posed by the current public health crisis.

Anyone who wishes to attend this special meeting of the Asheboro City Council is welcomed.

This special meeting notice has been issued as of 4:30 p.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2020.

/s/ David H. Smith  
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David H. Smith, Mayor  
City of Asheboro, North Carolina

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**SPECIAL MEETING  
ASHEBORO CITY COUNCIL  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ASHEBORO CITY HALL  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020  
6:00 PM**

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This being the time and place for a special meeting of the Asheboro City Council, a meeting was held with the following elected city officials and city management team members either physically present in the meeting room or participating by telephone conference call:

- David H. Smith ) – Mayor Presiding and Physically Present
  
- Edward J. Burks )
- Walker B. Moffitt ) – Council Members Physically Present
- Jane H. Redding )
- Charles A. Swiers )
  
- Linda H. Carter ) – Council Members Present by Telephone Conference Call
- Katie L. Snuggs )
  
- Clark R. Bell ) – Council Member Absent

City Manager John N. Ogburn, III – Present by Telephone Conference Call  
Assistant Community Development Director John L. Evans – Physically Present  
City Attorney Jeffrey C. Sugg – Physically Present  
Deputy City Clerk Tammy M. Williams – Physically Present

**1. Call to order.**

A quorum thus being present, Mayor Smith called the meeting to order for the transaction of business, and business was transacted as follows. The number of elected officials, city employees, and private citizens physically present in the council chamber at any point in time was limited in order to comply with the applicable executive orders, specifically including physical distancing guidance, during the current public health emergency. During the single vote held during the meeting, specific inquiries were made by Mayor Smith to ensure that Council Member Carter and Council Member Snuggs, who were participating by telephone conference call, were on the line and able to cast their votes.

**2. City Manager John N. Ogburn, III led a discussion focused on the impact of the novel coronavirus on the city government and the community it serves.**

As part of his presentation, Mr. Ogburn used a slide show that was advanced by Assistant Community Development Director John Evans while the city manager spoke by means of the conference call that was audible throughout the council chamber. During his presentation, Mr. Ogburn discussed the threat posed by the global pandemic to the following areas:

1. Public Health
2. Rural North Carolina
3. Local Economy
4. Local Health Care Systems

Mr. Ogburn presented the following statistics provided by the CDC, NCDHHS, and Randolph County Public Health as of December 1, 2020:

1. Confirmed cases in the United States – 13,864,537
2. Confirmed deaths in the United States – 273,912
3. Confirmed cases in North Carolina – 368,615
4. Confirmed deaths in North Carolina – 5,322
5. Confirmed cases in Randolph County – 5,489
6. Confirmed deaths in Randolph County – 87

Randolph County has been upgraded to code red as defined by the NCDHHS. The increase in new cases is believed to be driven by community spread and not from congregate living settings like nursing homes or jail.

Mr. Ogburn reported that Rebekah McGee, Executive Director of Downtown Asheboro, Inc., has polled the city's downtown merchants and approximately 1/3 of merchants could survive another mandated government shutdown, 1/3 of the merchants would attempt to stay open but unsure if they could continue, and 1/3 of the merchants would have to permanently close.

If the Piedmont Triad area and Randolph Health systems become overwhelmed, critical ill patients may be faced with difficult healthcare decisions. Critically ill patients are being transferred to Cone Health which has been at or near capacity recently, and patients have had to be transferred to other larger healthcare systems.

Mr. Ogburn also discussed the organizational changes made by members of the city management to meet the challenges posed by the public health crisis. Asheboro Fire Department Station 1 has been divided into 2 distinct sections. Sleeping quarters and training are organized to minimize potential exposures, and the employees are not eating meals together.

The Asheboro Police Department is striving to maintain physical distancing between officers on different shifts and vigilance is maintained in order to promote effective use of face coverings across the spectrum of situations encountered by the officers during a shift.

Safety Manager Steve Paye is working diligently with the facilities maintenance department to resupply vehicles and offices with personal protective equipment. Access to city offices is restricted so as to encourage limited entry. Employees are reminded of the importance of wearing a face covering, maintaining social/physical distancing, and working in separate areas as much as possible.

Likewise, the indoor City Recreation facilities are observing limited hours and requiring face coverings to be worn.

As part of his presentation, the city manager encouraged the city council to adopt a resolution in support of a municipal/county joint statement signed on December 2, 2020. Mayor Smith joined in this request and asked the council to take immediate action on the resolution.

Council Member Redding moved, and Council Member Swiers seconded the motion, to approve/adopt the following resolution. Council Members Burks, Carter, Moffitt, Redding, Snuggs, and Swiers voted aye. There were no dissenting votes. Consequently, the resolution was approved/adopted unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 30 RES 12-20**

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL/COUNTY JOINT STATEMENT SIGNED DECEMBER 2, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, the Novel Coronavirus pandemic is spreading exponentially through our nation, state, Randolph County and its municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, Randolph County currently has had 5,489 confirmed cases of the Novel Coronavirus; as of December 1, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, 87 Randolph County families have suffered the loss of loved ones due to the Novel Coronavirus; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Asheboro expresses its support of the Municipal/County Joint Statement adopted December 2, 2020 and urges our citizens to practice the safety measures recommended by public health professionals and take action to prevent the spread of the Novel Coronavirus and to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community by observing the 3W's and avoiding the 3 C's:

**WEAR** (a cloth face covering over your mouth and nose anytime you exit your home)  
**WASH** (your hands often or use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not accessible)

**WAIT** (at least 6 feet apart from anyone outside your immediate family) and,

**Crowded places** (where many people are nearby or in close proximity to each other)

**Close-contact settings** (where people have close-range conversations)

**Confined and enclosed spaces** (with poor ventilation)

**This Resolution was adopted by the Asheboro City Council in open session during a special meeting held on December 3, 2020.**

/s/ David H. Smith  
David H. Smith, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

/s/Tammy M. Williams  
Tammy M. Williams, Deputy City Clerk

- 3. To conclude the meeting, Mayor Smith led a council discussion focused on encouraging individuals to take positive actions in any way that each of us can to combat the threat posed by the public health emergency.**

Mayor Smith and the council members were united in their desire for the city and its officers and employees to continue to take the actions needed to adapt and to continue to deliver public services while promoting responsible personal behavior that will help to slow the spread of the virus until vaccinations can occur on a large enough scale to bring about a form of normalcy. The meeting concluded with an emphasis on the importance of practicing the 3 W's (wash hands frequently, wait 6 feet apart, and wear a face covering), receiving the vaccine when available, keeping a positive attitude, and staying in touch with family and friends.

- 4. Adjournment.**

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

/s/Tammy M. Williams  
Tammy M. Williams, Deputy City Clerk

/s/David H. Smith  
David H. Smith, Mayor