

**TOWN OF MANY**  
**April 29, 2020**  
**Special Called Session**

The Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Many met in special session via teleconference due to the COVID-19 outbreak, on Wednesday, April 29, 2020 at 1:00 PM which was conducted from Town Hall. Present were Mayor Ken Freeman and Town Clerk Amie Brown. Present by teleconference where roll call was announced one member at a time, were council members Bobbie Jackson, Gay Corley and Mary Brocato. Absent were Mayor Pro-Tem James Kennedy and council member Anita Darwin.

Mayor Ken Freeman called the meeting to order at 1:20 PM and the prayer was offered by Alderwoman Corley.

**Open to Public Comments relating to items on agenda:** No one from the public was available

**The purpose of the meeting:**

**COVID-19 Restrictions:** Mayor Freeman explained that he called Mike McCormick after the Governor's press conference where he extended the stay-at-home order and other restrictions until May 15<sup>th</sup> and suggested getting together and come up with a joint proclamation so that everybody would be on the same page and due to the fact that we were on the only official public organizations in Sabine Parish to declare a state of emergency. After coming up with the proclamation Mr. McCormick asked did he think the other mayors of the parish would sign with them to which Mayor Freeman said he would get with them and see if they do. Florian, Fisher and Pleasant Hill agreed to sign; Zwolle, Noble and Converse refused to sign. So the Town of Many and Sabine Parish Police Jury, along with the three towns that agreed to sign have jointly issued the proclamation. Mayor Freeman went on to say that the proclamation is basically an extension of the Governor's stay-at-home order and his other executive orders, with the addition that if you deal with the public face-to-face you must wear a mask, and another interesting thing we found out during the press conference was that if your business did not fall under the essential category or the restricted cannot open category you could still open but you had to only allow ten people at one time in your establishment and you were responsible for making sure those ten people practiced social distancing so we are getting the word out to the public that if you do not fall under these categories you can still open with these restrictions. Mayor Freeman added that a copy of the proclamation has been sent to David Davis because we have been told that the Governor's orders become the responsibility of Homeland Security to enforce. A copy of the proclamation has also been sent to the Index, radio station, Around the Town, Observations, and channels 3, 6 and 12. Also, Mayor Freeman and Mike McCormick did a joint interview with channel 6. Alderwoman Brocato asked if the ten people allowed at one time included employees to which Mayor Freeman said it was ten customers; Alderwoman Corley suggested that it be double checked because she understood it to include employees and customers and Mayor Freeman said we would follow up on it. Alderwoman Jackson asked if barber and beauty shops could open to which Mayor Freeman stated they could not open as well as the health clubs. Alderwoman Corley stated that we need to get it out that the 8:00 curfew will be lifted but still no gatherings of large crowds. Alderwoman Brocato stated that she will resume Save the Date from 8:00 to 8:30 tomorrow morning and if it was okay she would go over some of that and that getting the word out is very important and Mayor Freeman replied absolutely that it is now public knowledge and it has been posted and that he agrees with her. Mayor Freeman stated that if the Governor lifts the order in two weeks we can amend our proclamation but in an effort to not confuse people we made ours until the 31<sup>st</sup> of May which he hopes the Governor does lift it in some safe and responsible way. Alderwoman Brocato asked if it would be enforced to which Mayor Freeman said yes and that he asked the police department to just give warnings for a week until they get used to it and understand that we are serious about it then start giving tickets. Alderwoman Brocato stated that she understood that restaurants can be open but not for seating in the restaurant but for outside seating as long as the tables are six feet apart and they cannot be served the food and asked was that correct to which Mayor Freeman said that is correct and explained that they can call it in and pick it up and set at the table but cannot be served or cleaned up after them. Mayor Freeman said he feels for people right now and Alderwoman Brocato said she was afraid it would result in us losing some businesses in Many.

Next scheduled Regular Council Meeting is on Tuesday, June 16, 2020.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 1:35 PM was made by Alderwoman Corley and seconded by Alderwoman Jackson and Mayor Freeman called for a vote one member at a time. Vote was unanimous.

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KENNETH FREEMAN, MAYOR

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AMIE BROWN, TOWN CLERK