

BEMIDJI CITY COUNCIL CITY OF BEMIDJI

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTIONS 13D.04 AND 13D.021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Bemidji will hold a Public Affairs Committee Meeting on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at Bemidji City Hall.

In accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. Sections 13D.04 and 13D.021, Mayor Rita C. Albrecht, has determined that an in person meeting is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic and Peace Time State of Emergency, declared under Chapter 12 of the Minnesota Statutes.

Because of the health pandemic and Peace Time State of Emergency, it has been determined that attendance at the regular meeting location by members of the public is not feasible.

Because of the health pandemic and Peace Time State of Emergency, it has been determined that the physical presence at the regular meeting location by at least one member of the body, chief legal counsel or chief administrative officer is not feasible.

Therefore, some or all of the members may be participating by telephone or other electronic means.

To join by video conference, go to Cisco Webex website, click on join in the upper right corner and enter information below (access will open at 4:45 p.m.):

Meeting number (access code): 126 403 9568

**Meeting password: vM87JkiGjP4 (86875544 from phones & video systems)
Click Join Meeting**

To join by phone, dial: +1-408-418-9388. Follow the prompts and use the following access code (access will open at 4:45 p.m.):

Meeting number (access code): 126 403 9568

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AGENDA

***June 22, 2020 ~ 5:00 p.m.
City Hall***

(Administration, Personnel, Legal, Finance, PEG Access, Municipal Liquor, Police & Fire)

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. DISCUSS RENTAL CODE AMENDMENTS
3. POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONCEPT
4. ADJOURN

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide leadership and coordination for the City Council in public policy areas related to:

- *Internal council policies and procedures*
- *External relations to other units of government and service providers*
- *Community governance and civic relations*
- *Advisory boards and commissions*



City Manager's Office

TO: Public Affairs Committee
FROM: Nate Mathews, City Manager
DATE: June 19, 2020
RE: Agenda discussion items

Staff are bringing two topics for discussion at Monday's 5pm Public Affairs Committee: the Bemidji Rental Code; and a concept of creating a Police Advisory Commission.

Rental Code discussion

City staff currently manage a Rental Code program that incorporates a bi-annual building code inspection of properties and the State's Crime Free Housing program. Over the years our community has shared the perception that the rental code exists to empower property owners and help them, and to assure quality in the City's rental housing stock. We would like to spend some time reviewing our current rental code process, discuss what is working, discuss some Code refinements/updates that may make sense for Bemidji, and also discuss the nuances regarding "strikes" that may be placed upon rental properties for compliance violation reasons.

We would like to receive some direction from the Committee and also Council on potential modifications they may like to see further researched and considered, if it makes sense to hold further public meetings/hearings on the Rental Code this summer, or other dynamics about City Rental properties that you would like to discuss.

Police Advisory Committee concept discussion

We would like to discuss with the Committee your thoughts on establishing a new Police Advisory Committee in Bemidji. At this time both Chief Mastin and I are researching other models in the State. Earlier this past week I received a few phone calls from residents expressing interest in this topic, and also some interest in establishing a Race Equity committee that would assist in assessing city policies. There have been a number of racial committee initiatives over the years in Bemidji, and while this is separate subject from a Police Advisory Committee, I believe there are some members of the Bemidji community who feel a connection potentially exists here between these two committee focuses. We would like to hear from the committee (and community) about the potential scope of a Police Advisory Committee, the role and benefit it could provide to our City, expectations, timelines, etc. regarding this idea.