

Committee of the Whole Minutes
Wednesday, April 14, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

Purpose: Further discussion on Ordinance 2021-08 Creating an Ordinance to Create a Temporary Mask Order within the City of Neenah due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Present: Aldermen Borchardt, Boyette, Bates, Lang, Lendrum, Erickson, Hilstrom, Steele, Stevenson and Mayor Kaufert.

Also Present: City Attorney Westbrook.

Council President Stevenson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

I. Attorney Westbrook called a voice roll call.

MSC Steele/Hilstrom to amend the agenda and take up Item III. Ordinance 2021-08 Creating an Ordinance to Create a Temporary Mask Order within the City of Neenah due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, (7-2) all voting aye, Ald. Lendrum and Bates voting nay.

III. Ordinance 2021-08 Creating an Ordinance to Create a Temporary Mask Order within the City of Neenah due to the COVID-19 Pandemic **(Roll Call)**

M Bates to recommend to Council approval of Ordinance 2021-08. Failed due to absence of second.

- A. Alderperson Borchardt proposes a motion, in lieu of Ordinance 2021-08, that the Committee recommend the Council strongly endorse and ratify the Mayoral Proclamation issued April 12, 2021, encouraging Covid precautions, including the wearing of masks.
1. Alderperson Lendrum asks City Attorney to describe the difference between an Ordinance and a Proclamation. Attorney Westbrook advises that an Ordinance has the weight of law whereas a Proclamation is a recommendation or suggestion with no legal enforcement.
 2. Alderperson Bates advises per an email from Rep. Rachael Cabral-Guevara that N-95 masks are considered the most effective. Bates asks if this statement can be included in the Proclamation. Attorney Westbrook advises that it would be improper to amend the Proclamation but that it could be ratified.
 3. Alderperson Bates advises that, if passed, this Proclamation should be publicized whether by billboard or other signage. Mayor Kaufert advises that it will be placed on the City website, provided to the media, and distributed throughout the City.

MSC Borchardt/Hilstrom, in lieu of Ordinance 2021-08, that the Committee recommend Council strongly endorse and ratify the Mayoral Proclamation issued April 12, 2021, encouraging Covid precautions, including the wearing of masks, all voting aye.

II. Public Appearances

- A. Jeremy Lindberg – address inaudible – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- B. Janice Swanic – 603 Oak St – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- C. Fred Lebeski – address inaudible – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- D. Lisa Raab – address inaudible – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- E. Tamara Haaz – 301 E Wisconsin Ave – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- F. Bill Polnow – address inaudible – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- G. Jillian Smith – address inaudible – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- H. Barbara Bodenhausen – address inaudible – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- I. Rich Bodenhausen – 402 Monroe St – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- J. Bobby Green – 1531 Remington, owner Greene’s Pour House – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- K. Jay Van Handel – 793 Harvard Dr – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- L. Katherine Coonen – address inaudible – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- M. Ricky Jayhart – 700 Maple Street – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- N. Ron McCary – 610 Sherry Street – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- O. Bob Lace – 765 Oak – spoke in support of mask ordinance.
- P. Andrea Marsh – 633 South Park – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- Q. Mark Schramper – 1244 Maple St – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- R. Kelly Burnham – 985 Ridgewood Dr – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- S. Scott Burnham – 985 Ridgewood Dr – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- T. Dan Bahn – 711 Nicolet Blvd – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- U. Former Mayor Marigen Carpenter – 599 Rikers Road – says one of the best things about Neenah is that, when bad things happen, people come out to help. She advises that the current pandemic is an example of a bad thing happening and that we should be thinking about how we can help. She offers a reminder that wearing a mask is not just for you and is a simple way to help. She advises that the Preamble to the Constitution is clear about our responsibilities as well as our rights, and the goal to promote the general welfare of our people. She acknowledges that the advisory is a step in the right direction, but that we must now choose to either ask ourselves “How can I help” or simply to say “You’re not the boss of me.” She hopes we will reflect and make the right choice.
- V. Dale Meeks – address inaudible – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- W. Doug Miller – 1606 Redwing Dr – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- X. Jesse Frisby – 514 Maple St – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- Y. Laurie Asbury – 234 Limekiln Dr – spoke in favor of mask ordinance.
- Z. Steve Lenz – 721 Kensington Rd – spoke in favor of mask ordinance.

- AA. Candace Leach – Town of Vinland, Neenah business owner – spoke in opposition of mask ordinance.
- BB. Brandon Roebek – 202 Edgewood Dr – spoke in favor of mask ordinance.

IV. Adjournment

- A. **MSC Borchardt/Erickson to adjourn at 7:32 p.m., all voting aye.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Westbrook". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "A" and "W".

Adam Westbrook
City Attorney