

Fw: Monday Council

From: Fazekas, Lynn (lynn.fazekas@cityofdekalb.com)

To: yinn422@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, July 20, 2020, 01:44 PM CDT

From: Fazekas, Lynn <Lynn.Fazekas@CITYOFDEKALB.com>

Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 9:07 AM

To: Smith, Jerry <Jerry.Smith@CITYOFDEKALB.com>

Cc: Alexander, Jeremy <JAlexander@CITYOFDEKALB.com>; Nicklas, Bill <bill.nicklas@CITYOFDEKALB.com>

Subject: Re: Monday Council

Jerry,

State's Attorney Amato recently indicated that if the city is to offer contemporaneous remote interaction at a meeting for one, it must offer it to all. Therefore, I must ask that the accommodation be offered to the public as well as to myself.

It behooves me also to mention the latest guidance from the World Health Organization. WHO is now satisfied the COVID-19 virus is airborne, meaning it can be spread in aerosol form that can stay in the air for much longer than previously suspected, especially in indoor settings. To keep people safe, the city needs to have flawless social distancing AND keep their masks on the whole time (something not yet accomplished at council meetings) and even then, the longer the meeting drags on, the more the viral load increases in the room and raises risks.

Bottom line: No matter what phase we are in, the best decision for public safety in 2020 is for as many people as possible to meet via means of remote participation instead of in-person. I sincerely hope council will take this matter up themselves and soon (which is actually your purview) instead of leaving these decisions to staff who don't seem to take the risks seriously and/or are congenitally incapable of keeping their masks on.

The meeting agendas say, "As a convenience to the public, the City of DeKalb may also provide video, audio, telephonic or internet access for the public to monitor this meeting." So accommodation for the public can be added for tonight without amendment of the agendas.

To add a technical note, the best results from my end so far have been with Zoom. I can coordinate audio by phone with video that synchronizes properly -- something that has not happened with Microsoft Teams method, which also seems to boot me off one or more times per meeting. So Zoom would certainly be my preference, especially since a lot of people have and use it.

Please let me know ASAP whether the remote accommodation for the public can be made tonight, so I may help get the word out to the public.

Thanks.