

RESOLUTION NO. 14-20

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN EMERGENCY POLICY REGARDING TELEPHONE
AND ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

RECITALS:

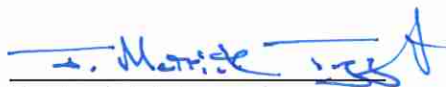
The City Council has considered the attached Telephone and Electronic Participation in City Council Meetings Policy ("*Policy*") and has determined that the adoption thereof will provide a method for conducting City Council meetings during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The *Policy* will help the Council to conduct efficient and effective meetings in its administration of the public's business.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION:

- a) The *Policy* shall constitute the procedure for the City Council to conduct meetings of the Grand Junction City Council; and,
- b) The *Policy* is effective immediately and shall continue in effect until revised by subsequent resolution of the Council.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 23rd day of March 2020.



J. Merrick Taggart
President of the City Council



Wanda Winklemann
City Clerk



Telephone and Electronic Participation in City Council Meetings

This policy is a temporary, emergency policy and is established to respond to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic ("Policy.")

The purpose of the Policy is the facilitation of City Council operations during the pandemic by providing for Councilmembers participation in meetings without exposing themselves or others to risks of contagion.

The Policy is adopted by Resolution of the City Council and remain in effect until it is withdrawn at the conclusion of the emergency or superseded by adoption of a Resolution modifying the Policy.

1) A City Councilmember may participate and vote by telephone or electronic (Skype, WebX etc.) means ("Electronic Participation") at a meeting of the City Council if the Councilmember is unable to physically attend the meeting(s) due to quarantine, illness or has concern of risk of exposure to the COVID-19.

2) For purposes of this Policy, Electronic Participation requires utilizing conference telephone, video or similar electronic means which is(are) clear, uninterrupted and allows two-way communication for the Councilmembers in attendance and the Councilmember participating remotely, as well as persons interested in the conduct of City business. Members of the public will be provided a means by which to watch and/or hear the proceedings of any meeting conducted pursuant to this policy as the limits of available technology allow.

(3) A Councilmember(s) who desires Electronic Participation will provide advance notice of his/her desire to participate by telephone or electronically and his/her telephone or electronic contact information to the City Manager a reasonable time, as determined by the City Manager in consultation with the City Clerk, in advance of the meeting so that the City can make every reasonable effort to provide the technical means, connections and equipment necessary to fulfill such request(s).

(4) A Councilmember(s) may not participate by telephone or electronically in a quasi-judicial hearing, but may participate in the remaining items of any public meeting.

(5) Electronic Participation by a Councilmember(s) shall be counted toward the establishment of a quorum for conducting business of the City Council. During the pandemic, physical presence of a quorum is not required; however, at least 3 member(s) of the City Council shall be present.

(6) Electronic Participation may be discontinued by a motion and majority of Councilmembers voting in support of the motion, at any time during a meeting in which it is allowed, if the telephonic or electronic service, equipment or connection(s) results in

distorted transmissions of audio and/or video and cannot reasonably be restored within a reasonable time.

(7) This policy applies to all public meetings of the City Council.

(8) All votes shall be conducted by roll call.

(9) "Action plus" minutes of the meeting together with an audio and/or video recording shall be taken and kept as the record of all meetings conducted pursuant to this Policy.

(10) Meetings conducted pursuant to this Policy shall be broadcast on channel 191 and streamed on gjcity.org unless technical difficulties prohibit broadcasting and/or streaming.