

**REGULAR MEETING of the ROSS TOWN COUNCIL**  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020**  
*Held by Teleconference*

**1. 6:00 p.m. Commencement.**

Mayor Julie McMillan, Mayor Pro Tempore Elizabeth Robbins, Council Member Elizabeth Brekhus, Council Member William Kircher, Council Member Beach Kuhl; and Town Attorney Benjamin Stock

**2. Posting of agenda.**

Town Clerk Lopez reported that the agenda was posted according to government requirements.

**3. Minutes – July 9, 2020**

Mayor McMillan requested the following minor correction:

- Page 9, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph, “will not work”

There were no public comments.

**Mayor Pro Tempore Robbins moved and Council Member Kuhl seconded, to approve the July 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes, as amended. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).**

**4. Demands.**

The demands were met.

**5. Introduction and welcome to new employee Police Officer Anthony Spediacci**

Police Chief Eric Masterson introduced and welcomed new employee Police Officer Anthony Spediacci who was hired from the College of Marin Police Department. He then performed the Oath of Office and Officer Spediacci’s grandfather and uncle performed the badge pinning.

Mayor McMillan and Councilmembers welcomed Officer Spediacci.

**6. Open Time for Public Expression - None**

**7. Mayor’s Report**

School reopenings are delayed due to the pandemic. Ross School is exploring ways to conduct distance learning, including holding some classes on the Ross Common, when it is safe to open. (Outside areas are safer than inside classrooms.) Along those lines, tonight we will reconsider whether to continue to allow dogs on the grove area of the Common. Last month Council attempted to reach a compromise by limiting the hours that dogs would be allowed there. Unfortunately, this result failed to support Ross School holding classes in the grove, because sanitation problems from dogs remain.

Despite the multiple challenges with COVID-19, good work continues in our Town. Last month I highlighted work by the Ross community and Town Council. Now I’d like to showcase some of the Town staff’s work:

Our Town Manager and staff continue to work diligently and creatively to keep our Town running smoothly. Last month staff finished gathering information to develop an emergency generator policy in anticipation of more PG&E power shutdowns (PSPS). Tonight we begin conversations about how to address our deteriorating fire and police stations. Staff has been working on the Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project to reduce flooding in Ross, and the proposed utility undergrounding districts in Town. Upcoming capital projects include the Bolinas Avenue and Thomas Court road rehabilitation, seismic improvements to Town Hall, and tennis court resurfacing at Frederick Allen Park.

Thank you, Town staff, for moving us forward!

Tonight we will be appointing five Advisory Design Review (ADR) members for a three-year term. Last Thursday, with Planning and Building Director Patrick Streeter's coordination, we interviewed nine outstanding candidates. We thank everyone who applied, has served and will serve going forward. We thank Dan Winey, who is stepping off ADR after 12 years of service to our community. Our small town aesthetics are better because of Dan's excellent contributions.

And finally: Please continue to wear a mask and socially distance!

**8. Council Committee & Liaison Reports**

Mayor McMillan reported on her attendance at the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority Closed Session meeting wherein candidates are being considered for the Executive Director position. Another Closed Session meeting will be held next Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. and the regular Board meeting will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

She also reported that she and Mayor Pro Tempore will participate remotely in a learning session on Monday night, August 17, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. regarding the history of Sir Francis Drake as well as the history of when the road from Ross Landing out to West Marin was re-named Sir Francis Drake in 1931.

**9. Staff & Community Reports**

**a. Town Manager**

Town Manager Joe Chinn referred to the Consent agenda and highlighted that the Town is awarding a contract for resurfacing the tennis courts in September/October and also awarding a contract for the 2020 Pavement Rehabilitation Project for Thomas Court's rehabilitation.

Staff has seen higher numbers of people onto the Common who are picnicking as evidenced by pizza boxes in the garbage cans. Staff has worked with Marin Sanitary Service to put out new compost bins on the Common and Marin Sanitary is adding compost pickup service three days a week there.

**b. Ross Property Owners Association - None**

**10. Consent Agenda.**

The following items will be considered in a single motion, unless removed from the Consent Agenda:

- a. **Town Council designation of voting delegate and alternates for League of California Cities Annual Conference.**
- b. **Town Council consideration of adoption of Resolution No. 2174 awarding the Construction Contract for the 2020 Pavement Rehabilitation Project – Town Project No. 9040-45.**
- c. **Town Council consideration of adoption of Resolution No. 2175 awarding the Construction Contract for the Frederick Allen Park Tennis Courts Resurfacing Project – Town Project No. 9095-66.**
- d. **Town Council appointment of five members to serve three-year terms for the Ross Advisory Design Review Group.**
- e. **Town Council consideration of adoption of Resolution No. 2176 revising the Town of Ross Employee Salary Schedule.**

Mayor McMillan asked for a motion.

**Council Member Brekhus moved and Mayor Pro Tempore Robbins seconded, to adopt Consent Agenda Items a, b, c, d and e. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).**

**End of Consent Agenda.**

**Administrative Agenda.**

11. **Town Council consideration of adoption of Resolution No. 2177 regarding a temporary prohibition of the public and dogs upon the Ross Common to facilitate re-opening and social distancing for Ross School students, faculty, and staff.**

Town Manager Joe Chinn gave an overview of the request to adopt a resolution which would temporarily prohibit public and dogs on portions of the Ross Common to assist with COVID-19 social distancing and use of Ross Common by the Ross School. He detailed specific timing provisions of the prohibition, background of code restrictions per Resolution No. 2170 to facilitate social distancing, and the request by Ross School for temporary restrictions so the school can offer in-person instruction under County Public Health guidelines.

Dr. Michael McDowell, Ross School Superintendent, spoke about the strong avocation by the American Academy of Pediatrics for students to be physically present in school, his desire to bring back students for in-person learning, and improvements made by the school for permanent shades on blacktop and portable tents. He communicated information about the class schedule and challenges with finding outdoor spaces which can reduce heat and is clean to engage in learning, and asked for support from the Town Council.

Town Manager Chinn agreed that getting children back in school in person is of critical importance. Resolution No. 2177 restricts public use on the northern portion of the Common and other areas on the southeast area from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Ross School days. It prohibits dogs on the Common for all times during this temporary COVID period and would not begin for dogs until 7 days prior to the start of in-person instruction. If a person has a guide dog, the prohibition would not apply.

Council Member Kuhl stated he received significant emails from individuals who refer to a dog park, and he asked if the matter has anything to do with a dog park.

Town Manager Chinn said there is no official dog park but there is an area on the Common where dogs are allowed in the northern portion and confirmed that the Town is not considering anything related to a dog park; just uses allowed on the Common.

Council Member Kuhl asked about additional security needed for children outside, and Dr. McDowell replied that specific safety protocols are already in place and he spoke about the school's relationship with the police department.

Mayor McMillan stated dog proponents propose that the Council deem other areas of the Common for dogs instead of the Grove, and she asked why this is not workable. Dr. McDowell cited the challenge as needing as much workable outdoor space as possible, an uncertain future and what could occur in the spring semester. It is incredibly difficult to have dogs and children play in the same space given pet urine and fecal concerns and the need to maintain a high level of safety. Their current proposal is to be in the grove during warm months where they have shade and in the cold months use the other part of the Commons to get warmth from the sun.

Mayor McMillan asked and confirmed with Mr. Chinn that the proposed action would not preclude dogs and their owners from using the space across the street next to the Post Office where they can utilize the lawn.

Council Member Brekhus additionally cited the Town-owned space across from Town Hall informally called Kittle Park. She confirmed with the Town Manager it is available for dog owners to use.

Council Member Brekhus said her understanding is that the Town will receive notice of when the school will not be using the park and she asked how this will be communicated to residents.

Dr. McDowell stated as soon as the school is not in session he would alert the Town as well as times if they have different shifts or strategies with their outdoor educational needs, and the Council can determine what they want to utilize the space for. He again cited the difficulty in predictions and asked the Council to allow the school some flexibility in making changes.

Council Member Brekhus said it was not clear as to the school's use of the area in the past, noting that the dog park was already shut down with the thought that Ross Recreation was using it but

they did not use it much. She said if this is discussed again, she asked that the Council be able to fully understand what are uses, needs, and all issues so the conversation occurs one time with a complete understanding.

Dr. McDowell agreed and apologized for his error, stating he miscalculated and should have laid out their strategy in June to prevent miscommunication. If future issues come up he will alert the Council of any which could impact the school and Town.

Mayor McMillan opened the public comment period and announced that the Council had received 141 emails supporting the school's use of the Grove and 6 emails/conversations from dog owners wanting to continue the use of the Grove for dogs. She asked speakers to be succinct if they have already submitted an email or agree with a previous speaker.

Jeff Bergholt said he is a Trustee of the Ross School but is speaking as a resident, and he and his wife express their strong support for adoption of the resolution. He spoke about the importance of allowing the area to be used for in-person student teaching, voiced concerns if dogs are allowed, and thinks it would be a minor inconvenience for people not to be able to walk their dog for the greater good.

Matt Soldo echoed Mr. Bergholt's comments and spoke about how hard remote learning had been for his kids. He loves dogs but thinks kids' education must come first and thanked Dr. McDowell and the Council for being flexible and for their consideration.

Leah Knight said she thinks the plan calls for a lot of student space to be used, did not believe the Council did their due diligence about location of tents and research into alternative areas. She asked that an area be roped off from students, said residents are paying 58% of the taxes, and she did not believe the area by the Post Office or across from Town Hall would work.

Rebecca Nessel thanked the Council for being flexible in considering the matter. As a parent, resident and physician at UCSF she supported use of outdoor areas and said this is the safest thing the school can do.

Amy Sagues voiced support for Dr. McDowell's request and thinks this is a short-term solution to an exceptional situation.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robbins thanked Dr. McDowell, the School Board and teachers for educating students during the pandemic, thinks the Town should offer whatever support is needed, and she voiced support of the resolution. While dog owners are disappointed, the space by the Post Office meets most of the needs of most of the residents.

Council Member Brekhus said she understands the request and why it is needed and voiced support of the resolution.

Council Member Kircher said he received the many emails and said while it would be nice to split the use, the school needs some flexibility and has the responsibility and expertise for teaching

students during the pandemic. The Council and Town can see how it goes given it is a temporary situation and he voiced support of the resolution.

Mayor McMillan agreed and felt the school did not have many alternatives and the dogs and dog owners have many opportunities including the area across the street, as well as the 143,000 acres of open space in Marin to use. She thought the Council worked hard in July to come up with a compromise and there are certain situations where they cannot always make everybody happy so she asked people be flexible and voiced support of the resolution.

Mayor McMillan asked for a motion.

**Council Member Brekhus moved and Council Member Kuhl seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 2177 temporarily prohibiting the public and dogs upon the Ross Common to facilitate re-opening and social distancing for Ross School students, faculty, and staff. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).**

**12. Town Council discussion of Civic Center Facility modernization analysis related to Fire, Police, and Administration facilities.**

Town Manager Chinn said tonight is the start of the conversation on what facilities the Town should update to serve the community efficiently and professionally for the next 30-50 years. He provided a description of various Town buildings dating back to 1927 with some additions added, building deterioration, building standards, fire department conditions, portable buildings, and stated the Town will present the results from various consultant studies.

Staff is not seeking any decision until November/December which will provide time for the Council and community to ask questions, provide feedback, discuss financial considerations, identify stakeholders, and make decisions on community considerations and how Town facilities should be modernized.

The Town hired Construction Development Solutions (CDS) to perform an assessment of the public safety building and he described numerous structural deficiencies, lack of seismic upgrades and concerns, building code upgrade needs, and other issues that will require substantial reconfiguration which have been found not to be feasible or cost-effective to repair. He then presented photographs of some of the original construction materials, infill items, roof repairs and items needing replacement, outdated equipment, and constraints that make repair or reconfiguration very difficult.

Regarding a summary of what CDS found, the building systems and components are at a diminished level of integrity, have exceeded their life expectancy, are non-compliant with public safety construction, correcting issues would be cost-prohibitive related to the ESA non-compliance due to building, seismic and flooding issues, and the cost of reconstruction could equal or exceed the cost of constructing a new building.

Four service options for the future include:

- Option 1: Rebuild Fire, Paramedics, Police and Administration building space;
- Option 2: Remove the Paramedic quarters from the Fire Station;
- Option 3: Make a joint building of Police and Administration and put paramedics in a modular building but with no fire station; or
- Option 4: Construct a police and administration building with no fire and paramedics on-site.

Ross Valley Fire Chief Jason Weber commented that there is no law or regulation that determines the level of fire protection or EMS services provided to the community and it is discretionary. There are trade-offs, citing the age of the fire station, and he thinks it is important to look at fire service collectively with the other members to be strategic in making decisions.

He said Citygate analyzed a lot of their data about what the service trade-offs were when talking about options and he described the number of residents Ross Valley Fire Department serves, daily staffing, Ross Valley Paramedic Authority (RVPA), low fire volume wherein 85% of responses are medical dispatches and 2% are for fires, overall response times, service options to stay in town versus going off-site, number of homes that are sprinklered, and said this is an opportunity to review fire services across the Ross Valley and identify the benefits of doing things differently and efficiently.

Town Manager Chinn stated the Town hired Mary McGrath Architects that specializes in public safety and civic buildings to develop a high level conceptual site plan and cost estimate for each of the various options 1 through 4.

Option 1 was the most expensive of \$28.4 million which reduces down to \$12.2 million if they only rebuild a police and administrative building. These are rough conceptual plans that are used to develop cost estimates to be able to identify trade-offs.

Option 2 would reduce the fire station in size and still having the two firefighters, but having the paramedics relocate to San Anselmo or Kentfield. There was almost exactly equal number of paramedic calls going east as going to the west, so Ross is the center point for calls for paramedic services.

Option 3 removes the fire station from being on-site which is the largest part of the building. If the paramedics were here in a modular and they put the police and administration in one building the cost estimate is \$14.6 million.

Option 4 would cost \$12.2 million to just house police and administration.

Regarding funding sources, the Town has a facilities fund balance of \$4.3 million that will reasonably be \$7 million in two years. They will need debt financing to pay for the balance of the cost of facilities under any of the options. He then listed types of funding mechanisms which all require 2/3 voter approval for likely 30 years. A General Obligation (GO) bond is based on the assessed value and it has the overall lowest debt service of any of the three. A Certificate of Participation (COP) does not need a vote but it needs a revenue source which likely would be a

parcel tax which does require voter approval. The Town currently has a Public Safety Tax at \$1,069/parcel and the capital facilities tax would be additional to that. A Community Facilities District which has some similarities to the parcel tax but the annual debt service would be slightly lower than the COP.

The other sources could be donations or other contributions. In the mid-1990's, the Town needed to build additional fire bays and most or all of the money was raised through fundraising.

In looking at debt services for the GO Bond, to get \$10 million of bond proceeds for facilities would need a \$243 tax per \$1 million of assessed value with a 30 year bond. So for a \$500,000 assessed value, it would be \$120 tax and if \$2 million in assessed value it would be \$485. In looking at a parcel tax, to get \$10 million of bond proceeds would need about \$708 per parcel tax and double that to \$1,417 per parcel to get \$20 million of proceeds.

The Council is at the start of this conversation and the decision involves the long-term vision for public safety facilities in Ross. As Chief Weber highlighted, there are a number of other stakeholders involved and trade-offs. They currently have the public safety tax which is for annual costs for police and fire and is a vital part of the budget but it expires in FYI 2024/25.

Staff's goal is to get significant community input and there are ideas for outreach in the staff report. Several Council meetings and or community workshops will be held on this topic, as well as a website with dedicated project information, and use of the Town-wide email system with 1,200 email addresses. Staff believes a resident survey should be done as well and they will have monthly articles in the Town's newsletters, and stakeholder outreach.

Following the Council decision in November or December on which facilities to modernize, the Town would begin the development of a Civic Center master plan will include hiring a consultant to move the project forward with the site and building design and hiring an environmental consultant to conduct the environmental review. After the Town Council approves the master plan and environmental analysis is certified, they would go to the ballot for a potential ballot measure. Mr. Chinn concluded and said he was available for questions.

Council Member Brekhus stated the Public Works yard has only been considered in one of the options and suggested understanding the functionality of the Public Works building. The Town also owns the Post Office and she asked if the Town could host some portion of civic facilities if they wanted to rebuild and go up.

She supported especially paramedics staying in the building given there are more calls and the Town has an older population, and she would prefer fire and police stay in the building as well. She also suggested the Council consider the project as a four-year versus two year endeavor so less money could be requested from voters.

Council Member Kuhl said some may question as to why new administration space is needed given the condition of the building in comparison to the other facilities.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robbins thinks it is important that statistics/data is clear when reaching out to the community and supported keeping the paramedics here.

Council Member Kircher referred to relocation of fire personnel and equipment. There are 4 stations in the RVPA and 4 engines. If they close the Ross facility he asked if Ross's engine would be housed elsewhere or even used.

Fire Chief Weber said there are many conversations to be had as to the service model which has to occur with stakeholders before making this determination. So, whether it is a shift of some or all personnel, contracting for services with Kentfield while still providing fire services will be considered. There is also JPA membership with fire prevention programs and other things so it is too early to answer. These options will have to be explored, narrowed down with costs, and cost benefits and impacts.

Mayor McMillan said Belvedere does not have a fire station in its town and it uses Tiburon. She asked if there were other towns in Marin like this. She believes Ross should definitely keep the paramedics and was not sure they need to spend a lot to have a fire station given there were only 3 fires in the last couple of years. However, she received a call before the meeting from someone commenting on the Town's facilities and they were adamant that Ross must have a fire station in Town. So, she thinks public input is very much needed.

She questioned how much longer residents will be paying for the Ross School bonds and whether that amount will be reduced because so many homes are being bought and sold and assessed at higher values.

Council Member Brekhus said when the Citygate study was done she recalled that it assumed they would eliminate the fire station and fire personnel would not be here. Another option that was not considered is having fire station personnel and a second truck available at San Anselmo. In an emergency, one could go to Sleepy Hollow and the other one could go to Ross in a second call.

Fire Chief Weber said this is an accurate account. The Citygate study did say the staffing in Ross Valley Fire Station to the west was light.

Council Member Brekhus then referred to insurance and said she has now been canceled for fire insurance three times so this would be important to lose their fire station and be able to find out how many residents have had their insurance canceled, as well.

Mayor McMillan opened the public comment period.

Steve Burdo said he is a San Anselmo resident and Council Member, as well as a board member on the Ross Valley Fire Department serving with Council Members Brekhus and Kuhl. Fire protection is the responsibility of the Town and the Ross Valley Fire Department is a JPA made up of Ross, San Anselmo, Sleepy Hollow and Fairfax. Ross joined the JPA in 2012 because it could not provide the depth of service needed for a fire incident. The staff report mentions a relatively

small call volume within the Town of Ross and this is generally true across all RVFD jurisdictions. He recommended that any consideration of service level changes need to be coordinated with the RVFD and neighboring jurisdictions.

Additionally, changes that eliminate an engine in Ross will increase duplicate calls for adjacent engine companies 1 to 2 times per week, which means 78 to 104 times per year coming from more distant locations to serve residents of Ross. He asked to ensure the process include significant collaboration with the RVFD, San Anselmo and other key stakeholders and with due consideration of the upstream impacts to neighbors and partners.

Fran Capelletti, Librarian, Ross Historical Society, said he is speaking as a librarian who works in a 150-year old building, offered his assistance in the process, and suggested looking at the Town of Atherton which is going through a similar process. He agreed it is important to know how things change over time and recognized the Town's challenges.

Town Manager Chinn recognized the Council's observations and responded to some of the Council questions. He noted staff and the consultant reviewed the cost of rebuilding the Public Works building at the north end to free up more space adjacent to the existing fire/police station location. This option cost approximately \$34 million with all other facilities and then reviewed other options including potentially moving the existing public works building to the north part of the site which would be much cheaper than tearing down and rebuilding. At this time the decision is not about the design but what facilities to rebuild and have a cost range estimate of the various options.

In response to other Council questions, in Marin the only other city/town without a fire station is Belvedere which is served by the Tiburon fire station. Sleepy Hollow is not a town but similarly sized to Ross does not have a fire station and is served by a station in San Anselmo. We will find out from Ross School the timeframe left for the Ross School bonds. He stated the administrative facilities in Ross are old, disjointed with oddly located. The portable was added several years back as a key component of the administrative facilities and hopefully it will not be here in fifteen years. Administrative staff in one building will help with communication and operational efficiency.

He asked for additional thoughts regarding the process of community outreach and asked if the Council had in mind key stakeholders other than those listed.

Council Member Brekhus said she is hearing from many families that they are 'tapped out' given COVID and other difficulties and suggested starting with a survey that is easy to respond to.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robbins suggested having well-written mailers to synthesize what the Town needs to decide, options, costs, and let people know what we will be discussing.

Council Member Kircher said people will want to know what difference in response times it makes to them. He suggested reviewing the previous three fires to determine what would have been different if firefighters arrived two minutes later. Not sure if this is possible but would be

helpful. He thinks people will agree with the need to the paramedics to get here right away, but he was not sure it was as clear with respect to fire.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robbins agreed and thinks people want to know what is the difference to them.

Fire Chief Weber stated he will share the Citygate presentation to Council Member Kircher as he thinks it will answer his questions.

Mayor McMillan asked if there is staff dedicated to working on the materials to educate.

Town Manager Chinn stated it will be a combination of Patrick Streeter and himself and any others they can task. He thought likely they would need to have a consultant involved.

Mayor McMillan thanked staff and Fire Chief Weber for their time and participation.

**13. Town Council and staff discussion of preparations for coming PG&E Power Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) related to facilities and communication operations including cell tower coverage.**

Public Works Director Rich Simonitch stated the Council remembers the 3-day power outage from October 26-29 and following that the Town held a Council meeting to discuss what did and did not work during the PSPS.

Staff worked well with the police department and emergency services, though areas that could use improvement included cell phone service reliability, traffic signal outages at major intersections in Ross, providing a backup power supply from the Public Safety building and Town Hall to the Development Services portable or providing generators for the portable itself, and providing portable cell phone and laptop charge stations for the public and equipping Town Hall and the Police station with those types of services.

PG&E has been working with the CPUC and focusing on developing micro-grids that would allow PG&E to locate areas that are not as high risk such as a Tier 1 area which would not receive the PSPS as frequently as Tier 2 and 3 fire areas. However, most of Ross is in Tier 2 and 3 but PG&E is working to limit the duration of PSPS events.

Mr. Simonitch then described the Town's response to these issues as discussed at the December Council meeting focusing on generators, intersection power, portable cell phones and laptops, and refueling station on a trailer for refilling the generators. Three cell sites are connected to Town buildings--AT&T, T-Mobile and Sprint and none have generators on site. They are supposed to have 8 hours of battery backup to keep the cell phone towers going.

The CPUC is working with PG&E and on July 16, 2020 ordered wireless companies to develop comprehensive plans to address shortfalls with extended PSPS events and loss of cell phone coverage, and he spoke of the three items ordered by the CPUC: 1) by mid-September, wireless

providers need to provide emergency points of contact to local agencies; 2) adopt a 72-hour backup power requirement to ensure minimum level of service is maintained in the Tier 2 and 3 high fire threats within a year; and 3) cell companies have 6 months to develop their communication resiliency plans as to how they will respond in detail to PSPS events.

Council Member Kircher said if residents do not have cell service during PSPS events, people will not get Marin Alert communications, and he asked if there was a backup to let residents know to evacuate or shelter in place.

Police Chief Masterson agreed and said in an evacuation situation they could send police officers to homes and utilize the fire department as well, have worked with Ross Ready with a radio system and are able to connect using that system and in a last case scenario they could use this to communicate and then ask residents to pass on information to each other.

Council Member Kircher said he is a volunteer with Ross Ready and has one of those radios but one must know how to use the radio which is battery operated and may not last for 3 days. He spoke about the idea of using NOAA weather alert radios which signals people there is an emergency and then people can tune into RossNet to the incident command.

Town Manager Chinn said one other tool would be the siren on the station which has been used for flooding.

Mayor McMillan opened the public comment period, and there were no speakers.

**14. Town Manager update and Council discussion on Town activities in response to COVID-19.**

Town Manager Chinn reported that Marin County's numbers spiked in the number of cases in June and July. In hearing from Dr. Willis, he gives the three main categories of cases seen as essential service workers such as grocery store workers, contractors, and personal services. The Latino population has been especially hard hit with COVID with 50% of hospitalizations and 75% of COVID cases from the 16% Hispanic Latino population in Marin.

The second category are outbreaks in assisted living and skilled nursing facilities and Marin is at 57 deaths right now, 43 of which are from residents of assisted living and skilled nursing facilities. Not surviving COVID are the elderly and 2/3 of those who died have been over 80 years old. Bad behavior is the third main category of COVID cases though much smaller than the other two categories. Behaviors and masking up does matter, as well as hand washing and social distancing. One good sign is that they are at the lowest number of hospitalizations right now at 11 in the last 2 months.

Yesterday, Dr. Willis released new guidelines for youth camps, activities and child care which go hand in hand with directives for schools. They are increasing the number of people in a group from 12 to 15 and Ross Recreation has been the most challenging area for Town departments in

providing services. Also, Ross has 15 people who have gotten COVID which is a little higher than San Anselmo and Fairfax on a per capita basis but lower than Larkspur.

**End of Administrative Agenda.**

**15. No Action Items:**

- a. **Council correspondence:** Mayor Pro Tempore Robbins reported receiving many emails about the dog park.
- b. **Future Council items:** Council Member Brekhus said she would like the Council to consider in the future a discussion about taking off for the month of August. Mayor McMillan voiced support for a future discussion.

**16. Adjournment.**

Mayor McMillan adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

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Julie McMillan, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Linda Lopez, Town Clerk