

Mammoth Lakes Town Council Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Approve the resolution re-authorizing the Town Council to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic declared emergency.

Council Meeting Date: 1/5/2022

Prepared by: Daniel C. Holler, Town Manager

Recommended Motion: Approve the resolution re-authorizing the Town Council to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic declared emergency.

Summary: The passage of AB 361 amended the Brown Act to allow local legislative bodies to meet by teleconference (virtually) and modified the conditions for virtual meetings. Government Code Section 54953(e) is the provision of the Brown Act establishing special rules that apply under specific circumstances to meetings of local government legislative bodies that are conducted remotely via teleconference. On October 6, 2021, the Town Council adopted a resolution finding that pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), the legislative bodies of the Town of Mammoth Lakes shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of Section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 54953.

As a condition of extending the use of the provisions found in Section 54953(e), the Town Council must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency that exists in the Town of Mammoth Lakes and take affirmative action to continue to meet virtually. The declared state of emergency by the Governor and Mono County continues to exist. The Mono County Health Department continues to recommend the practice of social distancing. The amended Brown Act requires the Council to review these conditions every 30 days and act on whether to continue virtual meetings. Finding that these conditions still exist, it is recommended the Town Council adopt the provided resolution re-authorizing the Town Council to meet virtually.