

RESOLUTION RES-2020-8

RESOLUTION DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA DURING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) GLOBAL PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the President of the United States declared a National Public Health Emergency on Friday March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Georgia declared a Public Health State of Emergency in Georgia on March 14, 2020 and the Georgia General Assembly concurred with the Governor's declaration on March 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 a world health emergency and a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Lawrenceville, in Sections 1.03(c)(13), (15), and (43), grants to the City the power to protect the safety, health, and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Lawrenceville, in Section 1.03(c)(7), grants to the City the power to declare an emergency and "to make and carry out all reasonable provisions deemed necessary to deal with or meet such an emergency for the protection, safety, health, or well-being of the citizens of the city"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lawrenceville has taken multiple measures to reduce the risk of community transmission, including closing certain facilities, cancelling Municipal Court sessions through at least April 3, 2020, and cancelling certain public meetings and gatherings; and

WHEREAS, additional measures will likely be required in the coming days and weeks to address the fluid situation and such measures will likely need to be executed quickly and free of the usual formalities and procedures required for City action.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED, and it is hereby resolved, by the City Council of the City of Lawrenceville, Georgia as follows:

Section 1: The City Council adopts and makes the findings discussed in the "Whereas" paragraphs the factual findings of the Council.

Section 2: The City Council hereby declares a Public Health State of Emergency in the City of Lawrenceville due to the rapid spread of COVID-19 in the United States and the State of Georgia.

Section 3: The following provisions shall govern during the Public Health State of Emergency declared herein:

- a. The City Council and all other boards, commissions or agencies of the City, shall have authority to conduct meetings and take votes by teleconference in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-1(g);
- b. The City Manager, with approval of the Mayor, shall have authority to take such actions deemed necessary or appropriate for the public health and safety of the citizens of the City of Lawrenceville.
- c. If a restaurant is licensed to sell beer and wine for on-premises consumption, such restaurant, during the effective dates of this Resolution only, shall be authorized to sell unopened bottles of beer or wine for take-out consumption off-premises;
- d. The due date and payment of alcohol excise taxes of restaurants licensed to sell alcoholic beverages shall be delayed through and until June 30, 2020 and shall not be subject to penalties or interest. Any alcohol excise taxes of restaurants that accrue and are unpaid during the period until June 30, 2020 shall be paid to the City in six (6) equal installments in the months of July through December. All alcohol excise taxes of restaurants shall be due and payable in the normal procedure beginning July 1, 2020; and
- e. The City Council suspends the bid and competitive portions of the City's Procurement Ordinance and authorizes the City Manager to utilize the emergency procurement section of the ordinance (Sec. 2-260) and to require departments to provide a written justification for the procurement during the effective dates of this Resolution. During the effective dates of this Resolution, the City Manager's purchasing approval authority shall be \$200,000.00 and such purchases above normal spending levels shall be provided to the Mayor for approval. The City Manager shall provide written weekly reports to the City Council of any purchases approved above the normal purchasing levels provided in the City's ordinances. The City Manager shall develop and implement policies and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.
- f. The City Council desires to make certain that the chain of authority within city management is clear. If the City Manager is unable to perform his duties, the Deputy City Manager shall assume the duties of the City Manager. If the City Manager and Deputy City Manager are unable to perform the duties, the Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager shall assume the duties of the City Manager.

Section 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby suspended during the effective dates of this Resolution (or any extension thereof) and the terms and provisions of this Resolution shall prevail.

Section 5: This Resolution shall take effect upon passage by the City Council and shall expire by its own terms at 11:59 p.m. on April 17, 2020, unless terminated or extended by further action of the City Council.

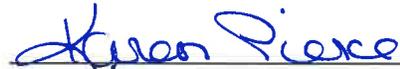
Section 6: The City Clerk, in consultation with the City Attorney, shall have the power to correct scribes' errors.

SO RESOLVED, this 18th day of March, 2020.



David R. Still
Mayor

Attest:



Karen Pierce
City Clerk