

RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA

RESOLUTION NO. 20595

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, an epidemic of the Coronavirus Disease ("COVID-19") has occurred across the United States;

WHEREAS, an individual in Lewis and Clark County has tested presumptive positive for COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a global pandemic that is controllable via precautionary measures to stop the spread of the disease;

WHEREAS, the Lewis and Clark Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution 2020-12 on March 13, 2020, declaring a Public Health Emergency pursuant to §10-3-402, MCA;

WHEREAS, the City faces an imminent threat to life and public health resulting from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Section 2-10-3, Helena City Code, allows the Mayor to declare a state of local disaster emergency when there is an imminent threat of widespread loss of life resulting from an epidemic;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Mayor declared a state of local disaster emergency for ten (10) days due to the imminent threat of widespread loss of life resulting from COVID-19;

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WHEREAS, the City will commit all available resources, and will take all possible action to combat and to alleviate the situation, local resources may not be adequate to cope with the situation; and

WHEREAS, it appears to be in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Helena that the Mayor's declaration of a state of local disaster emergency be indefinitely extended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA:

Section 1. A state of local disaster emergency is hereby declared pursuant to Section 10-3-402, MCA, and Section 2-3-10, Helena City Code.

Section 2. This declaration of a state of local disaster emergency shall activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all local disaster emergency plans including the Lewis and Clark County Emergency Operations Plan.

Section 3. The Interim City Manager has the authority pursuant to § 10-3-406, MCA, to prevent ingress or egress to all or part of the City; to direct law enforcement to enforce quarantines and curfews in all or parts of the City concurrent with or at the direction of the City-County Board of Health

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Officer.

Section 4. The authority of the Interim City Manager pursuant to §3.02, Helena City Charter, to administer all affairs and departments of the City, including but not limited to, the implementation of orders for employees to work from home, is reaffirmed.

Section 5. Regular meetings of the Helena City Commission, as required by §1-4-8, Helena City Code will be held but only essential legally required actions will be considered until such meetings can be held via electronic means with audio and visual communications. Administrative meetings of the Helena City Commission are cancelled.

Section 6. Meetings of boards that are legally required to take action prior to final city action shall continue to meet for those legally required actions only. Meetings may be held via electronic means with audio and visual communications. Meetings of the advisory boards that perform valuable advisory functions but are not legally required to act before final city action are cancelled until further notice.

Section 7. Copies of this Resolution will be filed with the County Clerk and Recorder, the Clerk of the City Commission,

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and the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division in Helena.

Section 80. The public shall be notified as soon as reasonably feasible through general dissemination to the news media, posting on the city website and social media accounts, or using other means of communication appropriate for informing the general public.

**PASSED AND EFFECTIVE BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HELENA,
MONTANA, THIS 23rd DAY OF MARCH, 2020.**

/S/ WILMOT COLLINS
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/S/ DANNAI CLAYBORN
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION