



EMERGENCY DECLARATION

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a severe respiratory illness, caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, a new strain of coronavirus that is spread from person to person, posing a threat to the health and safety of the residents of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, no drug or vaccine is currently available to treat or prevent COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of March 13, 2020, the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates there are more than 132,000 confirmed cases in 123 countries worldwide and more than 1600 confirmed cases in the United States; and

WHEREAS, United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, declared a national public health emergency for COVID-19 on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, On March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump issued a declaration of national emergency due to the growing COVID-19 crisis in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Health has been actively coordinating and in communication with healthcare providers, schools, universities, childcare providers, businesses, churches, and the general public to make sure Minnesotans are educated and as prepared as possible to assist in reducing the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, proactively implemented preparedness containment and mitigation measures to slow the transmission and reduce the impact of the virus is in the best interest of Minnesota and, thus, the City of Moorhead and its citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Moorhead does hereby invoke its broad emergency powers with regard to the declaration of a local emergency pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29, Subd. 1.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the declaration of a local emergency pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29, Subd. 1., may trigger Minn. Stat. § 13D.021, which allows

for City Council meetings by telephone or other electronic means so long as the pre-conditions of Minn. Stat. § 13D.021 are met.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29, Subd. 1., the Moorhead Mayor does hereby declare an emergency in response to the public health crisis resulting from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The City Council of the City of Moorhead will have the authority to:

- 1) pass emergency ordinances;
- 2) pass emergency contracts;
- 3) delay, cancel, or postpone meetings of the City of Moorhead and City Council Committees, Sub-Committees, boards and commissions;
- 4) limit the size of public gatherings as directed by public health concerns;
- 5) possess all other powers implied or necessary to carry about the above described powers; and
- 6) the City Manager is hereby authorized to implement any and all necessary employment policies, including remote working policies, as she determines necessary.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2020.

APPROVED:



Johnathan Judd, Mayor

ATTEST:



Chris Volkers, City Manager