



City of Tower

PO Box 576 • Tower, MN 55790 • (218)753-4070

RESOLUTION 2020-020

RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY

Motion by: David Setterberg Second By: Mary Shedd

- WHEREAS,** the novel Coronavirus Disease 2019, commonly known as “COVID-19,” which is a respiratory disease that can result in serious injury or death, is spreading globally and has been identified by the World Health Organization (“WHO”) as a pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a National Emergency; and
- WHEREAS,** COVID-19 has been confirmed to exist and be spreading within the State of Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 13, 2020, Governor Tim Walz declared a Peacetime State of Emergency to authorize any and all necessary resources to be used in support of the COVID-19 response; and
- WHEREAS,** this state of emergency triggered Minn. Stat. § 144E.266 Emergency Suspension Of Ambulance Service Requirement; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 16, 2020, Governor Tim Walz issued an executive order - Providing for Temporary Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 25, 2020, Governor Tim Walz issued an executive order - Directing Minnesotans to Stay at Home; and
- WHEREAS,** Minn. Stat. § 12.29 authorizes the Mayor of the City of Tower to declare a local emergency, and further provides that the state of local emergency may not be continued for a period in excess of three days except by or with the consent of the City Council of the City of Tower; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Center for Disease Control (“CDC”) and Minnesota Department of Health (“MDH”) have advised that aggressive community mitigation strategies are necessary to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and deaths, and limit the economic impacts of the outbreak; and
- WHEREAS,** the COVID-19 pandemic is an unforeseen, present, sudden, and unexpected situation, which requires immediate action to be taken to prevent damage to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Tower; and

- WHEREAS,** implementation of basic precautions of infection control and prevention, including staying home when ill and practicing respiratory and hand hygiene are necessary to slow or prevent the spread of COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS,** this situation threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the community and will cause a significant impact on the ability of public safety personnel to address any immediate dangers to the public as a result of COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS,** traditional sources of financial aid, assistance and relief will not be able to compensate for the potential impact of COVID-19, and have determined that the necessary resources to respond to and recover from this pandemic will exceed those resources available within the City of Tower, and additional resources will be needed from county, state and/or federal sources; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF TOWER, MINNESOTA as follows:

1. By signing this Resolution, Mayor Orlyn Kringstad declares that the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes a local emergency within the City of Tower, effective March 30, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided in Minn. Stat. Ch. 12, and as otherwise provided for in the City of Tower's Charter.
2. The City Council, by adopting this Resolution, agrees with the Mayor's declaration of a local emergency within the City of Tower and hereby extends such state of local emergency until such time as this resolution is rescinded by the City Council.
3. The Mayor and City Council hereby support City staff in their ongoing review of City ordinances, regulatory requirements, operations, practices, events, and resources to determine whether the foregoing should be adjusted or suspended, and to make recommendations regarding additional emergency regulations to support the employees and residents of the City of Tower; including, but not limited to:
 - a. Closing the City Hall to the public.
 - b. Closing the Civic Center for non-essential use.
4. The Mayor and City Council hereby support City staff in their ongoing operations and support the response to this incident, under the direction and coordination of the Clerk/Treasurer, including implementing new employee protocols, strategies, and processes to ensure that public services are maintained while best protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public and the City's employees.
5. The Mayor and City Council hereby support the City's Clerk/Treasurer and other appropriate City staff to request and coordinate appropriate aid and resources from surrounding jurisdictions, cities, counties, the State of Minnesota, and the Federal government, as needed.

6. The Mayor and City Council hereby declares, under Minn. Stat. § 13D.021, that in-person meetings of the City Council and its advisory boards and commissions of the City of Tower may not be practical or prudent due to the COVID-19 health pandemic and the peacetime emergency declared by Governor Walz pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 12, and hereby directs that meetings of the City Council and its advisory boards and commissions of the City may be conducted by telephone or other electronic means, and hereby authorizes the Clerk/Treasurer to take such action as may be necessary to enable such meetings to occur via telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.021, until such time as it is no longer impractical or imprudent for the City Council, Planning Commission, and other advisory board or commission to resume in-person meetings. In person meetings for the period specified herein shall be limited to meetings that are required by state law, Charter, or City Code or are otherwise determined necessary and prudent by the Clerk/Treasurer in consultation with the Mayor.

7. The Mayor and City Council hereby orders that this declaration be given prompt and general publicity and that it be filed promptly by the Clerk/Treasurer.

Passed and adopted by Tower City Council this 30th day of March 2020.

VOTE	Kringstad	Beldo	Majerle	Shedd	Setterberg
Aye	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nay	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Abstain	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Absent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>


 Orlyn Kringstad
 Mayor

Attested by:


 Victoria Ranua
 City Clerk/Treasurer