

PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY

Whereas, the World Health Organization has reported an outbreak of tens of thousands of cases and thousands of deaths associated with Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) in multiple countries across the globe; and

Whereas, the World Health Organization has declared that COVID-19 should now be characterized as a pandemic, meaning that states and governments should act appropriately to contain any potential outbreak; and

Whereas, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a national public health emergency; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have confirmed an outbreak of COVID-19 and cases have been identified in all 50 states; and

Whereas, on March 9, 2020, multiple individuals tested presumptive positive for COVID-19 within the state of Iowa; and

Whereas, on March 9, 2020, the State of Iowa declared a State of Disaster related to the outbreak of COVID-19; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency to combat the outbreak of COVID-19; and

Whereas, the Center of Disease Control recommends social distancing and avoiding gatherings of 50 or more persons to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

Whereas, it may be necessary for the City of Altoona to act quickly and decisively to implement the disaster response plan of any State or Federal agency, or to otherwise act in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Altoona during this time of emergency to ensure continuity of city operations; and

Now, Therefore, I, Dean O'Connor, Mayor Pro-Tem of the City of Altoona, Iowa, proclaim a **Proclamation of Emergency** for the entire City of Altoona, Iowa, pursuant to Iowa Code § 372.14 and Section 15.02 of the City of Altoona Code of Ordinances and do hereby state the following:

Section 1. That during this Proclamation of Emergency, I may, if necessary, provide direction and coordinate public safety operations and efforts related to preventing the spread of COVID-19 so that the City can act quickly and decisively to protect the City and its citizens, including ordering the curtailment or the cessation of certain activities in the City.

Section 2. That I am temporarily authorizing the City Administrator and Chief of Police to suspend any provisions of the Employee Handbook for the City of Altoona and take other necessary actions regarding City personnel in order to implement the recommendations of the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Federal Government and State of Iowa of preventing the spread of COVID-19. This may include, but is not limited to, suspending pre-approved travel, preventing attendance at large gatherings or conferences, providing resources for staff to work from home, and any other necessary actions.

Section 3. That it may become necessary to close City facilities, limit services, and modify hours of operation. These changes may require some City employees to stay home from work. I hereby authorize the City Administrator and Police Chief to continue to pay all employees, including part-time and seasonal employees, in the event those employees are ordered to stay home from work.

Section 4. That sick leave will be provided to part time employees in an amount equal to the highest total hours worked in a pay period in the current fiscal year.

Section 5. That the Library will be closed effective March 17, 2020.

Section 6. This state of disaster emergency shall be effective at 4:00 p.m. on March 16, 2020 shall be continued and shall expire on May 31, 2020.

Section 7. This proclamation may be amended, extended, or repealed at any time.

ADOPTED this 20th day of April 2020.



Dean O'Connor, Mayor

ATTEST:



Randy Pierce, City Clerk