

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

YORK COUNTY COUNCIL DECLARATION OF COUNTY STATE OF EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY THREATS PRESENTED BY THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (“COVID-19”), AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE APRIL 7, 2020 PROCLAIMING A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND IMPLEMENTING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REGULATORY MEASURES AND ACTIVATING ITS 2019 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, AND FURTHER URGING YORK COUNTY CITIZENS TO FOLLOW THE GOVERNOR’S STAY-AT-HOME ORDER, AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Governor of South Carolina, through Executive Orders, has declared that a state of emergency exists by virtue of the threat posed by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and,

WHEREAS, the York County Council shall be responsible for meeting the problems and dangers to the county and its residents resulting from emergencies of any origin and may issue proclamations and regulations concerning emergency relief and related matters which, during an emergency situation, shall have the full force and effect of law; and,

WHEREAS, York County has taken emergency measures regarding the conduction of County business through the adoption of Emergency Ordinance 520, and must continue to take, all necessary and appropriate actions in proactively preparing for and promptly responding to the COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, as cases of COVID-19 continually increase in York County and in the State of South Carolina, posing and causing an imminent and direct threat to all of the citizens of and visitors to York County, the York County Council finds that it is necessary for York County to Proclaim a State of Emergency and implement emergency planning and preparedness measures for existing health and safety concerns and set out the administrative regulatory measures herein to combat the anticipated problems and distill those emergency preparedness measures needed to confront the challenges of this public health emergency.

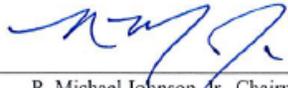
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, in accordance with *South Carolina Code of Laws* Title 4, Article 9 Section 130 and the *Code of Ordinances, York County, South Carolina*, Section 36.06, York County proclaims and declares that a state of emergency exists throughout York County, and that the threat thereof is imminent, and extraordinary emergency measures are deemed necessary to cope with the existing and anticipated situations jeopardizing the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of and visitors to York County; and hereby implements the following

operations plan and regulatory measures which are effective immediately this day, Tuesday, April 7, 2020, until further notice or expiration of this Ordinance:

1. The County Manager is authorized to take any necessary actions for protections of the health, safety and welfare of York County citizens and visitors including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. To the extent necessary, in addition to the provisions provided in Ordinance 520, suspend existing laws and regulations prescribing the procedure for conduct of county business if strict compliance with the provision of any statute, order, rule or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency;
 - b. Utilize all available resources of county government as reasonably necessary to cope with the COVID-19 emergency; and
 - c. Transfer the direction, personnel or functions of county departments and agencies or units thereof for purposes of facilitating or performing emergency services as necessary or desirable; and
 - d. Contract, requisition and compensate for goods and services from public and private sources; and
 - e. Suspend or limit nonemergency activities and prohibit public assemblies; and
 - f. Make provisions for the availability and use of temporary housing; and
 - g. Activate its 2019 Emergency Operations Plan and compel performance of the duties and functions assigned in the plan to elected and appointed county government officials and employees; and
2. York County Council urges all of its citizens to follow the Governor's stay-at-home order to slow the progression of COVID-19 in York County.
3. York County shall create an online dashboard on its County website, documenting all emergency actions undertaken as a result of this Emergency Ordinance.
4. This Ordinance shall remain in force through May 18, 2020, the date for the May scheduled County Council meeting, at which time the Council will evaluate the provisions herein, and unless renewed in a similar emergency ordinance, the provisions herein will expire without further action.

Adopted and effective the 7th day of April 2020, in the County of York, South Carolina by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of York County Council virtually present at the meeting called by the Chairman for April 7, 2020, 3:30 p.m., this date.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF YORK COUNTY

By: 
R. Michael Johnson, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:


David E. Hudspeth, County Manager