

RESOLUTION 2020-04-502

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON,
AMENDING RESOLUTION 2020-04-501 RATIFYING PROCLAMATION OF
EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING TEMPORARY PROCEDURES TO RESPOND TO
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

WHEREAS, the State of Washington, along with much of the world, is experiencing an outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus, known as COVID -19, and;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is easily spread from person to person, and;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020 the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public emergency for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus beginning on January 27, 2020, and;

WHEREAS, on February 20, 2020 Governor Inslee proclaimed a state of emergency (Proclamation 20-05) for all counties in Washington State due to the spread of COVID-19 and directed that the plans and procedures of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented, and;

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020 Klickitat County Emergency Operations Center was activated to Level-2 (partial activation) and is working to ensure that local stakeholders have access to all relevant information related to COVID-19 for preparation purposes, and;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States declared a national emergency related to COVID-19, and;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Mayor Marla Keethler issued Emergency Proclamation 2020-01, declaring the COVID-19 pandemic to be an emergency in the City of White Salmon pursuant to Section 38.52.070 RCW and other relevant provisions of state and federal law; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-25 amending Proclamation 20-05 requiring residents of Washington to “Stay Home – Stay Healthy;” and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020 Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-28 amending Proclamation 20-005 waving certain requirements in RCW 42.56, the Public Records Act, and RCW 42.30, the Open Public Meetings Act, that provides for any activity that necessitates an in-person setting; and

WHEREAS, the existing conditions related to COVID-19 warrant the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency and providing for temporary procedures to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020 Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-25.1 amending Proclamation 20-05 and 20-25 extending the “Stay Home – Stay Healthy” required through 11:59 p.m. on May 4, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Ratification and Finding of Fact.

Council hereby ratifies Emergency Proclamation 2020-01 issued by Mayor Marla Keethler for the City of White Salmon on March 13, 2020. Council further finds that an emergency exists pursuant to Section 39.04.280(2)(b) RCW and authorizes the Mayor to waive any necessary competitive bidding requirements related to the COVID-19 emergency.

Section 2 – City’s Response and Operations.

- A. The City is committed to protecting the public and staff by minimizing the spread of COVID-19 and complying with Governor Inslee’s order to “Stay Home – Stay Healthy.” The City has and will continue to follow the guidelines provided by the State of Washington and the Klickitat County Health Officer, who prescribe social distancing and minimizing gatherings of people to best combat the spread of COVID-19.
- B. The City has closed, and will continue to maintain closures, of all city offices to the general public beginning Monday, March 16 until further notice. Citizens may pay utility bills, acquire licenses, submit permit applications, contact staff and transact other City business via telephone, email, and online. City staff is working remotely where and when possible. City public works staff is working in shifts and ensuring the city’s critical infrastructure is maintained in good operating condition.
- C. All construction work, including the City’s Jewett Blvd. Water Main Improvements project, is halted until further notice. Emergency construction work will be allowed with the appropriate permits. The City will arrange for inspections of emergency construction work.
- D. City parks will remain open, except that the playground equipment located in Rheingarten Park has been closed until further notice. If law enforcement or staff observes that good social distancing is not being maintained, the City reserves the right to close all city parks.
- E. The City will not issue late fees, penalties, etc., nor shut off water, due to late or unpaid payments. City utility billing will continue to be issued.
- F. All City Committee and Planning Commission meetings are cancelled.
- G. Pursuant to Governor Proclamation 20-28, council meetings will be held via teleconferencing until such time in person meetings can resume. Public comment will not be taken at any city council meeting via teleconference. All meetings held via

teleconference will be recorded and the recordings will be made available to the public and posted on the city's webpage, if possible. The public is encouraged to send questions, concerns, and comments to the City Clerk Treasurer via email. The City Clerk Treasurer will ensure that all emails are disseminated to the appropriate staff and/or officials. Agendas and agenda packets, along with instructions on how to attend the meeting by teleconference will be posted on the city's webpage. Until further notice, hard copies of the agenda packet will not be provided. Agendas and instructions on how to attend the meeting will be posted at Fire Hall, City Hall and the Post Office. Per Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-28, council meetings will be held only to address necessary and routine matters or matters necessary to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak and the current public health emergency.

Any other matters will be held until regular public participation under the Open Public Meetings Act is possible.

The Mayor is authorized to adjourn regularly scheduled council meetings (first and third Wednesdays of each month) in lieu of the requirement of a quorum of council to adjourn a meeting as provided in RCW 42.30.090. In the event a regular meeting is adjourned, notices will be posted at the White Salmon Fire Hall, City Hall, and the Post Office

- H. Mayor Marla Keethler issued the attached "Letter to Employees" on March 17, 2020 providing direction to employees regarding using any form of paid leave during the COVID-19 event, effective March 17, 2020 through April 24, 2020. The City Council confirms the decision of the Mayor to not require employees to use any form of paid leave in the event employees are directed to be self-quarantined, quarantined, sent home with symptoms, stay home sick or unable to work due to scheduling or office closures and extends, if necessary, the provisions until further notice.
- I. Mayor Marla Keethler issued the attached Letter to City of White Salmon Employees on April 10, 2020 extending provisions for employees through May 4, 2020. The City Council reconfirms the decision of the Mayor to not require employees to use any form of paid leave in the even employees are directed to self-quarantine, quarantine, sent home with symptoms, stay home sick or unable to work due to scheduling or office closures which will continue as a policy for the duration of the Governor's order, including as amended in the future.

Section 3 – Budget.

During the term of this Resolution, the City Council adopts the following budget restrictions:

- A. All non-essential equipment replacements are hereby suspended, unless the replacement is completely funded by grants or the City's enterprise utility funds or is already on order.
- B. The City Council hereby encourages the expenditures of funds for acquiring necessary technology to facilitate employees to work from home where remote work is possible and approved by the Mayor and the appropriate Department Head.

- C. All staff time dedicated to emergency health responses related to COVID-19 pandemic must be tracked to allow for FEMA reimbursement.

Section 4 – Single-Use Carryout Bag Requirements.

The requirement for charging a fee for providing paper bags to customers is suspended until further notice. Retail establishments may establish requirements that do not allow for customers to bring their own carryout bags due to concerns over COVID-19.

Section 5 – Communication.

- A. All updates regarding City functions and actions related to the COVID-19 pandemic will be posted on the City's website to provide the public with the best updated information.
- B. The City will cancel and discourage any unnecessary gatherings of community members and/or staff during the term of this resolution.

Section 6 – Effectiveness.

The provisions of this Resolution shall become effective upon adoption and expire at 11:50 p.m. on May 4, 2020 unless further extended or shortened by further action of the City Council.

ADOPTED by the Council of the City of White Salmon, Washington. Dated this 15th day of April, 2020.



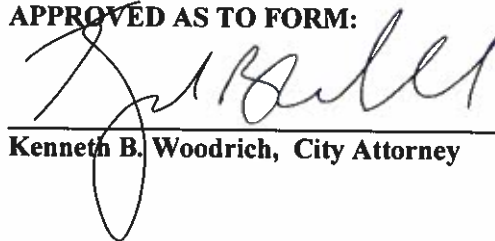
Marla Keethler, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Kenneth B. Woodrich, City Attorney