

CITY OF READING

RESOLUTION NO. 21-04

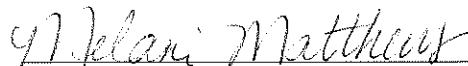
A RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, PROVIDING FOR THE READING CITY COUNCIL AND OTHER PUBLIC BODIES OF THE CITY TO MEET BY REMOTE ELECTRONIC MEANS.

WHEREAS, as recently as March 19, 2021, the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has concluded that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to constitute an epidemic in Michigan and that control of the epidemic requires restrictions on public gatherings, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Reading desires to conduct the public business of the City in a manner so as not to place at risk members of the public, City staff, or members serving on public bodies of the City;

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that pursuant to the authority contained at Section 3(j) of the Michigan Home Rule Cities Act [MCL 117.3(j)] authorizing cities to provide for the public health and safety of persons; Section 7.1 of the Reading City Charter, which provides that the City Council, "shall provide for the public peace, health, and welfare of City residents, for the safety of persons and property, and for the protection of the natural environment of the City"; and Sections 3(2) and 3a of the Michigan Open Meetings Act [MCL 15.263(2) and MCL 15.263a] permitting a public body to meet by electronic or telephonic means upon declaration of a local state of emergency or state of disaster if meeting in person would place at risk the personal health or safety of members of the public or members of the public body; and based on the findings made by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services regarding the public health threat posed by the COVID-19 novel coronavirus and its variant strains; the Reading City Council hereby declares a local state of emergency due to the ongoing COVID-19 novel coronavirus pandemic, providing that the Reading City Council and all other public bodies of the City shall continue to meet by remote electronic means after March 31, 2021, and continuing through June 30, 2021, in a manner that is compliant with the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act relating to remote attendance at meetings of public bodies, in order to help protect the health, safety, and welfare of the members of the public and the members of the Reading City Council, City staff and employees, and the members and staff of all other public bodies of the City.

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a special meeting of the Reading City Council held on the 1st day of April, 2021.



Melani Matthews, Mayor



Kimberly Blythe, City Clerk