

RESOLUTION NO. 4907

A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE MAYOR'S DECLARATION OF A DISASTER EMERGENCY WITHIN THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND REQUESTING STATE AND FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS, On March 24, 2020, Mayor Matherly issued a Declaration of a Disaster Emergency Within the City of Fairbanks for the COVID-19 Pandemic and Requesting State and Federal Assistance; and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of AS 26.23.140, a declaration of emergency by the Mayor may not be continued beyond seven days without the consent of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the following "whereas statements" were set out in the Mayor's Declaration and are repeated here to reinforce the seriousness of the COVID-19 Pandemic:

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by the SARS-Cov-2 virus, a new strain of the coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans and is easily transmittable person to person; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization designated the outbreak of COVID-19 as a pandemic on March 11, 2020; the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified COVID-19 as a significant public health risk; and on March 11, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in response to the COVID-19 anticipated outbreak in the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the State of Alaska received the first confirmation of the presence of COVID-19 in Alaska, specifically, in the Fairbanks community; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency in response to the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a COVID-19 Health Mandate declaring public school days will be non-student contact days between March 16, 2020 and March 30, 2020, in which students will not be attending school and suspending after school activities; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a COVID-19 Health Mandate closing all bars, breweries, restaurants, food and beverage kiosks or trucks, and other establishments serving food or beverages within the State of Alaska to public dine-in service and closing all entertainment facilities until April 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a COVID-19 Health Mandate requiring travelers coming into Alaska from CDC Level 3 countries within the last 14 days to stay home and not go to work or school for the 14-day period following their return and requiring travelers coming into Alaska from anywhere outside of Alaska within the last 14 days to keep a six foot distance from others, not go to work or school if they cannot maintain a safe distance from others, avoid crowded places, and limit activities in public; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the Fairbanks North Star Borough (Borough) activated the Borough Emergency Operations Center and is assisting the state and local health partners as requested; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issues Health Mandate 10.1 requiring all persons arriving in Alaska to self-quarantine for 14 days; and

WHEREAS, as of March 23, 2020, there are 36 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Alaska, including seven confirmed cases in Fairbanks; and

WHEREAS, the City has expended and expects to continue to expend and commit City funds to facilitate the needs of the community during this emergency; and

WHEREAS, due to the current conditions in the area, the City's staff resources are at minimal levels; and

WHEREAS, the severity and magnitude of the emergency may soon be beyond the timely and effective response capability of local resources; and

WHEREAS, the City serves primarily in a support role for the State during its declared emergency; the City is not a public health authority and cannot assume health powers, even upon issuance of a local disaster emergency declaration; and

WHEREAS, in order to contain any potential harm that may be caused by the virus, State and Federal assistance may be needed to supplement local efforts to respond to this public health emergency; and

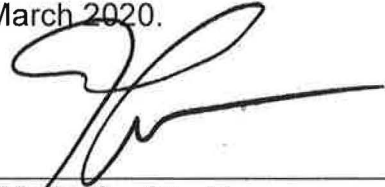
WHEREAS, state assistance in response to the virus, including assistance for fire protection, emergency medical services, and the provision of other funds, services, functions, supplies, or materials determined by the Mayor, in consultation with local emergency agencies and partners, may be necessary to meet the public safety and welfare needs arising from or incidental to COVID-19 and to recover from the damages caused; and

WHEREAS, while the potential extent and effect of COVID-19 cannot yet be known, it remains vital for the City to be prepared and take all needed precautions throughout the entire timeframe of the emergency related to COVID-19 [end of "Whereas" statements in the Mayor's Declaration].

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Fairbanks City Council that the Mayor's Declaration of a Disaster Emergency Within the City of Fairbanks for the COVID-19 Pandemic and Requesting State and Federal Assistance is hereby extended through April 30, unless extended or terminated by resolution of the City Council.

FURTHERMORE, the Council joins in the Mayor's request that the State of Alaska and the federal government provide State and Federal Public Assistance and Individual Assistance to the City of Fairbanks in its response and recovery from this event.

PASSED and APPROVED this 30th day of March 2020.



Jim Matherly, City Mayor

AYES: PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Rogers
APPROVED: March 30, 2020

ATTEST:


D. Danyelle Snider, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Paul J. Ewers, City Attorney