RESOLUTION NO. 529

CITY OF EAST HELENA, MONTANA,
A RESOLUTION DECLARATING A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, an epidemic of the Coronavirus Disease ("COVID-19") has occurred across the United States;

WHEREAS, individuals in Montana, including a patient who sought care in Lewis and Clark County, have tested presumptive positive for COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a global pandemic that is controllable via precautionary measures to stop the spread of the disease;

WHEREAS, the Lewis and Clark Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution 2020-12 on March 13, 2020, declaring a Public Health Emergency pursuant to §10-3-402, MCA;

WHEREAS, the City faces an imminent threat to life and public health resulting from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Section 10-3-402, MCA, allows the principle executive officer of a local political subdivision to declare a state of local disaster emergency whenever the principle executive officer determines there is an emergency;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Mayor declared a state of local disaster emergency due to the imminent threat of widespread loss of life resulting from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the City will commit all available resources, and will take all possible action to combat and to alleviate the situation, local resources may not be adequate to cope with the situation; and

WHEREAS, it appears to be in the best interests of the citizens of the City of East Helena, for reasons of public safety, that the Mayor's declaration of a state of local disaster emergency be affirmed by this resolution of the City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST HELENA, MONTANA:

Section 1. A state of local disaster emergency is hereby declared pursuant to Section 10-3-402, MCA.

Section 2. This declaration of a state of local disaster emergency shall activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all local disaster emergency plans including the East Helena City Council approved Lewis and Clark County Emergency Operations Plan.

Section 3. The Mayor has the authority pursuant to § 10-3-406, MCA, to prevent ingress or egress to all or part of the City; to direct law enforcement to enforce quarantines and curfews in all or parts of the City concurrent with or at the direction of the City-County Board of Health officer.

Section 4. Regular meetings of the East Helena City Council, as required by §1-5-2, East Helena City Code will be held beginning April 7th, 2020, but only essential legally required actions will be considered.

Section 5. Meetings of boards and commissions of the City and scheduled public hearings are temporarily cancelled and will tentatively resume after April 7th, 2020, dependent upon the evolving circumstances of this emergency. Meetings will be limited to actions that are legally required prior to final city action.

Section 6. Copies of this Resolution will be filed with the County Clerk and Recorder, the City Clerk, and the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division in Helena.

Section 7. The public shall be notified as soon as reasonably feasible through general dissemination to the news media, posting on the city website, and using other means of communication appropriate for informing the general public.

PASSED AND EFFECTIVE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST HELENA, MONTANA, THIS 19th DAY OF MARCH, 2020.

James Schell, Mayor

Don Dahl, Councilmember

Judy Leland, Councilmember

Kelly Harris, Councilmember

ATTEST:

Amy Thorngren, City Clerk/Treasurer

CITY OF EAST HELENA CORPORATE SEAL MONTANA