



Date: 03/15/2020

CITY OF MONROE MAYOR ROBERT E. CLARK DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY TO MITIGATE SPREAD OF COVID-19 VIRUS

(MONROE, MI) - Over the past several weeks, City Council and Administration has been continuously reviewing the City's response plan in relation to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, including those measures announced in the past few days. It has become overwhelmingly obvious that our preparations and response will require a more formal incident command structure to direct the City resources necessary to protect the health and safety of our residents.

As such, on Sunday, March 15, at 6:00PM, Mayor Robert E. Clark signed a declaration of a State of Emergency in the City of Monroe. This declaration triggers the City's internal organizational response as outlined and authorized in Chapter 52 of the City Code by creating the Office of Emergency Preparedness, activating the Emergency Operations Center, and the appointment of an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator to monitor developments and oversee the distribution of city resources as needed.

The Declaration of Emergency reads as such:

"Therefore, I hereby declare a State of Emergency exists in the City of Monroe and direct the following:

Activation of the City's Emergency Operations Plan and the establishment of the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

I ask the City Council to appoint City Manager Vince Pastue as the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. The Coordinator shall coordinate the activities of the agencies, departments and individuals within the City to protect the public health, safety and welfare during this emergency.

The Coordinator shall designate an Emergency Management Liaison to work with Monroe County Emergency Management on all matters pertaining to emergency management within the City of Monroe.

The Coordinator shall designate officers from City departments having responsibilities for emergency management."

The full resolution of this action can be found attached.

Mayor Clark: "Administration, with the support of City Council, has been working diligently over the past several days to prepare for the inevitable moment the Coronavirus outbreak reaches our community. With the confirmation of the first presumptive positive case of COVID-19 in Monroe County announced last evening, I am issuing this Declaration of Emergency to aid the City in battling this highly infectious disease. This will create a more nimble and flexible government that is capable of meeting the challenges our community may face as this pandemic evolves. These decisions are not taken lightly, and are made with the health and welfare of all members of our community as a top priority and responsibility."

City of Monroe administration has been working closely with the Monroe County Health Department (MCHD) and Monroe County Emergency Management Division (MCEMD) during this pandemic. Both the MCHD and the MCEMD are currently operating under the emergency declaration of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, as commenced on March 10, 2020.

Residents are encouraged to watch the City Council meeting tomorrow, Monday, March 16, at 7:30 PM for further information, including an additional statement from Mayor Clark. Council meetings are streamed live on the City's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofMonroeMichigan> and also on the government channel, 18/Comcast or 190/Charter.

The public should regularly monitor the City's website (www.monroemi.gov), Facebook page, app push notifications, the city's government channel: channel (18/Comcast or 190/Charter), and local media for updates.

City administration will continue to evaluate how to reallocate staff and resources in the most efficient way possible and monitor the situation as it may pertain to the operations of public facilities. Any changes in addition to those released in recent days will be announced via the communication methods highlighted above.

As a reminder, everyone should be taking the following precautions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, including, but not limited to:

- If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19, call your health care provider. If you do not have a health care provider, call the nearest hospital.
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick, stay home, and avoid contact with others.
- Replace handshakes with elbow bumps.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others when in a public setting (social distancing).

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

Incorporated in 1817, the City of Monroe is a community that has a shared vision that seeks to balance the opportunities of economic development with the stewardship that is required for historic preservation. With a population of 20,733, Monroe is located about 17-miles north of Toledo, Ohio and about 35-miles south of Detroit. The City of Monroe is Michigan's third oldest community, and is also the county seat of Monroe County.

**CITY OF MONROE, MICHIGAN
DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY - COVID-19**

WHEREAS, the Michigan Emergency Act, Public Act 390 of 1976 (MCL 30.401, *et. seq.*) authorizes the Declaration of a State of Emergency by the City of Monroe, Michigan (the “City”); and

WHEREAS, Chapter 52 – Emergency Preparedness of the Code of the City of Monroe authorizes the Mayor of the City to declare a State of Emergency in the event of occurrence or imminent threat of epidemic; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 through our world, our country, and our state continues; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America has declared a State of Emergency relating to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Michigan has declared a State of Emergency relating to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the first case of COVID-19 in Monroe County was announced by the State of Michigan on March 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is highly contagious and easily spread; and

WHEREAS, it appears likely that COVID-19 is capable of being spread by individuals without any observable symptoms; and

WHEREAS, there is presently no cure for COVID-19 at this time and treatment and/or cures are expected to take time to develop; and

WHEREAS, the mortality rate of individuals infected with COVID-19 is significantly higher than that of the seasonal flu; and

WHEREAS, social distancing and personal measures such as handwashing and disinfecting are the known means to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City of Monroe, Michigan must continue to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens and businesses through its essential functions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED, that a State of Emergency relating to COVID-19 exists within the City of Monroe, Michigan effective March 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Robert E. Clark, Mayor

I, Michelle J. LaVoy, Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Monroe, State of Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing Declaration of State of Emergency – COVID 19 is a true and accurate copy as declared by Mayor Robert E. Clark for the City of Monroe, Michigan effective March 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Michelle J. LaVoy, Clerk-Treasurer

Date Certified: