



Date: 03/17/2020

MONROE CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION

(MONROE, MI) - Following the declaration of a State of Emergency made by Mayor Robert E. Clark on Sunday, March 15, in response to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, Monroe City Council has passed additional resolutions to create a more formal Incident Command Structure to direct City resources necessary to protect the health and safety of all city residents.

At the Monday, March 16th meeting, City Council approved the appointment of City Manager Vincent Pastue as the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator to establish an Incident Command Structure and designate the necessary officers to execute the management of Emergency Operations.

The Declaration of the State of Emergency also requires a succession plan be developed for city government. As such, in the event Mayor Robert E. Clark is unable to discharge the duties of the office of Mayor at any time during the duration of the State of Emergency, Councilmember John Iacoangeli was appointed to discharge the duties of the office of Mayor.

The following operational changes were also adopted via resolution. These actions are in addition to the measures previously announced by the City of Monroe:

- City Hall and all City facilities will remain closed to non-emergency employees and visitors through Tuesday, April 7, with a potential reopening of Wednesday, April 8. These publicly accessible facilities include: City Hall, Monroe Police Department lobby (emergencies only), Monroe Fire Department lobbies (emergencies only), Opportunity Center at the Arthur Lesow Community Center, Sawyer House, the Navarre and Dorsch branches of the Monroe County Library System, and the River Raisin National Battlefield Park Visitor Center (grounds and parking areas remain open). The opening, closing, and/or occupation of any of the above buildings will be determined at the discretion of the City Manager/Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.
- All online processing fees associated with online submission of payments in amounts of less than \$1,000.00 from citizens or businesses to the City of Monroe will be eliminated and/or waived during the duration of the State of Emergency to the maximum extent possible. This includes, but is not limited to, water bills, recreation fees, and building department permits or applications. To the extent such fees are unable to be immediately waived due to software or vendor timeframes for implementation, such fees shall be refunded to the payor as soon as practicable.
- All board and commission meetings through April 8 are cancelled. This includes the April 6, 2020, 6:00 PM City Council work session. The City Council meeting previously scheduled for 7:30 PM will still take place.
- Playscapes and playground equipment will be closed to public use; public parks will remain open.

The full resolutions of these actions can be found attached.

Residents who missed last night's City Council meeting are encouraged to watch the meeting on our YouTube channel for further information: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofMonroeMichigan>. Additionally, Council meetings are also replayed on the following schedule: Tuesday - Sunday at 7:30 PM and Wednesday and Friday at 2:00 AM on the government channel, 18/Comcast or 190/Charter.

The public should regularly monitor the City's website (www.monroemi.gov), Facebook page, [MyMonroe 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.

The [Monroe County Health Department](#) has set up a COVID-19 hotline. Please call 734.243.8600, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, if you have questions or concerns regarding 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.

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**CITY OF MONROE
RESOLUTION**

Resolution Appointing Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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36 WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Monroe, Michigan (the “Mayor”) declared
37 that a State of Emergency relating to COVID-19 exists within the City of Monroe,
38 Michigan effective March 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.; and

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40 WHEREAS, Section 52-4 of the Code of the City of Monroe, Michigan authorizes
41 the Mayor, with the approval of the Council, to appoint an Emergency Preparedness
42 Coordinator, who shall be a person with the personal attributes, experiences, and
43 training needed to coordinate the activities of the agencies, departments and individuals

44 within the City to protect the public health, safety and welfare during emergency
45 situations and disasters; and

46
47 WHEREAS, the Mayor appointed Vincent Pastue to serve as the Emergency
48 Preparedness Coordinator during the emergency situation relating to the COVID-19
49 epidemic subject to the approval of the City Council;

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51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Vincent Pastue is approved as the
52 Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the City of Monroe, Michigan during the
53 emergency situation relating to the COVID-19 epidemic; and

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55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vincent Pastue shall serve as the
56 Emergency Preparedness Coordinator until the conclusion of the emergency or further
57 action of the City Council; and

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59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Vincent Pastue, in his capacity as
60 Emergency Preparedness Coordinator may take the reasonable and necessary actions
61 to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, including, but not limited to such
62 actions as described in Chapter 52 – Emergency Preparedness – of the Code of the
63 City of Monroe.

64
65 Motion:
66 Seconded by:
67 Ayes: Nays: Absent:

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69 I, Michelle J. LaVoy, City Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Monroe, State of Michigan, do
70 hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is an exact copy of a Resolution adopted by
71 the City Council of said City, at a regular meeting thereof held on the ____ day of
72 _____, 2020.

Michelle J. LaVoy
City Clerk-Treasurer