

2020 - 17

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY, INDIANA
COMMON COUNCIL'S EXTENSION OF DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the duly elected Mayor of the City of Columbia City, Indiana ("City") declared a local emergency pursuant to Indiana Code §10-14-3-29(a)(1) on March 17, 2020, and amended thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Common Council have a duty to ensure efficient government of the City; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 coronavirus ("Coronavirus") has spread to Indiana, and based on information provided to the City of Columbia City by Federal, State, and County health officials, the potential rapid spread of the Coronavirus can be mitigated by limiting public interaction; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the risk of exposure to City employees and the public, it is necessary to temporarily limit public access to the City of Columbia City Government Center and other City of Columbia City municipal buildings and parks, and authorize some or all employees to work from home during this emergency.

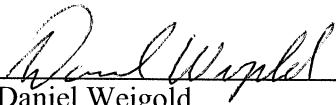
IT IS THUS DECLARED THAT A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY EXISTS IN THE CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY AND THE MAYOR'S DECLARATION OF MARCH 17, 2020 SHOULD BE EXTENDED.

1. As a result of this local emergency, public access to the City of Columbia City - City Hall and all other City of Columbia City municipal buildings and all parks and playgrounds, including public restrooms, shall be restricted to City employees and other persons deemed essential by the Office or the Mayor, the Chief of Police, the Fire Chief, the Mayor's designee, and the City Clerk.
2. As an exception to the closure of all parks and playgrounds during this local emergency, the Blue River Trail will remain open to the public; however, all those utilizing the Blue River Trail shall maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet.
2. The Common Council, in its extension of the Local Emergency Declaration, hereby authorizes the Department of Public Works to make the necessary arrangements and accommodations to allow Common Council meetings and Board of Public Works and Safety meetings to continue in the City of Columbia City - City Hall that are currently scheduled and are necessary to conduct essential City business and for the public to attend via Facebook or other means provided by the City and therefore participate in accordance with Indiana's Open Door Law. All other scheduled public meetings are hereby canceled until further notice.
3. The City of Columbia City will continue to offer City services, though some services will be restricted or delayed during this emergency. Services deemed "Essential Services," including public safety services, sanitation and other City provided utilities as are necessary, will continue to operate with adjustments as appropriate to ensure Essential Service continuity.
4. The City of Columbia City Police Department is hereby authorized to take lawful action necessary to effectuate the terms and intent of this Declaration, to reduce the risk of further spread of the Coronavirus which would reduce the efficiency of Columbia City City Government.


This Order shall expire upon termination of such Order by the Mayor at such time as the Mayor deems the necessity of an emergency has elapsed.

SO DECLARED THIS 24 DAY OF March, 2020.


COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
COLUMBIA CITY, INDIANA, BY:



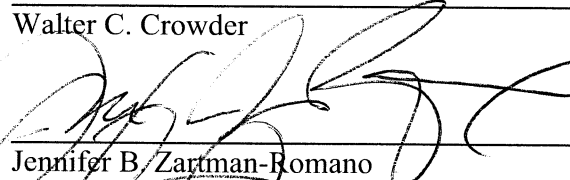
Daniel Weigold



Theodore J. Varga, Jr.



Walter C. Crowder




Jennifer B. Zartman-Romano



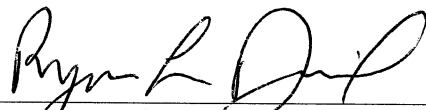
Jennifer Refitt

Attest:



Rosie Coyle, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved this 24 day of March, 2020.



Ryan L. Daniel, Mayor
City of Columbia City