

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 – 20

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of Ellensburg, Washington to rescind Resolution 2020-05, which declared a state of emergency for the purpose of addressing the impacts caused by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in Washington state and locally, and to extend certain actions taken by the City Manager during the COVID-19 outbreak.

WHEREAS, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-05 on February 29, 2020, declaring a state of emergency exists in Washington State due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for Kittitas County adopted Resolution 2020-42 on March 6, 2020, a “Declaration of Emergency – COVID-19,” based on the high potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 and exposure events which had already occurred in the county; and

WHEREAS, the Ellensburg City Council adopted Resolution 2020-05 on March 9, 2020, which declared a State of Emergency in the City of Ellensburg arising from the COVID-19 outbreak and authorized the utilization of emergency powers granted under RCW 38.52.070, including the authorization to waive competitive bidding requirements under Chapter 39.04 RCW; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2020-05 also authorized the City Manager to execute such contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such emergency to protect the health and safety of persons and property, and to provide emergency assistance to the victims of this emergency, and to also exercise all authority through the issuance of management orders and through the use and direction of City personnel, services, equipment, and operating hours, and additional acts necessary to the management of this emergency; and

WHEREAS, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-28 on March 24, 2020, which prohibited in-person gatherings for public meetings, which has since been amended multiple times, and as a result of which the Ellensburg City Council and all City of Ellensburg appointed boards, commissions and committees have been meeting virtually since April 2020, which has allowed greater citizen participation in the meetings; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager, pursuant to Resolution 2020-05, issued the following City Manager Emergency Orders:

1. 2020-01, indefinitely suspending the enforcement provisions of Chapter 5.64 of the Ellensburg City Code entitled “Carryout Bag Regulation”;
2. 2020-02, addressing late charges, disconnection or refusal of service for any residential customers from energy, telecommunications, or water service due to nonpayment, effective through the rescission of Governor Inslee’s Proclamation 20-23.3 (Ratepayer Assistance and Preservation of Essential Services) and any extension thereof, and providing that Section 5 of the Order would survive its rescission;

3. 2020-03, allowing for temporary “streateries” in certain locations in downtown Ellensburg, and as amended by Emergency Order 2020-03-C, effective through September 30, 2021;
4. 2020-04, providing for an Emergency Rental Assistance Program using CARES Act funding and administered by HopeSource, effective through November 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners for Kittitas County adopted Resolution 2021-091 to Rescind the Kittitas County COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2021, the Kittitas County Incident Management Team (IMT), which had been formed to assist with the local response to the COVID-19 outbreak and help manage the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, was demobilized; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2021, Governor Inslee removed all restrictions on capacity and physical distancing for public meetings, while retaining the face covering requirements as outlined in Proclamation 20-25, et seq., Secretary of Health Order 20-03.2, and LNI Publication F414-179;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council finds that the facts set forth in the recital paragraphs of this Resolution support and justify ending the declaration of an emergency by rescinding Resolution 2020-05.

Section 2. City Manager Order 2020-01 is now moot through the adoption of Ordinance 4863, which repealed Ch. 5.64 ECC.


Section 3. City Manager Order 2020-02 is extended through July 31, 2021, consistent with Proclamation 20-23.15, issued by Governor Inslee on March 18, 2021, and will continue in effect through any additional extensions of said proclamation by the Governor.

Section 4. City Manager Order 2020-03, as amended, is extended through December 31, 2021, or such time as the effective date City Council may adopt an ordinance regulating “streateries” on a permanent basis, whichever occurs first.

Section 5. City Manager Order 2020-04 has expired on its own terms.

Section 6. Subject to any state law restrictions or conditions, all City of Ellensburg boards, commissions, and committees, in addition to holding in-person meetings open to the public, will also offer members of the public the option of virtually attending the meetings by no later than August 2, 2021. Board, commission and committee members may also attend virtually.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg this 6th day of July, 2021.



MAYOR

Attest:



CITY CLERK