



City of Hermitage
Mercer County, Pennsylvania

CITY OF HERMITAGE

**PROCLAMATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY
MARCH 20, 2020**

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 emerged in Wuhan, China, in December 2019, and has since spread across the world, the United States, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the spread of the virus to be a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania made a statewide Proclamation of Disaster Emergency on March 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the threat of the spread of COVID-19 to Mercer County and the City of Hermitage is already occurring or is imminent; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to prepare for and respond to suspected or confirmed cases in the Commonwealth and to implement measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has urged the activation of the City's emergency operations plan, as needed; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has urged local municipalities to declare disaster emergencies as appropriate to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the citizens of the Commonwealth; and

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the provisions of the Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa.C.S. § 7501(b), I do hereby proclaim the existence of a disaster emergency throughout the City of Hermitage.

FURTHER, I hereby authorize the Hermitage Emergency Management Coordinator or his designee, as necessary, to coordinate the City of Hermitage's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, along with the City police and fire departments, and any other City departments.



FURTHER, pursuant to the powers granted under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7501(d), I declare that the public bidding requirements of the Hermitage Code of Ordinances are hereby SUSPENDED for the procurement of all necessary supplies or services required in response to this emergency. All procurements, to the extent possible, shall be based upon the solicitation of two (2) quotes for said goods or services, which need not be obtained in writing. It is the express intention of this provision to generally mirror the Commonwealth emergency procurement requirements set forth in 62 Pa. C.S. § 516.

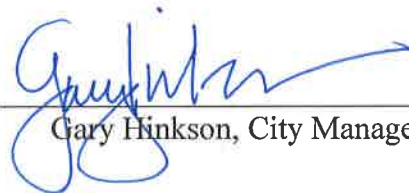
FURTHER, pursuant to the powers granted under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7501(d), I declare that the City shall be permitted to undertake any emergency assignments related to this disaster without regard to procedures required by other laws, except mandatory constitutional requirements, pertaining to performance of public work, entering into contracts, incurring of obligations, employment of temporary workers, rental of equipment, purchase of supplies and materials, and expenditures of public funds.

FURTHER, to the extent permitted under law, and in accordance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, 65 Pa.C.S. § 701, *et seq.*, the Board of Commissioners shall be permitted to adopt alternative methods of holding public meetings in the event such meetings become impossible or unsafe during the course of the emergency. Such alternatives shall include reasonable notice to the public of its right to participate, make public comments, and listen to the entirety of the public meeting.

FINALLY, this Proclamation shall expire within (7) days, unless earlier continued or renewed by a vote of the Hermitage Board of Commissioners.

PROCLAIMED by the City Manager, acting under authority granted to him under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7501(b), as authorized by the Board of Commissioners, this the 20th day of March, 2020.

By: _____



Gary Hinkson, City Manager