

RESOLUTION # 1358

**AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
DILLON, MONTANA, ENACTING MEASURES TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF THE
2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) VIRUS.**

WHEREAS, coronaviruses are a large family of virus that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more serious diseases and are easily spread by person-to-person contact; and

WHEREAS, in late 2019 an outbreak of a new strain of coronavirus began in Wuhan, Peoples Republic of China; and

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization named the new strain of coronavirus causing illness in China COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, cases of COVID-19 have been identified in a growing number of locations internationally, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic due to the spread of COVID-19 but emphasized that containment is still possible; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Steve Bullock declared a state of emergency related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") issued interim guidance recommending the cancellation of events or gatherings that consist of 50 or more people for the next eight weeks to reduce the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, Governor Steve Bullock directed the closure of public schools for two weeks to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and strongly recommended the public limit all gatherings, especially those in excess of 50 people, in every community across the state; and

WHEREAS, as of March 19, 2020, there have been eleven reported cases of COVID-19 in Montana, although none in Beaverhead County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 constitutes an emergency situation affecting the public health, safety and general welfare and proactively implementing mitigation measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 is in the best interests of the City and its inhabitants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Dillon, Montana, as follows:

Section 1: All of the recitals set forth above are hereby adopted as Findings of Fact.

Section 2: All City Board, Commission and Committee meetings are canceled through April 3, 2020, except limited City Council, Finance Committee, and Planning Board meetings. The Mayor is authorized to extend cancellation of meetings on a week-by-week basis beginning April 6, 2020.

Section 3: In the event the Beaverhead County Health Department directs or suggests a moratorium on public gatherings, or in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within Beaverhead County, all City meetings are canceled through April 30, 2020. The Mayor is authorized to cancel all City meetings on a week-by-week basis beginning April 30, 2020.

Section 4: During City Council, Finance Committee, and Planning Board meetings, occupancy of the City Council Chambers will be limited in accordance with the recommendations of the CDC (or other federal authority) or as otherwise dictated by the Beaverhead County Health Department or State or Federal law. The City of Dillon respects the public's right to attend all City meetings, but highly recommends that members of the public take public health risks into account when considering whether to personally attend. Like all City of Dillon meetings, a recording of these proceedings will be made and preserved for later public review if desired. The public is encouraged to submit written comments rather than physically attend meetings. Any written comments received after the packet has been published but prior to the start of the meeting will be read aloud at the meeting by City Staff. The Mayor is authorized to implement any recommended or dictated occupancy requirements.

Section 5: City Hall offices are closed to the public from March 18 through April 3, 2020. The Mayor is authorized to extend the closure on a week-by-week basis beginning April 3, 2020. Essential services at City Hall will continue to be provided to customers remotely.

Section 6: The City temporarily waives all late fees and will not shut off service for delinquent water and sewer accounts through April 25, 2020. The Mayor is authorized to extend such waivers on a week-by-week basis beginning April 25, 2020.

Section 7: The City approves emergency leave up to an equivalent of two weeks paid leave for all City employees who are required to be quarantined by the Beaverhead County Health Department or a licensed physician due to COVID-19. Employees who are normally scheduled for shifts of 40 hours per week will be eligible to receive 80 hours of paid emergency leave. Employees who are normally scheduled for less or more than 40 hours per week will receive a prorated amount. Emergency leave does not accrue nor is it payable upon termination. In the event H.R. 6201, *Families First Coronavirus Response Act*, is adopted by the federal government and requires the City to provide more extensive benefits, the City will do so.

Section 8: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Emergency Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent

jurisdiction, such decision shall affect only that part held invalid, and the remaining provisions thereof shall continue in force and effect.

Section 9: Copies of this Emergency Resolution shall be filed with the City Clerk of the City of Dillon and any or all other offices or agencies where such filing is required by law.

Section 10: This Emergency Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City council of the City of Dillon, Montana, and signing by the Mayor thereof.

ADOPTED by the City Council in regular session assembled this 23rd day of March, 2020.

APPROVED:

Michael L. Klakken, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jani Olsen, City Clerk

NUMBER VOTING IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION: 5

NUMBER VOTING AGAINST THE RESOLUTION: 0

NUMBER ABSENT OR ABSTAINING: 3