

**RESOLUTION NO. 512**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MORTON, WASHINGTON, DECLARING  
A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR COVID-19 VIRUS.**

**WHEREAS**, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed a State of Emergency related

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global  
Pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020 President Donald J. Trump declared a National Emergency  
related to COVID-19, and Governor Inslee ordered all schools in the State of Washington to  
temporarily close; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lewis County Board of Commissioners held an emergency meeting on March 16,  
2020 to declare a State of Emergency in Lewis County; and

**WHEREAS**, the health authorities in the world, federal, state and local levels are calling for  
drastic action to implement social distancing and in a effort to slow the transmission of the  
virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Morton, Washington, City Council wished to participate in the effort to  
slow the spread of the virus and follow the recommendations of the CDC, WHO, and local  
health department recommendations to protect citizens of Morton and employees of the City  
of Morton; and

**WHEREAS**, to be most effective, social distancing as well as other measures must be taken  
immediately on an emergency basis; and

**WHEREAS**, under RCW 42.30.070 of the State of Washington, Open Public Meetings Act, notice requirements may be suspended temporarily to allow emergency actions to be taken by the City Council; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MORTON, WASHINGTON, DO HEREBY RESOLVE THE FOLLOWING:**

**SECTION 1.** Declaration of Emergency. The COVID-19 outbreak constitutes an emergency and necessitates the activation of emergency powers granted pursuant to RCW. 38.52 and the use of all powers granted to the City of Morton, Washington as a Charter Code City under Washington State RCW., and the City of Morton Municipal Code.

**SECTION 2.** City personnel are authorized to take necessary actions to follow all orders of the federal, state and local governments, and to implement any and all health authority recommendations to control the spread and transmission of the COVID-19 virus. Such measures may include, but not be limited to the following:

- Authorize, encourage, or direct City employees not to report to work or to work remotely.
- Temporarily suspend non-essential City services or departments.
- Develop and implement necessary policies regarding essential staffing levels, employee leaves and benefits.
- Close or limit public access to city facilities.
- Delay all non-essential discussion, business, and action items on council agendas.
- Cancel Public meetings.
- Temporarily refrain from terminating utility services for nonpayment of bills related to the coronavirus/COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Purchase goods and services related to the emergency, and enter into contracts related to the emergency, without advance Council approval, subject to any competitive bidding requirements that may apply.

**SECTION 3.** The Mayor is authorized, in accordance with the terms and conditions of RCW. 38.52.070(2), to exercise the powers vested under section 2 of this resolution in the light of the exigencies of an emergency situation without regard to time-consuming procedures and

formalities prescribed by law., (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements), including but not limited to:

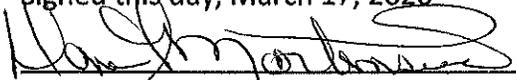
- Budget lay limitations
- Requirements of competitive bidding and publications or notices
- Provisions pertaining to the performance of public work
- Entering into contracts
- The incurring of obligations
- The employment of temporary workers subject to union and city regulations
- The rental of equipment
- The purchase of supplies and materials
- The appropriation and expenditures of public funds

**SECTION 4.** The Mayor may undertake contracting authority subject to the terms and conditions and provisions of this resolution.

**SECTION 5.** Notwithstanding the authorizations set forth in Section 3 of this resolution, the Mayor shall endeavor to secure the most competitive price available for goods and services, subject to the terms, conditions, and provisions of this resolution.

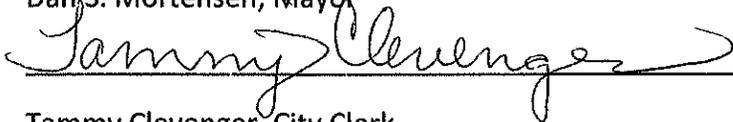
**SECTION 6.** The Mayor shall advise the City Council as soon as practical with respect to all actions taken under authority of this resolution. If competitive bidding requirements are waived for any public works construction contracts or for purchase of supplies, the City Council shall be asked to make a written finding in accordance with RCW 39.04. 028.

Signed this day, March 17, 2020



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Dan S. Mortensen, Mayor



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Tammy Clevenger, City Clerk