

**PROCLAMATION
DECLARING A
STATE OF EMERGENCY
IN THE TOWN OF PINETOPS**

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARS-Co-V-2 Virus. This is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans which can spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared COVID-19 as a Public Health Pandemic of International Concern on March 11, 2020. The United States Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) has reported the high public health threat posed by COVID-19, both globally and to the United States and has deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict travel to areas designated by the CDC; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19 under Section 319 of the Public Health Service Act; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (“NCDHHS”) confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in this state; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management has activated the NC Emergency Operation Center to manage the health impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, The Governor of the State of North Carolina, in consultation with the Secretary of the NCDHHS, has declared a State of Emergency as defined by N.C. Gen. Stat. 166A-19.3(6) and 166A-19.3(19) for the State of North Carolina based on the public health emergency posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with health care professionals and based upon guidance from the CDC and NCDHHS arrangements must be made immediately to take such actions that are deemed necessary and appropriate to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents in the County remain safe and secure;

WHEREAS, the spread of the disease poses an imminent threat to property in the County and its municipalities due to illness-related absenteeism, particularly among public safety personnel, healthcare personnel, and persons engaged in activities and businesses critical to the economy and infrastructure of the County and its municipalities; and

WHEREAS, local and state health departments must use all preventative measures, which will require access to available services, personnel, equipment, and facilities to respond to COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Town of Pinetops (hereinafter the "Town") is authorized, pursuant to Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes to issue declarations of emergency whenever times of public disaster or crisis exist; and

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Mayor of the Town under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes:

Section 1. A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the Town as more particularly described in Section 2.

Section 2. The emergency area covered by this state of emergency shall be all areas within the jurisdiction of the Town.

Section 3. Restrictions and prohibitions regarding the following matters may be implemented and shall be observed during the proclaimed emergency:

- Town Hall and all Town owned facilities shall be closed until further notice.
- Movements of people in public places; and
- The operation of offices, business establishments, and other places to or from which people may travel or at which they may congregate; and
- Other activities or conditions, the control of which may be reasonably necessary to maintain order and protect lives or property during the state of emergency.

Section 4. I hereby order all Town law enforcement officers and employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to our control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the County's Emergency Operations Plans.

Section 5. I hereby delegate to the Town Administrator, and/or his/her designee, all power and authority granted to me and required of me by Article 1A of Chapter 166A and Article 36A of Chapter 14 of the North Carolina General Statutes for the purpose of implementing the referenced Emergency Operations Plan, and to take such further action as is necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of those dwelling in the Town.

Section 6. I hereby order this declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with Town Clerk to the Town Council; and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 7. This declaration shall take effect immediately. Proclaimed this day and continuing until modified or rescinded.

Duly proclaimed this 30TH day of March, 2020



Brenda Hamell
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Danny Keeler
Town Clerk