

CITY OF RINGGOLD

COUNTY OF CATOOSA

STATE OF GEORGIA

MAYOR'S EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF RINGGOLD, GEORGIA, ESTABLISHING THE PROHIBITION OF ALL ON PREMISES CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL OR FOOD IN ALL BARS OR RESTAURANTS AND PROCEDURES FOR TAKE OUT OR DELIVERY OF FOOD OR BEVERAGE ONLY, BANNING GATHERINGS OVER 10 PEOPLE, PROVIDING FOR DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION, TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER ALL OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the President of the United States declared a National Public Health Emergency on Friday March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Georgia declared a State of Emergency in Georgia on March 14,2020; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID19) a world health emergency and a pandemic influenza emergency; and

WHEREAS, Georgia law allows for the suspension of certain laws, rules, ordinances and orders during a declared state of emergency, and authorizes the City to waive compliance with time-consuming procedures and formalities; O.C.G.A. § 38-3-1 et. seq., City of Ringgold Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia law grants the City of Ringgold, the power to protect the safety; health, and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor for the City of Ringgold is empowered to declare an emergency and take all actions necessary to protect the peace, good order, health, prosperity, comfort and security of the city, and of the inhabitants thereof"; Chapter 26, Division 2-Sec. 26-57; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has recommended that any gathering over 10 people be discontinued or prohibited; and

WHEREAS, The Northwest Georgia medical and public health leaders have worked diligently, closely and collaboratively to respond aggressively to the COVID-19 impact in the City of Ringgold; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ringgold, does not have the personnel or resources to monitor and police a distancing or gathering limitation.

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor for the City of Ringgold hereby does declare a public emergency. It is hereby Resolved and Ordered:

Section 1: The Mayor of the City of Ringgold hereby adopts and makes the findings discussed in the "WHEREAS" paragraphs as the factual findings.

Section 2: The Mayor for the City of Ringgold hereby declares a state of emergency and a public health emergency in the City of Ringgold.

Section 3:

a. The Mayor for the City of Ringgold hereby declares that all bars, restaurants, or businesses that sell food or beverages for consumption on-premises or that provide entertainment on premises shall be closed to in-person dining, consumption of alcohol, or entertainment until the expiration of this resolution.

b. Bars, restaurants, and other businesses that sell food may offer food for take-away or for customers to eat somewhere other than at the establishment, provided that cafeterias in hospitals, nursing homes, or similar facilities shall not be subject to these restrictions and may continue normal operations.

c. Businesses affected by these closures shall establish systems that restrict in-person contact as much as possible, to include not permitting more than ten (10) customers at a time to be inside the premises. Such processes may include the business taking the food to the customer's vehicle rather than the customer coming inside the business.

d. Furthermore, business shall ensure that all onsite consumption of food is prohibited, and that employees and contractors of the business maintain at least six (6) feet of personal distance between themselves as much as possible given the physical constraints of the premises.

e. If a restaurant is licensed to sell beer and wine for on-premises consumption, such business during the efficacy of this resolution only shall be authorized to sell unopened bottles, cans, or other sealed containers of beer or wine for take-out consumption off-premises.

Section 4: The Mayor for the City of Ringgold hereby suspends the use of any City Parks, monument sites and recreation areas by more than ten (10) persons in a group; however, this does not suspend the use of trails which are expressly exempted from this suspension. Social distancing maintain at least 6 feet is advised between groups or individuals. The Little General's Children Park will remain closed.

Section 5: The Mayor for the City of Ringgold hereby suspends the bid and competitive portions of any procurement policy and authorizes the City Manager to utilize the single-source policy and to require departments to provide a written justification for the procurement during the effective dates of this Resolution.

Section 6: This Resolution shall take effect at 6 O'clock PM, Monday, March 23, 2020

and shall expire by its own terms at 6 O'clock PM, Thursday, April 23, 2020, unless extended by further action.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, this 22 day of March, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nick Millwood", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Nick Millwood

Attest: Nicki Lundeen
Nicki Lundeen, City Clerk