

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

Mayoral Proclamation and Executive Order

March 16, 2020

WHEREAS in December of 2019 a new strain of respiratory illness, now known as, “COVID-19”, was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China and thereafter spread to more than seventy-five countries, including the United States, and in particular the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on January 23, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), activated its Emergency Response System to provide ongoing support for COVID-19 across the country; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared that COVID-19 was a pandemic, predicting that the rates of infection would continue to rise in many locations around the world, and across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Ohio, Michael DeWine, issued Executive Order 2020-01D, declaring a state of emergency employing preventive and proactive measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to treat those affected; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 within our community threatens to strain our local and regional healthcare systems; and

WHEREAS, additional measures are deemed necessary, above and beyond those instituted by both the State and Federal government, in order to help delay the community spread outbreak of COVID-19 in the City of Springfield, Ohio (“the City”); and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 7 of the Charter of the City, states “the [M]ayor shall take command of the police, and govern the city by proclamation during times of public danger or emergency, and the mayor shall be the sole determiner of what constitutes public danger or emergency” and the Mayor is therefore authorized to proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency in the City; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Springfield does hereby find, pursuant to Section 115.01 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Springfield, that a public danger and emergency exists due to the recent outbreak and community spread of COVID-19 in the State of Ohio, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WARREN R. COPELAND, Mayor of the City of Springfield, by the authority vested in me by the City of Springfield Codified Ordinances (“SCO”), Section 115.01 (Mayor’s Emergency Powers), do hereby find and proclaim that the threat of COVID-19 outbreak in the City constitutes a State of Emergency, beginning March 16, 2020. Pursuant to this Proclamation, I hereby issue the following Executive Orders:

Section 1. Persons, firms, corporations, partnerships or other employers located within the City are encouraged to have their employees, essential or non-essential, work remotely to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus from person to person.

Section 2. All City of Springfield employees, as authorized by their respective division or department head, are permitted to work remotely.

Section 3. All citizens and employees of the City of Springfield are directed to comply with necessary emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials in executing emergency operations plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful direction of properly identified officers.

Section 4. All purchasing and contracting requirements as stated in the Ohio Revised Code and the SCO are hereby suspended during the period of emergency for those City divisions or departments participating in emergency assistance under this Proclamation, in order to procure any necessary resources or supplies to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City.

Section 5. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to suspend, temporarily adopt, develop and implement policies and/or procedures within City departments and divisions, in order to effectuate this Proclamation so long as they are designed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Springfield, Ohio from the spread and effects of COVID-19.

Section 6. The all regularly scheduled City Commission meetings, zoning/planning meetings, and all neighborhood-based community meetings shall be suspended during the duration of the Proclamation and Executive Order.

Section 7. This Proclamation shall be in full force and effect until April 16, 2020, and may be modified or extended at any time if public health conditions so warrant.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible the City Clerk shall publicize this Proclamation pursuant to Springfield Codified Ordinance 115.02, for a period no less than ten (10) days in the local publication. This proclamation will be reported, pursuant to Springfield Codified Ordinance 115.03, to the City Commission at the next scheduled meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Springfield, Ohio, to be hereto affixed this 16th day of March, 2020.




Mayor Warren R. Copeland


Clerk of the City Commission