

March 26, 2020

## LIMITED STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION

The Limited State of Emergency declared in the City of Port Jervis effective as of 12:01 a.m. on March 16, 2020 is hereby EXTENDED.

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, United States Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the entire United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, both travel-related cases and community contact transmission of COVID-19 have been documented in New York State, and in particular, Orange County, New York, and more cases are expected to develop and/or be discovered; and

**WHEREAS**, A Limited State of Emergency was declared in the City of Port Jervis effective as of 12:01 a.m. on March 16, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Port Jervis is addressing the threat that COVID-19 poses to the health and welfare of its residents and visitors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Kelly B. Decker, Mayor of the City of Port Jervis, County of Orange, State of New York, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State of New York, hereby find, pursuant to Section 24 of Article 2-B of the Executive Law, that a disaster is impending in the City of Port Jervis, and, as a result, I do hereby declare a Limited State of Disaster Emergency for the entire City of Port Jervis.

**IN ADDITION**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Section 24(g) of Article 2-B of the Executive Law to temporarily suspend or modify any local law, ordinance, order, rule, or regulation, or parts thereof during a disaster emergency, if compliance with such local law, ordinance, order, rule, or regulation would prevent, hinder, or delay action necessary to cope with the disaster emergency, or if necessary to assist or aid in coping with such disaster, I hereby Direct the following:

1. The Limited State of Emergency includes the CLOSURE of all City Buildings to the General Public unless escorted by an employee of the City, Community Development Agency, Department of Motor Vehicles or the City Court.
2. Except as set forth hereinafter, ALL committee meetings, as well as any meetings held in our city buildings by outside organizations, are cancelled. The Committee Meetings that are cancelled include but are not limited to Planning Board and Zoning

Board of Appeals Business-essential boards that function according to timetables mandated by New York State will continue to hold their meetings. Such meetings will be limited to Board Members, Recording Secretaries and essential Department Heads, only. These essential boards include the City Council, Community Development Agency and Port Jervis Housing Authority. These Boards should attempt to limit their meetings to the extent possible. All other business to be conducted by a Board or organization ordinarily meeting in City owned properties, will be held over until those boards or committees can meet again.

3. ALL Meetings held pursuant to the provisions of this Limited State of Emergency will be held with NO PUBLIC PRESENCE OR PARTICIPATION according to Executive Order 202.1. However, the City Council meeting(s) will continue to be broadcast live on Access 23 and Facebook, and will be limited to only such matters as are necessary to keep the City functioning properly, such as approvals of bills, resolutions, contracts, appointments and personnel issues. No Local Laws will be presented or moved on. This limitation of consideration of Local Laws shall include but not be limited to Local Law #2 of 2020 regarding the proposal for a Tax Cap/Tax Cap Override.
4. Signs will be posted at the entrance(s) to all city buildings. The sign will include lists of the phone numbers of departments that may need to be contacted. Additionally, email addresses will be provided. These are the safest forms of contact during this time.
5. Those that have bills and/or taxes that need to be paid, can do so by mailing them to City Hall. In addition, there will be a drop box provided at the front entrance to City Hall.

Said directives shall run from the date of this Executive Order through April 30, 2020 at 11:59p.m., subject to extension by further order. The suspension of the aforesaid policies and Local Laws shall be imposed in such a manner as to create the minimum deviation from the requirements of said policies and laws consistent with the disaster action deemed necessary.

**IN ADDITION**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Section 25(1) of Article 2-B of the Executive Law, which states that “upon the threat or occurrence of a disaster, the chief executive of any political subdivision is hereby authorized and empowered to and shall use any and all facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel and other resources of his political subdivision in such manner as may be necessary or appropriate to cope with the disaster or any emergency resulting therefrom”, and in accordance with the applicable Management Rights provisions in any of the collective bargaining agreements now in effect between the City of Port Jervis and its representative employee organizations, I hereby direct all City Department Heads to arrange, modify or limit the work schedules of their respective departments in such a manner as may be necessary to attempt to minimize the risks to City employees, residents and visitors associated

with the current novel coronavirus, COVID-19 outbreak in accordance with recommendations issued by all relevant medical professionals and/or government agencies.

As the Chief Executive of the City of Port Jervis, I, Kelly B. Decker, exercise the authority vested to me under Section 24 of the New York State Executive Law, to preserve the public safety and hereby render all required and available assistance vital to the security, well-being, and health of the citizens of the City of Port Jervis. I hereby direct all departments and agencies of the City of Port Jervis to take whatever steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure and provide such emergency assistance as deemed necessary.

**SO ORDERED ON MARCH 26, 2020**

**KELLY B. DECKER, Mayor**