

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-____

CITY OF TONTITOWN, WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS

**A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE ESTABLISHED
TEMPORARY PROTOCOLS FOR CITY WORKPLACE AND
PUBLIC MEETINGS DURING TIMES OF NATIONAL OR
STATEWIDE EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson issued an Executive Order to Declare a State of Emergency due to the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) across the United States and in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, various temporary protocols and orders due to this State of Emergency have been ordered by Governor Hutchinson and the Arkansas Department of Health related to indoor public and work environments, including the wearing of masks or proper face coverings, washing hands and observing social distancing; and

WHEREAS, the disease is known spread from person to person contact, and specifically in indoor environments; and

WHEREAS, due to the nation-wide and state-wide emergencies that have been declared, the state mandated orders and the city's authority under Arkansas law to use police powers to protect the health, safety and welfare of citizens and the general public, the City of Tontitown has already implemented and observed such protocols in the workplace and during public meetings while best adhering to the principals of the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") and Arkansas law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to ratify these protocols calling for the wearing of face masks or appropriate face coverings, the washing of hands and the observing social distancing guidelines in the city workplace and during city public meetings and to further authorize the Mayor of the City of Tontitown to continue to ensure that such protocols are observed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TONTITOWN, ARKANSAS:

1. Public Meetings through electronic or virtual participation by city officials, city employees or the general public shall continue to be allowed during a time of a nation-wide or state-wide emergency upon the order of the Mayor of Tontitown.
2. City Council members, Planning Commissioners, members of the Board of Zoning Adjustments may choose to be physically present or to attend any Public Meetings during this temporary period-of-time through a conference call or telephone or a computer device which allows audio or video to be transmitted and recorded. Such electronic or virtual participation shall ensure that that an official can hear other official participants of the meeting and also be heard by other participants of the meeting.

3. Public hearings required by state law shall continue to be held in the City Council Chambers and the public may participate and offer comments through electronic or virtual participation if desired. The public may also observe and participate in such public meetings through a conference call or telephone or a computer device which allows audio or video to be transmitted and recorded, and for the conduct of the meeting to be observed or heard by a member of the public participating electronically or virtually.
4. For the city workplace or public meetings in which city officials, city employees or the general public are present, the wearing of face masks or proper face coverings, the washing of hands and the proper distancing guidelines as recommended by the Governor and the Arkansas Department of Health shall be observed, and the Mayor of the City of Tontitown is hereby authorized and responsible for the issuance of all orders regarding the same.
5. These temporary protocols shall expire by order of the Mayor, and in no event shall extend beyond the expiration of the State of Emergency issued by Governor Hutchinson.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day November, 2020.

APPROVED:

Paul Colvin, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Rhonda Ardemagni, Clerk-Treasurer