



## Resolution 2020-14

### EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States of America and the CDC (“Center for Disease Control”) and WHO (“World Health Organization”) have declared a medical health emergency concerning the COVID-19 Coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 6, 2020 the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency in response to a novel coronavirus, now known as COVID-19, which emerged in Wuhan, China, and has since spread throughout the world, including the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about March 10, 2020, the County of Delaware declared the Coronavirus COVID-19 PANDEMIC, a potential public health threat with the ability to cause illness, suffering, and possible death to the persons of Newtown Township, Delaware County; and

**WHEREAS**, Covid-19 has significant potential to endanger the health, safety and welfare of a substantial number of persons residing in Newtown Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania (particularly the elderly and those medically compromised); and

**WHEREAS**, both the President of the United States and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have indicated that local governments should take the appropriate steps to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to the Declarations of Emergency as declared by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Newtown Township, all deadlines as imposed by the MPC and the Right-to-Know Act are hereby suspended as set forth by the State and/or until the suspensions of the Declarations of Emergency.

**NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED**, the Township Board of Supervisors of Newtown Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania pursuant to the provisions of Section 7501 (b) of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Code, as amended, does hereby declare the existence of a Medical Disaster Emergency in Newtown Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and **FURTHER DECLARES** that:

- a. The effects of the COVID-19 coronavirus constitutes a clear and present danger to life;
- b. The disaster emergency declared by the Board of Supervisors or the Staff as authorized under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7501 and the resulting enabling provisions of 35 Pa.C.S. § 7501 shall continue until further action is taken by the board or by the staff as outlined in Resolution 2017-10, and or the Declarations declared by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the County of Delaware both are rescinded or declared ended at which time or before, the Board of Supervisors or by the Staff as outlined in Resolution 2017-10 shall make the determination to either end or continue the Emergency Declaration;
- c. The Board of Supervisors directs the Township Manager to take the appropriate measures to protect Township citizens, businesses, and employees by adopting without limitation, the following measures:


1. Limit any and all Township functions to only those deemed constitutionally mandated;
2. Limit crowds in any and all Township buildings by eliminating any and all non-essential Township meetings, unless the meeting can be held virtually, as well as all non-essential functions and limiting access to the Township facilities to only persons whose presence is absolutely necessary;
3. Extending any and all deadlines for Township responses to Right-to-Know Requests and other submissions for Land Development, Zoning, etc.;
4. Establish the appropriate measures for the payment and collection for Township taxes while assuring the safety of the Township taxpayers;
5. If necessary, temporarily releasing all non-essential Township personnel from reporting to the Township offices for work;
6. Immediately taking the steps necessary to properly clean and sanitize Township facilities; and,
7. If necessary, the Township Manager is authorized, after the consultation with the Board of Supervisors, to employ temporary workers, rent equipment, purchase necessary supplies and materials; and to enter into contracts and agreements for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of Newtown Township's citizens.

**FURTHERMORE**, the Board of Supervisors of Newtown Township, Delaware County hereby directs the Newtown Township Emergency Management Coordinator to coordinate the activities of the emergency response, to take all appropriate actions needed to alleviate the effects of this disaster, to aid in the restoration of essential public services and to take any other emergency response actions deemed necessary to respond to this emergency.

**APPROVED AND RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2020.



**Newtown Township  
Board of Supervisors**

  
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John A. Nawn, P.E., Chairman

**Attest**



Stephen M. Nease, Township Manager