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March 27, 2020

Dear Owners,

It was brought to our attention that some owners were having difficulty clicking onto the link in our previous email which contained the full Ordinance for the City of North Myrtle Beach. Therefore, we are including the Ordinance in its entirety below. We are also again including the full Myrtle Beach Temporary Orders, as well as a full copy of the Ordinance for Unincorporated Horry County.

As previously stated, the Orders are an effort by officials to stop the spread of the coronavirus.

**For condo owners who are considering coming to visit your condo, we share the following from South Carolina Governor McMaster as he stated on March 25<sup>th</sup>:**

*"Today, I am requesting all out of state visitors to South Carolina planning a stay of two or more nights (to) self-quarantine for two weeks immediately upon arrival." A spokesman for the governor, said McMaster's statement comes after the office heard concerns from coastal area elected officials about people traveling from other parts of the country with higher impacts of COVID-19.*

**CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH**

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHED MARCH 26, 2020

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COV-19) is severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and other potential methods, and presents symptoms similar to those of influenza.

WHEREAS, in December of 2019, a new and substantial outbreak of COVID-19 emerged in Wuhan, China, and has since spread rapidly to 117 countries and territories throughout the World, including the United States, and more specifically Horry County and numerous other counties in the State of South Carolina;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is predicting that it is likely that widespread transmission of COVID-19 will also occur in the United States;

WHEREAS, no vaccine or drug is currently available to cure or combat COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the City of North Myrtle Beach is threatened by COVID-19 because of the apparent ability of the virus to spread rapidly among humans, and COVID-19 thereby constitutes a clear and present threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens and visitors of the City of North Myrtle Beach;

WHEREAS, the CDC has issued guidelines for "community mitigation strategies" to limit the spread of COVID-19, including recommendations for social distancing, which has proven to be an effective method for containing COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the City of North Myrtle Beach is working with other government agencies in an effort to prevent the spread of disease;

WHEREAS, Governor Henry McMaster issued an executive order that closed all dine-in services at restaurants and bars beginning on Wednesday, March 18, and limiting all business to to-go/take out services only;

WHEREAS, Section 5-7-250 (d) of the South Carolina Code of Laws empowers Council to enact emergency ordinances affecting life, health, or safety; and

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, the City of North Myrtle Beach deems it proper and necessary to adopt this emergency ordinance in order to, among other things: a. suspend the rental and use of Short-Term Rentals, Hotels, and other Overnight Accommodations **for 29 days or less beginning 7 a.m. Friday, March 27, 2020 through April 30, 2020. Visitors currently checked in may remain until the end of their existing reservations.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of North Myrtle Beach, in Council assembled, that:

1. Rental and use of Short-Term Rentals, including, but not limited to Hotels, Motels, Condo Hotels, Rental Properties, inclusive of private management companies and HOA's, Airbnb, VRBO style lodging, public and private campgrounds and other Overnight Accommodations for 29 days or less beginning 7 a.m. Friday, March 27, 2020 through April 30, 2020 shall be prohibited. Visitors currently checked in may remain until the end of their existing reservations.
  2. Exempt: Short-Term Rentals extended to Government, Hospital, Health Agency, Law Enforcement, Military and other Critical Personnel actively responding to COVID-19.
  3. Any violation of any rule or regulation issued and set forth herein shall be punishable as provided in the Code of Ordinance for the City of North Myrtle Beach, Chapter I, Section -6, General Penalty.
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# CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH

TEMPORARY ORDERS ISSUED MARCH 26, 2020

1. All accommodations businesses in the City of Myrtle Beach, including hotels, motels, condo hotels, rental properties, inclusive of private management companies and Airbnb, VRBO style lodging, plus public and private campgrounds:

- Shall not accept new reservations or extend current reservations for any period prior to May 1 effective immediately (such time limit is subject to further modification), except as indicated below.
- Existing reservations made for a period beginning Saturday, March 28, 2020 through April 30, 2020 will be rescheduled or canceled.
- Those units consistently occupied since March 1, 2020 are exempt from the order but may not be joined by other occupants including friends and family members.
- All visitors who do not meet the above exemption must vacate the property by noon, Sunday, March 29, 2020.

2. All amusements designed to attract and accommodate visitors, are hereby ordered to close effective Friday, March 27, 2020, including but not limited to:

- Movie and live performance theaters.
- Golf courses in the City limits, including mini-golf courses.
- Moped, and golf cart rental operations.
- Amusement parks and arcades.

3. As ensuring public health is a shared responsibility:

- Our residents are requested to continue to wash or sanitize hands frequently, to frequently disinfect home and work surfaces that may lead to the spread of the coronavirus, and to practice even more stringent social distancing procedures.
- Businesses that remain open to the public are requested to:
  - Redouble all CDC and DHEC recommended sanitation and disinfection procedures, and to emphasize such procedures to their employees.
  - Establish safe distancing guidelines for all cashier and payment areas to encourage a separation of customers of at least six feet between customers.
  - Enforce six feet separation requirements whenever possible in waiting rooms, lobby areas, and workstations.
  - Encourage that business be conducted over the telephone or electronically whenever possible.

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## UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF Horry COUNTY

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ISSUED MARCH 26, 2020

Below is a copy of the Emergency Ordinance for Unincorporated Horry County. (You can also go to the [Horrycounty.org](http://Horrycounty.org) website for a clearer image.)

COUNTY OF HORRY )  
 )  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

ORDINANCE 25-20

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS BY MEANS OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT IN LIGHT OF CDC RECOMMENDATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS**, Horry County Council is empowered by section 4-9-130 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and Section 2-26 of the Horry County Code of Ordinances to adopt emergency ordinances, enacted by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of council present, and effective immediately upon enactment without regard to any reading, public hearing, publication requirements, or public notice requirements, to meet public emergencies affecting life, health, safety or the property of the people; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the recognition that COVID-19 poses a significant public health threat for infectious disease spread to our residents and visitors, Council enacted emergency Ordinance 20-20 on March 14, 2020 declaring a localized State of Emergency for Horry County; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020 there were 6 confirmed cases and 6 presumptive positive cases in the State of South Carolina, none of which were located in Horry County or surrounding counties, but at present that number has increased to 424 statewide, to include 19 confirmed cases in Horry County; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 15, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") issued guidance recommending the suspension of large events and mass gatherings that consist of 10 people or more in order to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC also has recommended for exposure risk management the practice of social distancing, not being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time; and

**WHEREAS**, while it is important for there to be continuity of County operations and government during this emergency, it is equally important for the County to take steps to minimize the need for large gatherings or close social interaction in order to protect public health and safety and the health and safety of local government officials and staff; and

**WHEREAS**, the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act ("the SC FOIA"), defines a "Meeting" as "the convening of a quorum of the constituent membership of a public body, whether corporal *or by means of electronic equipment*, to discuss or act upon a matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power." (emphasis added); and

**WHEREAS**, due to the State of Emergency related to COVID-19, it is advisable to make provisions for the holding of electronic public meetings, while ensuring any electronic meeting fully complies with the open meeting requirements of the SC FOIA; and

**WHEREAS**, it is hereby determined that a public emergency affecting life, health, and safety continues to exist, and therefore, it is appropriate and necessary to conduct an emergency meeting in order to enact this emergency ordinance.



**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the power and authority granted to the Horry County Council by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the powers granted to the County by the General Assembly of the State, the following hereby is ordained and enacted:

**1. STANDARDS FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS.** County Council hereby authorizes that County public meetings (to include Council, Council standing committees and subcommittees, boards, commissions, committees, and agencies) may be conducted exclusively or in part in electronic form, provided that the means – telephonic, broadcast video, computer-based, or other electronic media – and the meetings themselves provide for the following:

(a) At the beginning of any electronic meeting, the presiding officer shall poll the membership to confirm attendance, and any member of the Council, committee, sub-committee, board, commission, committee or agency (“the Body”) attending by way of electronic media shall be considered present for the purposes of constituting a quorum.

(b) Throughout the duration of the electronic meeting, all members of the Body, officials or staff speaking at such meeting, and any person addressing the Body, must have the capability to be heard at all times by the members of the Body and by the general public.

(c) Any vote of the members of the Body must be conducted by individual voice vote, each to indicate their vote on any matter by stating “yea” or “nay.” All individual votes shall be recorded by the clerk, secretary, or presiding officer, as appropriate.

(d) Meetings shall be recorded and minutes kept in the same manner as an in-person meeting, or as required by the SC FOIA.

(e) All members of the Body, officials, staff, and presenters should identify themselves and be recognized prior to speaking. Other than as provided herein, members of the Body shall comply with the rules of the Body as they relate to procedural matters and shall maintain order and decorum.

(f) Electronic executive sessions shall be permitted in accordance with the provisions of the SC FOIA. Upon the entry into any electronic executive session, the electronic meeting utilized for such executive session may be held by separate electronic means wherein the public will not be permitted to participate, or by way of the initial electronic means, with implementation of participation or listening restrictions whereby the public is not permitted to participate, provided that in either instance all members of the Body must have the capability to be heard at all times.

(g) With respect to any electronic meeting, any public comment/input periods (distinguished from public hearings, see below) provided for by local code, ordinance, resolution, bylaw, rule of order, parliamentary procedure, policy, custom or usage are hereby suspended. This provision does not apply to public hearing periods.

**2. SUSPENSION OF LOCAL PROVISIONS.** During the period of effectiveness of this Ordinance, any code, ordinance, resolution, bylaw, rule of order, parliamentary procedure, policy, custom or usage of the Body that conflicts with the provisions hereof is suspended and shall be superseded hereby.

3. **TERMINATION/EXPIRATION.** This Ordinance will remain in effect for sixty (60) days unless sooner terminated by Resolution of County Council.

4. **SEVERABILITY.** If any Section, Subsection, or part of this Ordinance shall be deemed or found to conflict with a provision of South Carolina law, or other pre-emptive legal principle, then that Section, Sub-section or part of this Ordinance shall be deemed ineffective, but the remaining parts of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.


5. **CONFLICT WITH PRECEDING ORDINANCES.** If a Section, Sub-section or provision of this Ordinance shall conflict with the provisions of a Section, Sub-section or part of a preceding Ordinance of Horry County, unless expressly so providing, then the preceding Section, Sub-section or part shall be deemed repealed and no longer in effect.

6. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately.

**AND IT IS SO ORDAINED, ENACTED AND ORDERED.**

Dated this 25th day of March, 2020.

**HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL**



Johnny Gardner, Chairman  
On behalf of the entire County Council

not  
yes no present

- |                                     |                          |                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Johnny Gardner, Chairman     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Harold G. Worley, District 1 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Bill Howard, District 2      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Dennis DiSabato, District 3  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Gary Loftus, District 4      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Tyler Servant, District 5    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Cam Crawford, District 6     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Orton Bellamy, District 7    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Johnny Vaught, District 8    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | W. Paul Prince, District 9   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Danny Hardee, District 10    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Al Allen, District 11        |

Attest:



Patricia S. Hartley, Clerk to Council