

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

COUNTY OF CHEROKEE)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-4

CITY OF GAFFNEY)

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**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND THE
NORMAL OPERATING PROCEDURES OF GAFFNEY COUNCIL MEETINGS
AND TO AUTHORIZE THE GAFFNEY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO
DEVELOP AND ENACT A PLAN IN ORDER TO ENSURE CONTINUITY IN
THE DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19
OUTBREAK; AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO**

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WHEREAS, it is well recognized that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the disease COVID-19, presents a public health concern that requires extraordinary protective measures and vigilance; and

WHEREAS, these matters have taken many forms across the nation including travel bans, school closures, individual quarantines, and cancellation of major events, among other measures; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gaffney is working with other government agencies in an effort to prevent the spread of disease; and

WHEREAS, Section 5-7-250 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, Gaffney City Council deems it proper and necessary to adopt this emergency ordinance in order to: (a) temporarily suspend the normal operating procedures of Gaffney City Council; (b) to authorize the Gaffney City Administrator to develop and enact a plan in order to ensure continuity in the delivery of government services in light of the COVID-19 outbreak; and (c) authorize the City of Gaffney City Administrator to revoke special events permits for a temporary period;

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

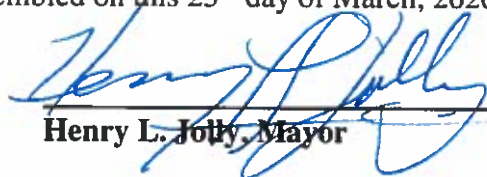
1. The City of Gaffney temporarily suspends the normal operating procedures of City Council meetings and hereby allows for the Mayor and Councilmembers to remotely participate in voting and operational procedures by telephone or other means of electronic communication provided that the provisions of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act are complied with.

2. All deadlines imposed by City Ordinance, applicable to the municipality or applicant, shall be suspended, during this temporary period.
3. Effective immediately, all indoor and outdoor public gatherings of individuals or community events, including but not limited to establishments such as movie theaters and live performance venues, bowling alleys, and arcades, gyms and fitness centers, bingo halls, and all houses of worship, shall not exceed 10 persons. This provision is not applicable to medical facilities, pharmacies, grocery stores, and the regular day to day operations of the City of Gaffney government.

Violation of this provision is punishable by a fine of up to \$500, 30 days in jail or both.

4. The City Administrator is authorized to develop and enact a plan in order to ensure continuity in the delivery of government services in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.
5. The City Administrator is authorized to cancel and revoke any special events permits issued prior to the date of this ordinance for events taking place until April 30, 2020.
6. If any provision of this emergency ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the emergency ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and to this end, the provisions of this emergency ordinance are severable. Further, in light and in view of the national emergency that created the need for this emergency ordinance, the City Council does hereby reserve the right to amend or revoke this emergency ordinance by and through the means established hereunder, in the event the application of this emergency ordinance requires such action.
7. This emergency ordinance shall be terminated by the issuance of another ordinance or shall automatically expire on the 61st day after enactment of this ordinance, whichever date is earlier.

DONE AND RATIFIED in Council assembled on this 23rd day of March, 2020.


Henry L. Jolly, Mayor

ATTEST:


James R. Taylor, City Administrator

(SEAL)