



Town of Ferdinand
2065 Main Street
PO Box 7
FERDINAND, IN 47532-0007
Phone 812-367-2280
Fax 812-367-1303
twnofferdinand@psci.net

DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY AND EXECUTIVE ORDER
E/O 2020 - 01

WHEREAS, the undersigned is the President of the Ferdinand Town Council (“Town”); and

WHEREAS, Indiana Code Section 10-14-3-29(a) (1) permits the principal executive officer to declare a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned, in such capacity, has a duty to ensure efficient government of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus or COVID-19 has spread to Indiana and my office is committed to base decisions on governance upon, among other things, information provided by health officials of the Federal, State and County in relation to ways that the spread of the coronavirus can be mitigated; and

WHEREAS, the majority of information provided to my office has indicated that the potential spread of the coronavirus can be mitigated by limiting to the extent necessary or appropriate public interaction; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the risk of exposure to our Town employees and the public, it is now necessary to limit public access to Town Hall and to all other municipal buildings and to authorize some variation in the way business is conducted while we navigate through these uncertain times.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DECLARED THAT A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY EXISTS IN THE TOWN OF FERDINAND.

1. As a result of this local emergency, public access to Town Hall and all other Town of Ferdinand municipal buildings shall be restricted to Town employees and any other persons deemed essential by the President of the Town Council, the Chief of Police, the Fire Chief or the Clerk Treasurer. Anyone needing to pay a utility bill, purchase trash stickers, pick up a permit application or other matters that can be handled via the drive thru are hereby required

to do so. Doors at Town Hall will be locked during regular business hours for the health and safety of our employees and the public. If there is a matter that cannot be handled using the drive thru, the public is asked to please call (812)367-2280 and make alternative arrangements. The gates to municipal utility buildings will be closed during normal working hours. If access is necessary, the public should please call (812)367-2282 and attempt to make alternative arrangements.

2. The Town will continue to offer municipal services, however, some services will be restricted or delayed during this emergency period. For the purpose of this executive order, essential services include public safety services and utilities, and sanitation and those services will continue to operate. However, in order to continue to operate we must take actions within our work force which are geared toward keeping the employees who work and provide those services as healthy as possible under the circumstances. To that end, we are taking precautions requiring employees to self-check their temperature each day before work and to stay home if their temperature is 99.8 degrees or higher or the employee has contracted the coronavirus. Other precautions include sanitation clean up procedures which must be performed throughout the day and at the end of each shift. During this emergency period, we will keep municipal parks open to the public as the outdoor air and physical activity will probably help alleviate anxiety for some of our citizens. At this juncture, we will not be closing the rest rooms at the parks but, given the size of our work force, the public is cautioned to use those facilities at their own risk because those facilities cannot be sanitized after each use. Efforts will be taken to clean and sanitize as often as possible, but the public should use their own discretion on whether or not to use those common areas. Additionally, for the next month, unless earlier terminated or extended beyond that time, there will not be any rentals of the Senior Center or shelter houses of the parks. If a reservation was already made, a refund will be given or a postponement can be made, without penalty.
3. Necessary arrangements have been made for only essential governmental meetings to be conducted at Town Hall. Thus far, the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Plan Commission

meetings have been cancelled and business before either body will occur at the regular April meeting. At this time, the March Town Council meeting will take place as there is some business before it that is essential Town business. For the safety of our employees, instead of attendance at the March meeting, the department heads are requested to, instead, submit their department reports in writing to Chris James who will provide a copy of their respective written reports to each council member for approval. The business before the Town Council at that meeting will be an abbreviated agenda covering only the time sensitive business. The public will be able to attend and participate in accordance with Indiana's Open Door Law. Please be aware that attendance may be governed by current Federal, State, and/or County requirements.

4. We will have a temporary moratorium on utility disconnects during the emergency period.
5. This is a very fluid situation that requires constant re-evaluation and could require temporary suspension of rules that would ordinarily be in place. It is entirely possible that adjustments may be necessary at a later date and those adjustments may need to be taken quickly.
6. The Ferdinand Police Department is hereby authorized to take lawful action necessary to effectuate the terms and intent of this Declaration, to reduce the risk of further spread of the coronavirus which would reduce the efficiency of our municipal government.
7. Unless rescinded earlier, this Declaration shall expire in seven (7) days unless further extended by action of the Town Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto have set my hand.

Done at said Town of Ferdinand, this 18TH day of MARCH, 2020.



Kenneth J. Sicard,
President, Town Council
Ferdinand, Indiana