

ORDER

WHEREAS, in December 2019, medical professional detected a novel coronavirus, now designated as “SARS-CoV-2,” which causes a disease known as “coronavirus disease 2019,” abbreviated and popularly known as “COVID-19”; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared an outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising countries to prepare for containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Missouri declared the COVID-19 outbreak a state emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the President of the United States issued guidelines encouraging the public for the next fifteen days to avoid social gatherings in groups of more than ten people and to avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts and instead use drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Mayor declared a civil emergency because of the threat COVID-19 poses to the public health; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, City Council passed Ordinance 2020-002 prohibiting public gatherings of 50 or more persons with certain exceptions, and authorizing the Mayor, after consultation with city, county, and state officials, to issue an order amending which public gatherings are prohibited if in his judgment the prohibition should be amended to protect public health; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2020, the Governor of the State of Missouri directed the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services Director to require social distancing statewide, specifically stating that every person in the State of Missouri shall avoid social gatherings of more than ten (10) people and avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts and instead use drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is spread person to person through direct or close proximate contact and presents an imminent threat of widespread illness; and

WHEREAS, after consultation with city, county, and state officials, it is my judgment that the prohibition adopted in Ordinance 2020-041 should be amended to protect the public health.

NOW THEREFORE, I, GARY L. SHAW, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM AND ORDER, that:

Section 1. The public gatherings prohibited in Ordinance 2020-041 are hereby amended to any public gathering of 10 or more persons except educational activities, daycare facilities, and business operations. Business operations shall not include the following, which shall be closed to the public during the time this order is effective: businesses offering entertainment, amusement, and recreation, and bars, taverns, or food establishments offering drinking or dining-in, except for lawful delivery, pickup, and drive-thru services that may be offered by said businesses, bars, taverns, or food establishments.

Section 2. This Order shall go into effect at 12:01 a.m. on March 25, 2020, and shall expire at 12:01 a.m. on April 6, 2020 unless extended by further order of the Mayor with said extensions not to exceed the duration of the effective period of the Mayor's Emergency Government Proclamation of State of Emergency in City of Joplin, State of Missouri dated March 18, 2020, or any extension thereof.



Gary L. Shaw, Mayor

ATTEST:



Barbara J. Gollhofer, City Clerk