

**ORDER AND DECLARATION OF THE ANSON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDING THE MAYOR'S DISASTER DECLARATION AND ORDER OF MARCH 23, 2020 AS AMENDED BY THE CITY COUNCIL HEREIN, AND DECLARING A STATE OF DISASTER AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR ANSON, TEXAS**

**WHEREAS**, in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 as a pandemic and urged that all countries take urgent and aggressive action; and

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

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of disaster in Texas due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 15, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") lowered the recommended number of persons at mass gatherings to 50 persons; and

**WHEREAS**, large gatherings of individuals pose a risk of the spread of COVID-19. COVID-19 spreads between people who are in close proximity to each other through respiratory droplets produced when a person coughs or sneezes. The CDC recommends that persons maintain a distance of six feet from others when possible; and

**WHEREAS**, limiting large gatherings is essential and proactive to prevent and slow down community spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation; and

**WHEREAS**, extraordinary and immediate measures needed to be taken to respond quickly to prevent and slow down community spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 18, 2020, Governor Abbott requested that all counties restrict restaurants to drive-through or take-out only, close all bars, and restrict community gatherings to 10 persons; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the Governor's request and the fact that there are now reported cases of individuals testing positive for COVID-19 in the region around ANSON, there is the need to take further action.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ANSON, TEXAS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 418.108:**

1. That the local state of disaster and public health emergency declared for ANSON, Texas by the MAYOR is hereby EXTENDED, and that the MAYOR's Order is ADOPTED AND RESTATED except as AMENDED herein by this Court based on new developments. A local state of disaster and public health emergency in ANSON is DECLARED.
2. Pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
3. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the CITY's emergency management plan.
4. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President, the CDC, and Governor Abbott, every person in ANSON shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
5. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President, the CDC, and Governor Abbott, people shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms; provided however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the duration of this Order.
6. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President, the CDC, and Governor Abbott, people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.
7. In addition to these guidelines, Citizens are strongly encouraged to exercise social distancing of at least 6 feet, regularly wash hands in soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and to not come to the ANSON City Hall.
8. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President, the CDC, and Governor Abbott, schools shall temporarily close.
9. IT IS ORDERED THAT persons coming to the ANSON City Hall is discouraged. THEREFORE the City Hall is closed to the public.
10. The ANSON City Council shall be allowed to hold virtual meetings, either through telephone or videoconferencing consistent with the Governor's order of March 16, 2020, that suspends certain provisions of the Open Meetings Act including the require government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location. The City Council is required to allow the following:

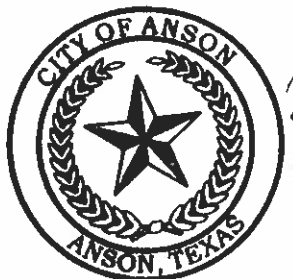
Members of the public will be entitled to participate and address the governmental body during any telephonic or videoconference meeting.

To hold a telephonic or videoconference meeting, a governmental body must post a written notice that gives the public a way to participate remotely, such as a toll-free dial-in number, and that includes an electronic copy of any agenda packet that officials will consider at the meeting.

A governmental body must provide the public with access to a recording of any telephonic or videoconference meeting.

11. ANSON grants an addition 80 hours of sick leave if such sick leave is related to the COVID-19 virus AND if 1) a health care provider states the employee is to remain away from his or her work for a period of time of up to 10 working days OR 2) the City Manager approves such leave and the City Manager believes that such sick leave is related to COVID-19 virus. Such sick leave must be otherwise consistent with current employee policy manual guidelines.
12. This ORDER shall become effective at 11:59 pm on March 24, 2020, and shall end on **April 3, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. or in the event Governor Greg Abbott extends his Executive Order GA-08, then this ORDER extends until the next called City Council Meeting after April 3, 2020, which discusses such Declaration; until then, the restrictions as set forth in the Mayor's Order of March 23, 2020 shall apply.**
13. The County will promptly provide copies of this Order by posting it on the City's website. In addition, the owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy.
14. That a violation of this order shall be punishable as authorized by Section 418.173 of the Texas Government Code by a fine that does not exceed \$1,000.00 and/or confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days. That this declaration also hereby authorizes the use of any other lawfully available enforcement tools.
15. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order or any application of it to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Order.

ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ANSON, TEXAS on this the 23rd day of March, 2020.



*Evelyn Edwards*  
EVELYN EDWARDS - MAYOR PRO TEM  
ANSON, TEXAS