

RESOLUTION #20-09

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A CONTINUED STATE OF EMERGENCY IN CITY OF BERLIN REGARDING COVID-19

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel strain of the coronavirus now named Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) was detected and has spread through many countries, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and the United States Department of Health and Human Services has declared a Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Wisconsin Governor, Tony Evers issued Executive Order #72 Relating to a Proclamation Declaring a Health Emergency in Response to the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Berlin declared the existence of a state of emergency by Resolution #20-05 on March 18, 2020, and the declaration of emergency expired upon the expiration of the Governor's Executive Order #72 on May 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the existence of an increasing number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Wisconsin since the public health emergency declaration and the City of Berlin's emergency declaration on March 18, 2020, including in the City of Berlin and counties surrounding the City of Berlin, constitutes a continuing condition within the City posing an imminent threat of a disaster within the meaning of Chapter 323 of the Wisconsin Statutes that could impair medical care, health protection, and other critical systems of the City of Berlin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berlin requires additional time to facilitate COVID-19 testing, protection of the public and its employees by the continued implementation of safeguards against the spread of COVID-19 and preparing for the gradual but consistent return of face-to-face City services, by following guidance from the State, our County Health Department, the CDC, and other appropriate sources of information, with the goal of returning such face-to-face City services as soon as reasonably possible; and

WHEREAS, declaring a continued state of emergency will facilitate and expedite the use of resources to protect persons from the impacts of the spread of COVID-19 while ensuring continuity of critical operations within the City of Berlin.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to sections 323.11 and 323.14 (4) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the City of Berlin hereby declares that a local State of Emergency continues to exist for the City of Berlin, which declaration shall be in effect for a period of 30 days or until modified by further proclamation or an action of the City of Berlin Common Council.

BE IT RESOLVED, that in person public comment at all meetings of the City Common Council, Committees, Boards, and/or Commissions shall continue to be suspended (unless

required by state or federal statute or regulation even under emergency declaration,) until the emergency declaration is rescinded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that so long as the meeting is consistent with the requirements of open meetings, the City Common Council, Committees, Boards, and/or Commissions may conduct electronic or virtual meetings for conducting City business.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that public access to City facilities shall be limited, and to the extent possible, all operations shall be made available on-line and/or available for external drop off to the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City Officials shall endeavor to take all reasonable efforts to prepare for the gradual but consistent return of face-to-face City services, by following guidance from the State, our County Health Department, the CDC and other appropriate sources of information, with the goal of returning such face-to-face City services as soon as reasonably possible.

THIS DECLARATION OF A CONTINUED STATE OF EMERGENCY is enacted this 14th day of May, 2020.

Passed, approved and adopted this 14th day of May, 2020.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

_____ AYES

_____ NAYS

_____ ABSENT

CITY OF BERLIN

BY _____
Richard D. Schramer, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST: _____
Jodie Olson
City Clerk

Matthew G. Chier
City Attorney