

ORDINANCE 20 - 07

WHEREAS, on March 24th 2020, the Mayor issued a proclamation declaring a state of disaster for the City of Commerce resulting from the continued threat of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, on March 31st 2020, the Mayor issued a proclamation extending the declaration for a state of disaster for the City of Commerce through April 30th 2020 resulting from the continued threat of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, on April 30th 2020, the Mayor and City Council voted to continue the declaration of disaster for the City of Commerce due to the continued threat of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel corona virus which causes the disease COVID-19, has spread through the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. In some cases, the virus has caused death; and

WHEREAS, the Hunt County Judge declared a local disaster for Hunt County on March 23, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Texas has declared a Public Health Disaster over the coronavirus pandemic, and

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Hunt County, in which the City of Commerce is located, including the potential quarantine of individuals, groups of individuals, and property and, additionally, including compelling individuals, groups of individuals, or property to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease; and

WHEREAS, §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code provides that a local state of disaster may not be continued for a period of excess of seven days without the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision;

WHEREAS, the conditions necessitating declaration of a state of disaster continue to exist; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE:

1. That the Declaration of disaster proclaimed for the City of Commerce by the Mayor on March 24, 2020 **shall be continued so long as either the State of Texas maintains a Declaration of Disaster which covers the City of Commerce or the County of Hunt maintains a Declaration of Disaster which covers the City of Commerce, but such Declaration of Disaster by the Mayor shall end when both the State of Texas and the County of Hunt have ended their Declarations of Disaster which cover the City of Commerce, unless extended by the City Council.**

2. That failing to follow an Order issued pursuant to this Declaration of Disaster, or an order issued by Hunt County pursuant to a County-wide Declaration of Disaster is an offense violating a health and public safety ordinance is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$2,000.
3. This ordinance is passed as an emergency measure and pursuant to emergency management protocol and shall become effective on the 30th day of April 2020.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 30th day of April 2020.

APPROVED, this 30th day of April 2020.



Mayor