

**SECOND RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI, DECLARING ADDITIONAL MEASURES FOR THE
CONTROL OF CONTAGIOUS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOR THE
PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE AND FOR RELATED
PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Mississippi and Miss. Code Ann. §33-15-11(b)(17), Governor Tate Reeves declared a State of Emergency existed in the State of Mississippi as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning on January 27, 2020; on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a nationwide state of emergency due to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 Mayor Robyn Tannehill signed a Proclamation of Local Emergency due to the COVID-19, pandemic, and on March 17, 2020, the City of Oxford, through its Mayor and Board of Aldermen ratified this Proclamation, and adopted a Resolution declaring a Civil Emergency, and for the Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases and Related Purposes, which made certain findings and required, among other things, restaurants to close dining rooms and provide services through curbside pick-up, drive through and delivery methods only, and prohibited the use by the public of interior or exterior common dining or bar facilities; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen adopted an ordinance amending Chapter 1 Code of Ordinances of the City of Oxford, Mississippi – General Provisions, which specified penalties for violation of the adopted resolution; and

WHEREAS, the emergence and risk of the spread of COVID-19 within Mississippi continues to constitute a public emergency that has resulted in substantial injury or harm to life, health, and property within Mississippi, and in the City of Oxford, and COVID-19 has already been detected in numerous individuals in multiple counties throughout the State, and in several individuals within Lafayette County, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Mississippi State Department of Health confirmed the first presumptive case of COVID-19 in Mississippi, and as of March 21, 2020, there were at least 207 cases in Mississippi of individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19, resulting in at least one death in the State; and

WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi and the City of Oxford continue to be adversely affected by the outbreak of COVID-19, and there exists a continued threat to the public's

safety, private property and the social and economic welfare of this City, County, and State;
and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Mississippi Department of Health guidelines for responding to COVID-19 recommend avoiding crowds or gatherings of more than 10 people; and

WHEREAS, the governing authority of the City of Oxford has reviewed and accepts the findings and recommendations of the CDC and the Mississippi Department of Health, and has further received the same findings and recommendations from health professionals within the City of Oxford and Lafayette County, and accepts those findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the population of the City of Oxford is comprised of college students, substantial numbers of nurses, aides and support staff for physicians, employees and staff of a regional hospital and several long term care facilities, and contains significant populations of both older, at-risk individuals and individuals who travel broadly and frequently, and the City of Oxford is a location frequently visited by individuals from surrounding counties, towns, and cities; and

WHEREAS, Section 45-17-3 of the Mississippi Code allows the City to proclaim a civil emergency if it determines that a natural disaster which has caused death or injury has occurred, which the City has done; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen continue to find that COVID-19 is a natural disaster which has caused and will continue to cause injury, illness and/or death to persons to such an extent that additional extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of citizens and visitors to the City of Oxford; and

WHEREAS, Section 45-17-7 of the Mississippi Code allows the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Oxford, after declaration of a civil emergency and in the interest of the public safety and welfare, to issue such orders as are necessary for the protection of life of citizens and visitors to the City of Oxford, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Section 21-19-29 of the Mississippi Code allows the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Oxford to regulate the entrances to public halls and buildings, and the way of ingress and egress to and from the same;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN of the City of Oxford, that the City hereby adopts the following additional emergency measures that shall take effect immediately and remain in effect until rescinded by the governmental authority of the City of Oxford (unless a different effective date and date for continuing effectiveness is stated in such measure(s)), to protect the public health, safety, and

welfare of the community from the spread of a contagious or infectious disease and to eliminate or limit injuries or deaths that may occur in the absence of such measures:

Section 1: Because of the likelihood of close person-to-person contact, which increases dramatically the likelihood of the spread of infectious disease, effective immediately and for a period of fifteen days unless extended by Motion and Order of the governing authorities of the City of Oxford, all non-essential businesses and business functions including all bars, entertainment venues, meetings of fraternal and civic organizations, bowling alleys, theatres, recreational facilities, tattoo parlors, barbershops, hair/beauty/nail/tanning salons, spas, gyms, convention centers, community centers and parks (except for walking trails), shopping centers, retail stores (except where curbside is available and utilized) shall be closed to the public. This Section also applies to municipally owned convention spaces, community centers, and parks (except for walking trails). Persons who have rented municipally owned facilities shall be entitled to a full refund of any rental sums and deposits paid, with such refunds to be paid as determined by the Mayor of the City of Oxford.

Section 2: Effective immediately and for a period of fifteen days unless extended by Motion and Order of the governing authorities of the City of Oxford, all churches, temples and places of worship, assemblages and gatherings, including but not limited to private clubs within the City limits of the City of Oxford, shall adhere to the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Mississippi Department of Health, and shall limit crowds, and assemblages or gatherings to no more than 10 people. This provision shall apply (non-exclusively) to funerals, weddings, and other social gatherings.

Section 3: Effective immediately and for a period of fifteen days unless extended by Motion and Order of the governing authorities of the City of Oxford, all essential businesses, agencies and units of government located within the City of Oxford shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that such businesses comply with the CDC and the Mississippi Department of Health recommendations and guidance, and shall implement appropriate safeguards to prevent the spread of infectious disease, including but not limited to: mandating social distancing, sending home sick employees and actively encouraging sick employees to stay home, separating and sending home employees who appear to have respiratory illness symptoms, emphasizing work-from-home policies where possible, mandating respiratory etiquette and proper hand hygiene, maintaining clean and sanitary workplaces, cautioning employees regarding travel, and taking all such additional measures to prohibit and/or reduce the spread of infectious disease, and especially Covid-19. To the extent the enforcement of this Section 3 might impair or impede the practical and safe operation of essential service businesses, the following are to remain operational following the CDC guidelines: City government services (police stations, fire stations, courts, garbage/sanitation, utilities, and such other services as the Mayor shall determine), hospitals/clinics and healthcare operations (nursing homes and assisted living facilities), veterinarian offices, gas stations, drug stores and pharmacies, food services (grocery stores, farmers markets, food banks, convenience stores,

take-out, curbside and delivery restaurants), hardware stores, security companies, businesses providing services necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation and essential operation of residents (plumbers, electricians, landscapers, HVAC services, and the like), banks, community benefit organizations on a case-by-case basis (Interfaith Compassion Ministries, United Way, Salvation Army, Red Cross, Communicare, etc.), laundromats/laundry services, cemeteries, and professional services which service companies and individuals who or which are essential businesses, agencies, or governmental units (such as accountants, attorneys, engineers, architects, etc.), to the extent such professional services are able to operate under CDC and the Mississippi Department of Health regulations.

Section 4: The City may issue such other orders as are necessary for the protection of life and liberty.

Section 5: The penalties for violation of this adopted resolution shall be the same as those listed in the ordinance amending Chapter 1, Code of Ordinances of the City of Oxford, Mississippi – General Provisions, which the City of Oxford adopted on or about March 18, 2020.

Alderman _____ moved for adoption of the Resolution, which motion was seconded by Alderman _____, said Resolution having been introduced in writing at a specially called meeting of the Mayor Board of Aldermen of the City of Oxford, Mississippi, held on March 22nd, 2020, which was read, considered, debated and ultimately adopted unanimously, paragraph by paragraph, section by section, then as a whole, and the question being put to a vote, the Mayor recorded the votes as follows:

Alderman Rick Addy voted: _____

Alderman Mark Huelse voted: _____

Alderwoman Janice Antonow voted: _____

Alderman Kesha Howell-Atkinson voted: _____

Alderman Preston E. Taylor voted: _____

Alderman Jason Bailey voted: _____

Alderman John Morgan voted: _____

Robyn Tannehill
Mayor of the City of Oxford, Mississippi

Attest: Ashley Atkinson
City Clerk, City of Oxford, Mississippi