

RESOLUTION

#20-18

A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN TO ENCOURAGE AND REQUEST THAT THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA IMPLEMENT A STATEWIDE MANDATE FOR THE WEARING OF MOUTH AND NOSE COVERINGS OR MASKS FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA WHILE IN PUBLIC IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS; TO SET AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia, Laurens County and the City of Dublin are currently in the “RED ZONE” according to reports from the White House Coronavirus Task Force; and

WHEREAS, in the 14 days Laurens County cases have rocketed upward by 67% and, according to local health officials, the upward trend continues unabated; and

WHEREAS, local health officials in Laurens County and City of Dublin have recommended mask-wearing in our area as a simple, effective and minimally burdensome method of fighting Coronavirus, or Covid-19; and

WHEREAS, both County and City school systems will soon be opening in our area and other school systems have already opened statewide, and will struggle to prevent spread of virus within their respective school systems; and

WHEREAS, our local health care workers, heroically fighting this disease for months, are exhausted, many contracting the disease themselves; and

WHEREAS, City of Dublin are tasked with providing and protecting the health, safety and general welfare of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic as of March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency in response to the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, Governor Brian Kemp declared that a public health emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the spread of COVID-19 within Georgia; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, the Mayor and Council of the City of Dublin declared a state of Emergency due to COVID-19 and on July 28, 2020, the Mayor and Council renewed the state of Emergency for the City; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of Georgia residents are at risk of serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, a large number of persons with serious infections can compromise the ability of the healthcare system to deliver necessary care to the public; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness, transmitted through person-to-person contact or by contact with surfaces contaminated with the virus and persons infected with COVID-19 may become symptomatic two to fourteen days after exposure; and

WHEREAS, asymptomatic (including pre-symptomatic) infected persons are infectious and, without mitigation many infections occur from individuals without symptoms; and

WHEREAS, respiratory droplets from infected persons are a major mode of COVID-19 transmission. This understanding is the basis of the recommendations for physical distancing, and of the personal protective equipment guidance for healthcare workers. Droplets do not only come

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