

ORDINANCE NO. 1128

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GENEVA, FILLMORE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO ADOPT PROCEDURES TO ADDRESS AND RESPOND TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS EPIDEMIC OF 2019 (COVID-19); TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION; TO AUTHORIZE AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE

**WHEREAS** on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) declared a public health emergency with respect to the global spread of the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS** on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency in response to the domestic spread of COVID-19, which threatens to overwhelm health care facilities and emergency medical care providers across the country, as well as disrupt supply chains and normal business operations across all sectors of the economy; and

**WHEREAS** commencing on March 6, 2020, and continuing through the present, COVID-19 has been present in and spread across the State of Nebraska; and

**WHEREAS** on March 13, 2020, Governor Pete Ricketts declared a state of emergency within the State of Nebraska in response to the spread of COVID-19 in Nebraska; and

**WHEREAS** the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) recognizes that confirmed community transmission in the United States and Nebraska significantly increases the risk of exposure and infection to the general public, which creates an extreme public health risk to the citizens of Nebraska; and

**WHEREAS** due to the identification of COVID-19 cases in Nebraska, COVID-19 has created conditions that are or are likely to be beyond the control of local resources and require the combined forces of political subdivisions and governmental agencies to combat; and

**WHEREAS** although the City of Geneva does not currently have a confirmed case of COVID-19, the Mayor and City Council recognize that conditions will likely change quickly and therefore desire to adopt a plan of action that will guide Geneva's efforts to respond to COVID-19;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GENEVA, NEBRASKA:**

**Section 1.** The plan of action attached as **Exhibit 1** is hereby adopted and shall be implemented, as needed, by the Mayor and applicable City staff and agents.

**Section 2.** If needed or as otherwise contemplated in the plan of action, the Mayor is authorized to use and modify the draft declaration of emergency attached as **Exhibit 2**.

**Section 3.** Nothing in this ordinance, the draft declaration of emergency, or the plan of action shall limit, abrogate, or otherwise modify any authority or action under applicable law, regulation, ordinance, or policy that the Mayor or any of the City's staff or agents may take to respond to COVID-19, in compliance with state and federal law.

**Section 4.** The plan of action will be posted to the City of Geneva website, social media accounts, and at public facilities. It may also be otherwise distributed to City staff and Geneva residents as the Mayor deems necessary.

**Section 5.** This ordinance shall be published one (1) time in the Nebraska Signal within fifteen (15) days of passage.

**Section 6.** Pursuant to City Code § 30.47(B), the Mayor and City Council hereby proclaim the existence of a public health emergency requiring immediate operation of this ordinance. Accordingly, this ordinance shall be in full force and take immediate effect from and after its posting in three (3) public places in the community.

SUSPEND  
READINGS  
(3/4 VOTE)

March 16, 2020

FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING \_\_\_\_\_

THIRD READING \_\_\_\_\_

*Eric M. Kamler*

Eric Kamler, Mayor

ATTESTED AND PUBLISHED ONE (1) TIME IN THE NEBRASKA SIGNAL WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF PASSAGE PER SECTION 30.45 OF THE GENEVA CITY CODE AND POSTED THREE (3) PLACES IN THE COMMUNITY PER SECTION 30.47(B) OF THE GENEVA CITY CODE.

*Kelly Stroh*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kelly Stroh, Clerk