

April ____, 2020

Lynwood Emergency Order

2020-EO-01

**VILLAGE OF LYNWOOD, ILLINOIS
MAYORAL EXECUTIVE ORDER**

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, On March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Illinois issued a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation with respect to the ongoing spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, On March 11, the World Health Organization categorized this outbreak of COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to these emergency declarations, the Mayor has been granted full emergency authority provided by law, including, but not limited to, those powers designed in 65 ILCS 5/11-1-6, and the Illinois Emergency Management Act 20 ILCS 3305; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate for the Village of Lynwood to immediately take all appropriate, reasonable and necessary measures available to it to protect the public's health in response to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the Illinois Governor issued Executive Order 2020-07, which included provisions suspending those portions of the Open Meetings Act which require in person attendance by members of the Village Board, encouraging non-essential meetings be postponed, and "[w]hen a meeting is necessary, public bodies are encouraged to provide video, audio, and/or telephonic access to meetings to ensure members of the public may monitor the meeting, and to update their websites and social media feeds to keep the public fully apprised of any modifications to their meeting schedules or the format of their meetings due to COVID-19, as well their activities relating to COVID-19"; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the Illinois Governor issued Executive Order 2020-10, commonly referred to as the "stay-at-home order," which included Section 1.3 banning all gatherings of ten (10) persons or more, which was extended to April 30, 2020 by Executive Order 2020-18; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of the Illinois Attorney General and Public Access Counselor's interpretation memo, entitled "Guidance to Public Bodies on the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act during the COVID-19 Pandemic," issued to address and interpret these executive orders and statutes, and providing balancing of the serious public health threats against the objectives of transparency; and

WHEREAS, the Village recognizes the limitations of currently available hardware and software, while continuing to make the meetings of its Corporate Authorities more accessible even prior to this public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Lynwood has reduced the presence at the Village all non-essential staff and is operating with minimum essential staffing with the hope that full staffing can return by April 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, reasonably prudent guidance and understanding of this Crisis leads the Corporate Officers of the Village of Lynwood to believe that such orders shall not be lifted on or before the scheduled April 14, 2020 meeting, and guidance will otherwise remain substantially similar with respect to gatherings and social distancing restrictions;

THEREFORE, in further exercise of the Emergency Authority granted to me, I, Eugene Williams, Mayor of the Village of Lynwood, Illinois, DO HEREBY ORDER as follows:

Section 1. WHEREAS, pursuant to the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, I, Eugene Williams, Mayor of the Village of Lynwood, do hereby issue a Mayoral Proclamation of Emergency relating to this outbreak of COVID-19 as of April 8, 2020, which declaration will be subsequently ratified on April 14, 2020 by an Ordinance adopted by the Board of Trustees of Lynwood; and

Section 2. All powers and rights stated in Chapter 30, Article II, Section 30-19 et seq. are hereby put into effect as of April 8, 2020, if they are invoked by the Mayor, and shall remain in effect for 48 hours or until the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting, whichever is sooner, unless said time frame is extended pursuant to Section 30-22 of the Village Code.

Section 3. If the Village's Declaration of Emergency, and the Governor's Stay-at-Home Order, and Executive Order 2020-07 are lifted prior to April 14, 2020 than these rules shall be null and void.

Section 4. Pursuant to Section 30-23 of the Village Code, the Chief of Police, or his designee, shall notify the news media situated within the Village of this Proclamation and shall post a copy of the same at the Village Hall, the Police Station and the Fire Station.

Section 5. This Order shall be promptly filed with the Clerk of the Village of Lynwood, and shall be posted on the Village's website and anywhere Agendas are generally posted.

Section 6. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Eugene Williams, Mayor
Village of Lynwood, Illinois

Dated: April _____, 2020