

*Sandra Whitehead  
Mayor*

*Kathy Clark  
Mayor Pro-Tem*

*Rolf Hechler  
Commissioner*



*Paul Baca  
Commissioner*

*George Szigeti  
Commissioner*

*Morris Madrid  
City Manager*

*505 Sims St.  
Truth or Consequences, New Mexico 87901  
P: 575-894-6673 x 301 ♦ F: 575-894-7767  
[www.torcnm.org](http://www.torcnm.org)*

## EMERGENCY MEETING

AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO, IS TO BE HELD IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 405 W. 3<sup>RD</sup> ST., ON TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020; TO START AT 9:00 A.M.

### A. CALL TO ORDER

### B. INTRODUCTION

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Hon. Sandra Whitehead, Mayor  
Hon. Kathy Clark, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Hon. Rolf Hechler, Commissioner  
Hon. Paul Baca, Commissioner  
Hon. George Szigeti, Commissioner

#### 2. SILENT MEDITATION

#### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

### C. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/ZONING

1. Discussion/Action: Resolution 32 19/20 Declaration of Health Emergency for the City of Truth or Consequences. City Manager Madrid

### D. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Limited Personnel Matters (various positions) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2)

### E. ADJOURNMENT

**NEXT REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING APRIL 8, 2020**



# CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

## AGENDA REQUEST FORM

**MEETING DATE:** March 24, 2020

*Agenda Item #:* C.1

**SUBJECT:** Discussion/Action: Resolution 32 19/20 Declaration of Health Emergency for the City of Truth or Consequences.

**DEPARTMENT:** City Clerk's Office

**DATE SUBMITTED:** March 20, 2020

**SUBMITTED BY:** Angela A. Torres, City Clerk-Treasurer

**WHO WILL PRESENT THE ITEM:** City Manager Madrid

***Summary/Background:***

Declaration of Health Emergency for the City of Truth or Consequences in regards to the global pandemic of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

***Recommendation:***

Approval of Resolution No. 32 19/20.

***Attachments:***

- Resolution No. 32 19/20

***Fiscal Impact (Finance):*** TBD

***Legal Review (City Attorney):*** Yes

***Approved For Submittal By:*** ☐ Department Director

***Reviewed by:*** ☒ City Clerk ☐ Finance ☒ Legal ☐ Other: -

***Final Approval:*** ☒ City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S USE ONLY - COMMISSION ACTION TAKEN**

Resolution No. 32 19/20 Ordinance No. -

Continued To: - Referred To: -

☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Other: -

File Name: CC Agendas 3-24-2020



## **RESOLUTION NO. 32 19/20**

### **DECLARATION OF HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR THE CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO**

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (WHO) has officially declared there to be a global pandemic of COVID-19 (Coronavirus); and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of New Mexico has declared a State of Emergency in order to contain and combat the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Mexico Health Secretary has issued a public health order suspending mass gatherings in New Mexico effective immediately in order to prevent the spread of the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States has officially declared a state health emergency with regards to the national COVID-19 epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC has advised that local governments should take immediate action to limit the spread of the virus through social distancing, cancellation of public meetings, limiting public gatherings and events, and implementing additional public health safety and education measures to prevent, contain and, where possible, to mitigate the impact of the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, cases of the virus in New Mexico have been confirmed and continue to increase and are growing closer to the City of Truth or Consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, national and state health experts now believe that the spread of the virus throughout the country appears to be inevitable at this point; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Truth or Consequences has complied with the state requirements of the Open Meetings Act for the posting and notification of an Emergency Meeting of the City Commission during a declared state of emergency.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, BY THIS RESOLUTION THAT WE THE ELECTED OFFICIALS SO HEREBY DECLARE, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That, consistent with the declarations of the WHO, the Federal Government, and the Governor of the State of New Mexico, a Declaration of a Health Emergency is hereby established by the City Commission for and in the City of Truth or Consequences.
2. That said Declaration shall invoke those financial, planning, police powers and other additional resources available to the City of Truth or Consequences through a formal declaration of a state of emergency.



3. The City Commission hereby authorizes the Mayor and City Manager to conduct such emergency measures as may be appropriate to safeguard the public health, safety and welfare of both our residents and visitors.
4. No checks may be written in relation to any contract authorized under this resolution without certification by the Finance Director that the appropriate funds exist to meet the obligation nor any contract or agreement entered into without the review and approval of the City Attorney.
5. The City Commission authorizes, consistent with city code, the implementation of electronic mechanisms for the conduct of city business, including staff and consultant education, outreach and planning city meetings, and telephonic participation by the City Commission of such city meetings and advisory boards and committees as necessary. Such meetings shall be advertised, as required, recorded and made public as soon as possible and shall broadcast formal meetings of the City Commission.
6. The City Commission authorizes, consistent with the recommendations of the Emergency Management Team, the City of Truth or Consequences Pandemic COOP and AP, the orders of the New Mexico Health Secretary and the recommendations of the WHO and CDC, the following:
  - a. That all city public events, trainings and meetings and any events, planned to be held in or on city property are hereby cancelled until further notice, with the status to be reviewed every 30 days.
  - b. That all out-of-state travel or trainings for city business are hereby cancelled, with the status of this prohibition to be reviewed every 30 days and any requests for exceptions for public safety or other essential services to be reviewed on a case by case basis by the City Manager.
  - c. The City Manager and HR Department may set such safeguards for the public and employees regarding employees that travel out of the area or that become ill as are reasonable to protect the health and safety of staff and the public, consistent with the most current public health guidelines and advisories.
  - d. That all non-essential programs of the city that involve significant interaction with residents or groups from outside the state or region that might increase staff or local residents to an increased threat of exposure to the virus shall be cancelled, with this prohibition to be reviewed every 30 days, and with no exceptions.
  - e. That all non-essential facilities of the city that involve significant interaction with residents or groups from outside the state or region that might increase staff or local residents to an increased threat of exposure to the virus shall be cancelled, with this prohibition to be reviewed every 30 days, with any requests for exceptions for public health, welfare and safety to be reviewed by the City Manager.
  - f. That the City Commission authorizes the Mayor and City Manager to enter into any JPA's, MOU's, Shared Services Agreements, contracts as may be necessary to provide the continued operation of services in a time of depleted staff or increased need due to this state of emergency with other governmental, quasi-governmental or private entities and may similarly assist other governmental entities, utilities, health services engaged in the delivery of essential services to the community necessary for the continued public health, welfare and safety of the community.
  - g. That the City Commission authorizes the Mayor, City Manager, and Finance Director to prepare for, expend resources in anticipation of, and to apply for such state and federal assistance as may be anticipated or allocated as related to the states of emergency.
  - h. The City Commission authorizes the Finance Director to establish an emergency account and to fund said account up to \$250,000 for the tracking and finding of such costs as may result from or be needed to address the health emergency, including over-time, contract labor, computers, smart phones, electronic equipment and telecommunications services, etc. as may be necessary for remote and work at home

arrangements, as outlined in the COOP, such as preventative and safety equipment and supplies as antiseptic, masks, gloves, etc., and such emergency equipment or provisions as may be needed to assist staff, the public and the indigent in a time of shortage or mandated isolation, including food, water, medicine, etc.

- i. Consistent with the state requirements under the Open Meetings Act and all other applicable regulations and statutes for both an emergency meeting and the declaration of a state of emergency by a local government, the City Clerk shall provide to the required offices notice of this meeting, the actions of the governing body and make available said notice and actions to the public upon request.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 24th day of March, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra Whitehead, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela A. Torres, City Clerk-Treasurer