Town of South Kingstown Renewed Declaration of Emergency

On March 15, 2020, pursuant to Sec. 3214 of the South Kingstown Home Rule Charter, the Town Council declared the existence of an emergency. The basis for the Council's emergency declaration was the danger to health and life posed by the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, as set forth in Governor Gina Raimondo's Executive Order 20-02 dated March 9, 2020 declaring a state of emergency, and Executive Order 20-03 dated March 13, 2020 containing a supplemental emergency declaration. Governor Raimondo extended the state of emergency as set forth in Executive Order 20-23 on April 10, 2020, and it was further extended on May 7, June 4, July 3, July 31, September 2, October 2, November 2, December 2, December 22, 2020, January 19, and February 16, 2021. Governor Daniel McKee further extended the state of emergency on March 16, 2021. The Town Council voted to extend the date of the local emergency declaration on April 13, 2020, and it was further extended on May 11, June 8, July 13, August 11, September 14, October 13, November 9, December 14, 2020, January 11, January 25, and February 22, 2021.

Since the Council's declaration of emergency, the Governor of the State of Rhode Island has issued 130 further supplemental emergency declarations (as of March 17, 2021) relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, and circumstances have continued to be dire both locally, statewide, and nationwide. On March 16, 2021, Governor McKee issued Executive Order 21-25 further extending the state of emergency to April 14, 2021. Therefore, the Town Council deems it prudent to declare that a state of emergency continues to exist in Town, and hereby extends the end date of its emergency declaration from March 22, 2021 to April 26, 2021. The substance of the Council's declaration of emergency remains in full force and effect, except to the extent that it has been superseded by an Executive Order of the Governor of the State of Rhode Island.

The Council hereby delegates the authority to the Town Manager to take any and all actions deemed necessary to address the ongoing emergency. The Town Manager shall report actions taken pursuant to this emergency declaration to the Council and to the public as soon as practicable, including ongoing updates on the Town's website.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately and remain in full force and effect until April 26, 2021 unless renewed, modified, or terminated by a subsequent ordinance. Provided, however, that if the statewide state of emergency is not extended by executive order of the Governor of the State of Rhode Island on or before April 14, 2021, this Ordinance shall expire on that date.

Adopted March 22, 2021.

By Order of the Town Council.

Attest:

Susan M. Flynn, Town Clerk

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