## PRESS RELEASE

City of Monroe Communications, Culture and Community Promotion



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## CITY UPDATES OPERATIONS WITH COVID-19 RESOLUTION #8 - REVISIONS TO FOLLOW PENDING ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER #2020-110

(MONROE, MI) - Prior to the June 1, 2020 meeting of the City Council, the City Administration proposed COVID Resolution #8 which recommended operational changes pursuant to Governor Whitmer's Executive Orders that were in effect at that time of the issuance of the agenda for the meeting.

In the hours immediately preceding the Council meeting, Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order #2020-110 significantly modifying the Governor's previously issued "stay at home" orders. On the recommendation of the City Administration, the City Council approved COVID Resolution #8, but also scheduled a special meeting for June 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via the zoom video conferencing platform to discuss Executive Order 2020-110 and future operations of the City, including building openings, park operations, recreational programs, downtown business reopening, and other related items.

## COVID-19 Resolution #8 details the following:

- All City of Monroe facilities will remain closed through June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at 11:59 PM. This will be pending further analysis of Governor Whitmer's recently released Executive Order 2020-110, and possible policy changes thereof to be discussed at the City Council Special Meeting to take place June 8, 2020, at 6:00 PM. Essential critical and emergency City operations are not affected by the Governor's Order and will remain in operation. This includes Police, Fire, Water Plant, and Wastewater Plant operations.
- City Council and/or other public meetings of committees, commissions, etc., will continue to be held via remote or technological means through June 30<sup>th</sup>, if Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-75 remains in effect. This will be pending possible extension of the order, or other similar Executive Order or legislative action permitting the conduct of public meetings remotely. This includes, but is not limited to, the special meeting presently scheduled for June 8, 2020 at 6:00 PM.
- Online payment processing fees in amounts of less than \$1,000.00 from citizens or businesses to the City of Monroe are eliminated and/or waived to the maximum extent possible during the duration of the State of Emergency relating to COVID-19 as declared by the Mayor of the City of Monroe on March 15, 2020. This includes, but not limited to, water bills, recreation fees, and building department permits or applications, but excludes the payment of any real property or personal property tax payments. For the avoidance of any doubt, all real property or personal property tax payments made online are subject to online processing or convenience fees.

COVID-19 Resolution #8 contains several adjustments to parks and recreation programs and
events. These recent motions included the following: all City recreation programs scheduled or
anticipated through September 9, 2020 are cancelled; all City park reservations through
September 9, 2020 are cancelled and no further reservations shall be accepted through
September 9, 2020; all special events requiring City approval through September 9, 2020, are
cancelled and no special event permit applications shall be approved through September 9, 2020.

As previously mentioned, City Council has scheduled a Special Meeting for Monday, June 8, 2020, at 6:00 PM via the Zoom video conferencing platform to discuss the Governor's most recent order and its possible implications on building opening/closures, parks and recreation programs, downtown business reopening, etc.

The City of Monroe reminds residents that residents can participate in public meetings remotely. Virtual City Council meetings will be live streamed to the City's YouTube Channel, <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofMonroeMichigan">www.youtube.com/c/CityofMonroeMichigan</a>, as well as Comcast Cable Communications Channel 18. Participation information, in addition to the upcoming schedule of meetings can be found on the home page of the City's website: <a href="https://www.monroemi.gov">www.monroemi.gov</a>

The public should continue to regularly monitor the City's website (<a href="www.monroemi.gov">www.monroemi.gov</a>), Facebook page, <a href="https://www.monroemi.gov">MyMonroe app</a> push notifications, the City's government channel (18/Comcast), and local media for updates.

As a reminder, everyone should be taking the following precautions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, including, but not limited to:

- If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19, call your healthcare provider. If you do not have a healthcare provider, call the nearest hospital.
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick, stay home, and avoid contact with others.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others when in a public setting (social distancing).

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus. The Monroe County Health Department has a COVID-19 hotline. Please call 734.243.8600, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, if you have questions or concerns regarding coronavirus. Additionally, the latest information on Monroe County statistics can be found at the Monroe County Health Department Coronavirus Dashboard at: <a href="https://www.co.monroe.mi.us/officials\_and\_departments/departments/health\_department/coronavirus\_(covid-19).php">https://www.co.monroe.mi.us/officials\_and\_departments/departments/health\_department/coronavirus\_(covid-19).php</a>

Incorporated in 1817, the City of Monroe is a community that has a shared vision that seeks to balance the opportunities of economic development with the stewardship that is required for historic preservation. With a population of 20,733, Monroe is located about 17-miles north of Toledo, Ohio and about 35-miles south of Detroit. The City of Monroe is Michigan's third oldest community, and is also the county seat of Monroe County.