

**LAKE AND PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 20-09**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING A DISASTER EMERGENCY WITHIN THE LAKE  
AND PENINSULA BOROUGH FOR THE COVID-19 (“CORONAVIRUS”) AND  
REQUESTING STATE AND FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by the SARS-Cov-2 virus, a new strain of the coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans and is easily transmittable person to person; and

**WHEREAS**, The World Health Organization designated the outbreak of COVID-19 as a pandemic on March 11, 2020; the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified COVID-19 as a significant public health risk; and on March 11, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in response to the COVID-19 anticipated outbreak in the State of Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, On March 12, 2020, the State of Alaska received the first confirmation of the presence of COVID-19 in Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency in response to the coronavirus pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, On March 13, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a COVID-19 Health Mandate declaring public school days will be non-student contact days between March 16, 2020 and March 30, 2020 in which students will not be attending school and suspending after school activities; and

**WHEREAS**, On March 17, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a COVID-19 Health Mandate closing all bars, breweries, restaurants, food and beverage kiosks or trucks, and other establishments serving food or beverages within the State of Alaska to public dine-in service and closing all entertainment facilities until April 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.; and

**WHEREAS**, On March 17, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a COVID-19 Health Mandate requiring travelers coming into Alaska from CDC Level 3 countries within the last 14 days to stay home and not go to work or school for the 14-day period following their return and requiring travelers coming into Alaska from anywhere outside of Alaska within the last 14 days to keep a six foot distance from others, not go to work or school if they cannot maintain a safe distance from others, avoid crowded places, and limit activities in public; and

**WHEREAS**, On March 27, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued COVID-19 Health Mandate 11 requiring strict social distancing, which will be reevaluated for possible extension by April 11, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, On March 27, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued COVID-19 Health Mandate 12 imposing severe travel restrictions, which will be reevaluated for possible extension by April 21, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, As of March 31, 2020, there are at least 119 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, Various agencies and organizations statewide and in our local community are canceling or restricting public gatherings, extending spring break, and postponing nonessential travel to contain the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, The Borough has expended and expects to continue to expend and commit Borough funds to facilitate the needs of the community during this emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, Due to the current conditions in the area, the availability of resources are at minimal levels; and

**WHEREAS**, The Borough receives revenue from fishing, hunting and guiding and these industries may be significantly impacted by COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, The severity and magnitude of the emergency may soon be beyond the timely and effective response capability of local resources; and

**WHEREAS**, As a home-rule borough, during a public health emergency the priorities of the Borough are to delay disease transmission and outbreak amplitude on Borough staff for as long as possible; diminish the peak burden on the Borough's ability to provide essential services; minimize the number of overall Borough staff related cases that would ultimately impact operations; and minimize the impact of Borough decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, The Borough serves primarily in a support role for the State during its declared emergency; the Borough is not a public health authority and cannot assume health powers, even upon issuance of a local disaster emergency declaration; examples of things the Borough can do are assist villages in accessing information and resources; assist with calls and provide a central place for requests and information; and provide limited use of our resources, such as schools or other buildings, as requested by the State; and

**WHEREAS**, It should be understood that the Borough does not have the authority to take actions such as ordering citizens to isolate or quarantine; closing private businesses or otherwise place restrictions on their operations; halting evictions or similar proceedings; and ordering utilities not to shut off service; and

**WHEREAS**, In order to contain any potential harm that may be caused by the virus, State and Federal assistance may be needed to supplement local efforts to respond to this public health emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, State assistance in response to the virus, including assistance for fire protection, emergency medical services, and the provision of other funds, services, functions, supplies, or materials determined by the Mayor, in consultation with local emergency agencies and partners, may be necessary to meet the public safety and welfare needs arising from or incidental to COVID-19 and to recover from the damages caused; and

**WHEREAS**, While the potential extent and effect of COVID-19 cannot yet be known, it remains vital for the Borough to be prepared and take all needed precautions throughout the entire timeframe of the emergency related to COVID-19.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that in accordance with AS 26.23.140 the Mayor of the Lake and Peninsula Borough declares a Disaster Emergency exists within the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, it is requested that the State of Alaska and the federal government provide State and/or Federal Public Assistance and Individual Assistance to the Lake and Peninsula Borough in its response and recovery from this event.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by a duly constituted quorum of the Lake and Peninsula Borough Assembly this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2020

**IN WITNESS THERETO:**

**ATTEST**



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Glen R. Alsworth, Sr., Mayor



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Kate Conley, Borough Clerk