EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION
TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT
(MARCH 31, 2020)

WHEREAS, in December 2019, an outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus (COVID-19), was first identified in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, and has spread outside of China, across the world, including the United States; and,

WHEREAS, on January 23, 2020, the Center for Disease Control ("CDC") activated its Emergency Response System to provide ongoing support for the response to COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency to assist with combating the coronavirus, and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Henry McMaster issued Executive Order number 2020-08 declaring a State of Emergency in South Carolina. Governor McMaster has since issued Executive Orders 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-11, 2020-12, 2020-13, 2020-14, 2020-15 and 2020-16; and,

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, I, Mayor J. Will Haynie, declared a local State of Emergency in the Town of Mount Pleasant and March 31, 2020 extended the State of Emergency through April 15, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is now aggressively spreading across the state with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control ("DHEC") confirming the localized person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in South Carolina, which indicates a significantly increasing risk of exposure and infection to Town of Mount Pleasant residents and creating an extreme public health risk; and,

WHEREAS, as of March 31, 2020, the total number of cases in the United States is well over 160,000 cases with at least 925 cases in the State of South Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, if COVID-19 spreads in the Town of Mount Pleasant at a rate comparable to the rate of spread in other countries, the number of persons relying on medical, pharmaceutical, and general cleaning supplies will increase, the private and public sector work force will be negatively impacted by absenteeism, and the demand for medical facilities may exceed locally available resources; and,

WHEREAS, it is vitally important that we all work together to decrease the widespread proliferation of Covid-19 among us all now rather than suffer the unfortunate and devastating consequences later; and,

WHEREAS, it is imperative that residents and non-residents of the Town practice sheltering at home, unless providing or requiring an essential service, remaining at a safe distance of at least six (6) feet from others while in public, seeking medical attention, if
sick, via a telehealth service provider, continuing to be vigilant with hand-washing, remaining calm, and only purchasing necessary supplies for immediate use; and,

WHEREAS, by taking measures to control outbreaks minimizes the risk to the public, maintains the health and safety of the people of Mount Pleasant, and limits the spread of infection in our communities and within the health care delivery system; and,

WHEREAS, in order to protect, preserve, and promote the general health, safety and welfare and the peace and order of the community, the Town of Mount Pleasant is taking steps to try to protect the citizens and employees of the Town of Mount Pleasant from increased risk of exposure; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41 of the Town of Mount Pleasant Code of Ordinances, I, as Mayor, am authorized to undertake and coordinate all necessary and reasonable activities for this emergency response, to take all appropriate action required to alleviate the effects of the coronavirus disaster emergency, including action following the guidelines of the CDC and the SCDHEC, to act in the aid of essential public services, and to take any other lawful emergency response or action deemed necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the Town of Mount Pleasant.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. WILLIAM HAYNIE, Mayor of the Town of Mount Pleasant, in accordance with the authority vested in me by state and local law, HEREBY ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

1. Effective 12:01 a.m., Thursday, April 2, 2020, individuals shall remain in their homes and not congregate in the streets or sidewalks, and shall not travel through waterways and/or public spaces in the Town of Mount Pleasant, including establishments that hold a Town of Mount Pleasant business license except for the purposes of working at or conducting business with the attached list of businesses (hereinafter "Essential Service" or "Essential Services"), such list to be modified by the Mayor as necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the Town of Mount Pleasant. Further:

A) Individuals, who must go out for purposes of working at or conducting business with any Essential Service business provider, shall practice social distancing of at least six feet with the exception of those traveling in the same vehicle to or from Essential Services or for purposes of transportation to work or conducting business at an Essential Service.

B) Pursuant to CDC guidelines, social gatherings of 10 or more people, for any reason other than working at or receiving an Essential Service, is prohibited; however, pursuant to the Executive Order of Gov. Henry McMaster issued March 23, 2020, Executive Order No. 2020-13, officers of the Mount Pleasant Police Department are authorized “to prohibit or disperse any congregation or gathering of people, unless authorized or in their homes, in groups of three (3) or more people, if any such law enforcement official determines, in their discretion, that any such congregation or gathering of people poses, or could pose, a threat to public health.”
C) Places conducting Essential Service operations shall take all reasonable measures to facilitate social distancing of at least six (6) feet.

2. Individuals should limit outdoor recreational activities to those that allow for social distancing of at least six feet, do not entail coming into close contact with other people or involve the sharing of equipment.

3. The Town of Mount Pleasant Fire Department, Police Department, Building Inspections Division, and their designees, and Code Enforcement Officers are hereby authorized to inspect and determine whether Essential Operations are in compliance with this Emergency Proclamation. For the duration of this Proclamation, it is unlawful for a person to willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction their issued pursuant to this Proclamation.

4. Any individual who enters the Town of Mount Pleasant from an area with substantial community spread, to include the Tri-State Area (consisting of the States of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut) and the City of New Orleans, Louisiana, shall isolate or self-quarantine for a period of fourteen (14) days from the time of entry into the Town of Mount Pleasant or the duration of the individual’s presence in Mount Pleasant, whichever period is shorter. This provision shall comply with the Executive Order 2020-14 issued by Governor McMaster on March 27, 2020 and any amendments thereto.

5. Short Term Rentals, boarding houses and bed and breakfast operations shall not permit new check-ins effective immediately. Any current guests may remain until the conclusion of the existing reservation.

6. This Proclamation and any amendments thereto are intended to effectuate any past and future Executive Orders issued by the Office of the Governor.

7. Businesses not included on the attached list of Essential Services, but who believe they should be considered essential are asked to fill out the Essential Business Review Application on the Town of Mount Pleasant website. Businesses may be granted an Essential Service Waiver upon submission of the Application and a finding by the Town that said business clearly and convincingly provides an essential service. Until such a waiver is obtained business not providing essential services shall abide by the terms and provisions contained in this Proclamation.

8. This Proclamation shall become effective upon ratification and shall expire at 11:59 p.m. on April 15, 2020, unless otherwise extended as necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the Town of Mount Pleasant.
ALL PRIOR FINDINGS AND ACTIONS SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNLESS SUPERSEDED BY THIS PROCLAMATION. THIS PROCLAMATION MAY BE SUPERSEDED IN PART OR IN FULL BY THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR.


J. William Haynie, Mayor  
Town of Mount Pleasant

Attest:  
Christine Barrett  
Clerk of Council

March 31, 2020

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

David G. Pagliarini  
Corporation Counsel
ATTACHMENT TO PROCLAMATION DATED MARCH 31, 2020

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

1. Essential health care operations including, research and laboratory services, hospitals, walk-in-care health facilities, veterinary and livestock services, elder care, medical wholesale and distribution, home health care workers or aides, doctor and emergency dental, nursing homes, residential health care facilities, congregate care facilities, medical supplies and equipment manufacturers and providers.

2. Essential infrastructure operations including utilities including power generation, fuel supply and transmission, public water and wastewater, telecommunications and data centers, airports/airlines, transportation infrastructure such as bus, rail, or for-hire vehicles, garages, and the South Carolina Port Authority. *Hotels and motels shall be considered Essential Services, however all hotels and motels shall be responsible for monitoring all isolation and self-quarantine requirements found in the attached Proclamation and for reporting to law enforcement any violations thereof.

3. Essential manufacturing operations including food processing, manufacturing agents including all foods and beverages, distilleries, chemicals, medical equipment and instruments, pharmaceuticals, sanitary products, telecommunications, microelectronics/semiconductor, agriculture/farms, household paper products, vehicle and aircraft manufacturing.

4. Essential retail operations including grocery stores and all food and beverage stores, big box stores or wholesale clubs that have in-house grocery or pharmacy services, pharmacies, convenience stores, direct farm to consumer sales, gas stations, restaurants/bars (but only for take-out or delivery), hardware and building material stores, retail stores restricting access to curbside delivery only.

5. Other essential service operations including garbage, trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal, mail and shipping services, laundromats and dry cleaning, building cleaning and maintenance, child care services, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, supply chain transportation, funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries, storage for essential businesses, animal shelters, educational institutions for purposes of facilitating distance learning, performing critical research, or performing essential functions

6. News media

7. Financial Institutions and Professional Services operations including banks, credit unions and check cashing services, insurance, payroll, accounting, services related to financial markets, legal services and essential operations vital to real estate transactions such as title searches, permitting, inspections, construction and the transfer and recordation of ownership.
8. Providers of basic necessities to economically disadvantaged populations including, homeless shelters and congregate care facilities, food banks, human services providers whose function includes the direct care of patients in state-licensed or funded voluntary programs, the care, protection, custody and oversight of individuals both in the community and in state-licensed residential facilities; those operating community shelters and other critical human services agencies providing direct care or support.

9. Construction including, skilled trades including, but not limited to, electricians, plumers, and painters; other related construction firms and professionals for essential infrastructure or for emergency repair and safety purposes, other construction where the contractor can ensure social distancing.

10. Defense operations, including defense and national security-related operations supporting the U.S. Government or a contractor to the US government.

11. Essential services necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation and essential operations of residences or other essential businesses including, government operations including court systems and detention centers, law enforcement, fire prevention and response, building code enforcement, security, emergency management and response, building cleaners or janitors, general maintenance whether employed by the entity directly or a vendor, landscape services, pest control services, automotive, marine and bicycle repair and sales, disinfection, mail, post, shipping, logistics, delivery moving and pick-up services.

12. Pastoral Care including preparing for religious services, performing acts directed towards the healing, sustaining, guiding, reconciling and nurturing of persons.

All Essential Services must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Proclamation.