

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Resolution Finding Need to Conduct City Council Meeting Electronically

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19 and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, effective at 5:00 p.m. and extending through June 10, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., or as may be amended by the City Council, the City Manager, in his capacity as Director of Emergency Management, issued a Declaration of Local Emergency applicable throughout the entire City of Alexandria, Virginia, pursuant to authority granted pursuant to City Code Section 4-3-5, Virginia Code Sections 44-146.21 and 15.2-1413, which City Declaration was unanimously consented to by the City Council on March 14, 2020, pursuant to City Resolution No. 2928, as required by applicable law; such emergency declaration has been extended several times with a current expiration date of January 31, 2022 with an extension of the expiration until June 30, 2022 scheduled to be considered by the City Council on January 11, 2022 (the “City Declaration”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that COVID-19 constitutes a real and substantial threat to public health and safety and constitutes a “disaster” as defined by Virginia Code § 44-146.16 being a “communicable disease of public health threat;” and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) expressly authorize the City Council to “meet by electronic communication means without a quorum of the public body physically assembled at one location when... the locality has declared a state of emergency, provided that (i) the catastrophic nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location and (ii) the purpose of the meeting is to provide for the continuity of operations of the public body or the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.”; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, hereby finds that the nature of the declared emergency makes it both impracticable and unsafe for the Council to assemble in a single location for its meeting on this date to discuss and transact the business of the City listed on the docket; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby finds that the items on the docket for this date are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

Adopted: January 3, 2022

JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk