

RESOLUTION NO. 20-12, 2020
COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

**DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP
DUE TO COVID-19; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, which is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus that is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio, may be affected by the COVID-19 and can endanger the health, safety, and welfare of persons within the border of Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Governor DeWine issued Executive Order # 2020-013 on March 9, 2020, declaring a State of Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio announced its first case of community acquired COVID-19 on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the event may exceed all locally available public and private resources available to alleviate the effects of this emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined that it is in the best interest of the Township, in consultation with the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County Emergency Management & Homeland Security and Hamilton County Public Health, to take the necessary actions before cases are identified in our area to prevent COVID-19 from spreading.

WHEREAS, the Board, upon majority vote, hereby dispenses with the requirement that this resolution be read on two separate days, and hereby authorize the adoption of this resolution upon its first reading; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and welfare of the Township,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Columbia Township Board of Trustees declares a State of Emergency exists in Columbia Township and that we hereby invoke and declare that pursuant to section 5502.21 of the Revised Code, an emergency exists related to COVID-19 that requires actions to be taken to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Columbia Township.

This declaration of a State of Emergency shall activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all local and inter-jurisdictional disaster emergency plans which are applicable to Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio, and shall initiate the rendering of aid and assistance thereunder as needed.

Reference is hereby made to the Hamilton County and Columbia Township Emergency Operations Plan and all appropriate laws, statutes, ordinances and resolutions; and

1. Any rights or powers lawfully exercised, or any actions taken pursuant to local disaster emergency plans shall continue and have full force and effect as authorized by law unless modified or terminated in the manner prescribed by law.
2. That the Township Administrator is hereby authorized to:
 - a. Utilize all necessary resources and personnel of the Board of Trustees to respond to this emergency pursuant to Resolution endorsing the participation of township employees in assisting with responding and recovering during a declared emergency and/or points of dispensing (COM'RS M IN. Vol 342, June 13, 2016, Image 5877).
 - b. Exempt from the competitive bidding process purchases related to the emergency that are greater than \$50,000 but less than \$100,000, so long as no fewer than three informal estimates are obtained.
 - c. Take those actions that are necessary and appropriate, including the delegation of administrative and departmental functions among responsible staff to assure proper implementation in exercising this authority.
 - d. Report to the Board of Trustees on any actions taken pursuant to this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Columbia Township Board of Trustees is requesting the Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency to activate the Hamilton County Emergency Operations Center for the duration of the emergency in order to coordinate response efforts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Emergency shall end in thirty days unless renewed by a majority vote of this Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fiscal Officer certify copies of this resolution to Jeff Aluotto, County Administrator, Interim Health Commissioner Greg Kesterman, and Emergency Management Director Nick Crossley.

Motion to accept Resolution made by: Susan Hughes

Seconded by: Chris Kritikos

VOTE:

TRUSTEE	Voting	Signature	Date
David Kubicki	<u>yes</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>3/31/20</u>
Chris Kritikos	<u>yes</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>3/31/20</u>
Susan Hughes	<u>yes</u>	<u>Susan Hughes</u>	<u>3/31/20</u>

ATTEST: Caroline B. Heekin
Caroline Heekin, Fiscal Officer

APPROVED as to form: _____
Columbia Township Law Director

ADOPTED at a regularly adjourned meeting of the Board of Trustees of Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio, this 31st day of March, 2020.

CERTIFICATE

State of Ohio, Hamilton County

I, Caroline Heekin, Fiscal Officer of Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio, certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 20-12, 2020 taken and copied from the record of proceedings of the township, and that it has been compared by me with the resolution on the record and is a true copy.

3/31/20
Date

Caroline B. Heekin
Caroline Heekin, Fiscal Officer