AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE CITY MANAGER'S DECLARATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO THE IMMINENT THREAT OF DISASTER POSED BY THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC.

WHEREAS, The Governor, having found that the anticipated effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) constitute a disaster as described in Virginia Code § 44-146.16, declared a state of emergency on March 12, 2020 related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 44-146.21 provides that in the event the governing body cannot convene due to a disaster or other exigent circumstances, the local director of emergency services may declare the existence of a local emergency, subject to confirmation by the governing body at its next regularly scheduled meeting or at a special meeting within fourteen days of the declaration, whichever occurs first; and,

WHEREAS, by virtue of the authority vested in him by § 44-146.21, the City Manager, as the City's Director of Emergency Management, issued a Declaration of Local Emergency on March 15, 2020, in response to the imminent threat posed by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the effects of which are anticipated to constitute a disaster as described in Virginia Code § 44-146.16; and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Harrisonburg finds that the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has potential to seriously impact the City and its citizens by (i) the extensive illness and even death of significant numbers of the City's residents (ii) the disruption of the services provided to citizens due to the absenteeism of workers, including utility services (electricity, water, telephone, etc.) the delivery of public safety services (police, fire, medical, etc.) as well as financial activities and (iii) shortages and erratic delivery of critical goods, services and medicine, and the Council finds that the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has the potential to cause damage, loss, hardship or suffering to the citizens of Harrisonburg; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA that pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.21 City Council hereby confirms the Declaration of Local Emergency issued by the City Manager, in his capacity as the City's Director of Emergency Management, on March 14, 2020, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and is hereby incorporated by reference and does confirm all emergency actions taken by the City Manager and City officials, employees and agents pursuant to the declaration of emergency by the City Manager.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED: (i) that the City Manager's March 14, 2020, Declaration of a Local Emergency and the City's Comprehensive Emergency

Management Plan shall remain in effect; (ii) during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the City Manager and the City Council shall be those prescribed by State law and the ordinances, resolutions, regulations and approved plans of the City of Harrisonburg in order to mitigate the effects of said local emergency; and, (iii) City Council calls upon the Federal and State governments to take steps to afford to the City of Harrisonburg and to the persons and business concerns and other organizations and agencies suffering injury and damage from this disaster such public aid and assistance as is necessary and proper to meet this emergency.

The Clerk or Council is directed to forward an attested copy of this ordinance to the State Coordinator of Emergency Management for consideration by the Governor of Virginia.

This ordinance shall ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 24th day of March 2020.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

City Clerk