

RESOLUTION 2020-05

BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD'S COUNCIL, SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON, FORMALLY ADOPTING AND RATIFYING POLICIES PREVIOUSLY IMPLEMENTED RELATING TO THE COVID- 19 VIRUS.

WHEREAS, on March 17th, 2020, the Council of the Town of Fairfield adopted Resolution 2020-02 declaring a local emergency relating to the Covid-19 virus;

WHEREAS, on March 17th, 2020, the Fairfield Town Council also approved the immediate implementation of policies relating to the Covid-19 virus which the Council desires to formally adopt and ratify by resolution;

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-25 which implemented a stay at home directive due to Covid-19;

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-28 relating to the Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act;

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2020, the Office of Attorney General issued updated guidance to state and local agencies relating to the Open Public Meetings Act; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Town of Fairfield desires to adopt this Resolution to formally adopt and ratify the policies previously approved by the Council at the March 17th,2020 Council meeting, which policies are consistent with the above referenced Proclamations and guidance from the Attorney General's Office; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Town of Fairfield as follows:

1. Temporary Billing and Collection Policies Relating to Covid-19. In response to the Covid-19 emergency, the following billing and collection policies are hereby formally adopted and ratified.
 - A. Delinquent Bills for Water and/or Sewer Service. The Council will work with customers who are unable to pay their bills for water and/or sewer service in timely manner due to the impact of Covid-19 by extending reasonable payment terms for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days beyond the date the Council rescinds the declaration of emergency. The Council is not authorized to forgive or waive any charges for water and/or sewer services provided by the Town.
 - B. Shutoff Policy. The Town will discontinue its practice of shutoffs or lock offs of water service relating to delinquent service charges, including service to rental homes, for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days beyond the date the Town rescinds the declaration of emergency.
 - C. Late Fees and Interest. The Council will suspend the imposition of late charges and interest for delinquent water and/or sewer accounts for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days beyond the date the Council rescinds the declaration of emergency.

2. Remote Meetings Due to Covid-19. Until rescinded by the Council or Mayor, meetings of the Town will be held remotely through conference call or teleconferencing technology. Members of the public may only attend the Council meetings using the established conference call or teleconferencing technology. Public comments may only be submitted to the Council in writing. All remote meetings will be held in accordance with Proclamation 20-28 and the guidance offered by the Attorney General's Office relating to the Open Public Meetings Act.
3. Rescission of Temporary Policies Authorized Due to Covid-19. The Mayor, at her discretion, may rescind the policies authorized pursuant to this Resolution at any time.

ADOPTED this 16th day of June 2020, at Fairfield, Spokane County, Washington.



KayDee Gilkey, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cheryl Loeffler Clerk/Treasurer