TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND

Declaration of State of Emergency

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 the State of Rhode Island Governor Gina M. Raimondo issued Executive Order 20-02 declaring a state of emergency due to the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, cases of COVID-19 have been documented in the State of Rhode Island and it is necessary that the Town of Charlestown cooperate with the State to take additional measures to limit its spread; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws §§ 30-15-12 and 30-15-13, as well as the Town of Charlestown Charter Art. XI, permit the Town Council to declare a state of emergency for the purpose of, among other things: providing for the cooperation in epidemic prevention, preparedness, response and recover; preparing for emergency health threats that require the exercise of extraordinary governmental functions; providing the town with the ability to respond rapidly and effectively to potential or actual public health emergencies; and reducing loss of life; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws §§ 30-15-9E(4) and 30-15-12(b), permit the Town Council to suspend the provisions of any statute, regulation, or requirement prescribing the procedures for the conduct of town business, or the orders, rules, regulations of any town department, board, or agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any statute, order, rule or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with this emergency; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws §§ 30-15-9(e)(3) and (7), and 30-15-12(b), permit the Town Council to transfer the direction, personnel, or functions of town departments and agencies or units thereof for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency services; to control ingress and egress to and from high risk areas, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein; and to take appropriate measures for the protection of health, safety, and welfare of the people of the town and to prevent or minimize the loss of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Charlestown Town Council, pursuant to the Rhode Island General Laws and the Town of Charlestown Charter and Code of Ordinances, including but not limited to Title 30, Chapter 15 of the General Laws, do hereby order and direct the following:

1. A state of emergency is hereby declared for the Town of Charlestown due to the dangers to health and life posed by COVID-19, and the Town's disaster emergency plan is hereby activated.
2. The Charlestown Emergency Management Director is authorized to activate the town's emergency operations center and all necessary state/town emergency response plans, policies, compacts, and agreements, and if necessary, to create and establish mobile support

units, and to activate and deploy disaster response teams and disaster response workers to perform disaster response services.

3. All town departments, agencies, or quasi-municipal agencies and boards and commissions preforming executive functions shall cooperate fully with the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) and the Charlestown Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director in all matters concerning this Order. Efforts to provide emergency disaster relief to the Town of Charlestown should be coordinated by and through the Charlestown EMA Director and/or the Town Administrator.
4. Town officials are directed to cancel all non-essential official town meetings, limit the travel of town employees, and postpone public events during the period of this state emergency.
5. Pursuant to the emergency powers granted by the Rhode Island General Laws, and any other applicable provisions of state or local law, the Town Administrator and/or EMA Director shall from time to time issue additional directives, orders, and recommendations as circumstances require, either written or verbal.
6. Nothing in this Executive Order shall constrain duties and powers of the Town, the Town Administrator, the Town Council or Charlestown EMA Director authorized by Title 30, Chapter 15 of the General Laws and the Town Charter and Code of Ordinances.
7. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and remain in full force and effect through April 30, 2020, unless revoked earlier.

Subscribed and sworn to on this 18th day of March, 2020.

Virginia Lee

Virginia Lee, Town Council President
Town of Charlestown, RI

Amy Rose Weinreich, CMC

Amy Rose Weinreich, CMC Town Clerk
Town of Charlestown, RI