

PROCLAMATION

Declaration of State of Emergency

WHEREAS, to protect and reduce exposure risk to the community, businesses, and town employees so as to limit the potential spread of COVID-19 that has created a worldwide pandemic; and

WHEREAS, to maintain the Town of Hillsborough's capabilities of continuing to provide essential municipal services throughout this event, such as water, sewer, police, solid waste collection, and others; and

WHEREAS, various strategies will be implemented to address these objectives, such as limiting contact between individuals through office closures, remote work assignments, shift rotations, use of electronic means to communicate with customers where practicable, and other ways to still provide essential services to the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as mayor of the Town of Hillsborough under the Hillsborough Code of Ordinances Chapter 9 and under Chapter 166A and Article 36A Chapter 14 of the General Statutes:

- Section 1.** I have determined that a state of emergency as defined in the Hillsborough Code of Ordinances Section 9-1 exists in the Town of Hillsborough.
- Section 2.** I, therefore, proclaim the existence of a state of emergency in the Town of Hillsborough.
- Section 3.** I hereby order all town law enforcement officers and employees subject to my control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of the town's emergency ordinances, which are set forth below.
- Section 4.** I hereby order execution of an emergency plan. All civilians and town personnel are ordered to comply with all issued emergency reaction initiatives.
- Section 5.** I hereby authorize the town manager of Hillsborough to take appropriate protective action — including implementing prohibitions, restrictions, evacuations, and curfews in order to maintain public order or to afford adequate protection for lives, safety or property as needed — and to take the actions outlined below.
- All Hillsborough Board of Commissioners and advisory board meetings

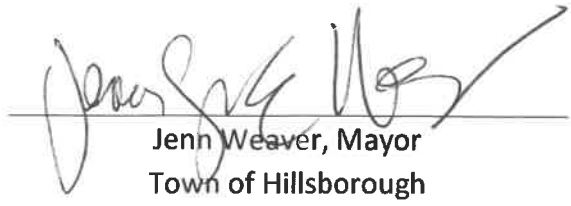
are canceled through April 3, 2020;

- Town employees will be encouraged to telecommute when possible and to reduce congregating in large groups;
- Town offices will be closed to the public starting Monday, March 16 through April 3, 2020, but assistance to customers will continue to be provided via phone and email where possible;
- To reduce the spread of the virus, water and sewer customers are asked to avoid paying water and sewer bills by mail, in person or through the Town Hall Annex drop box. Instead they are encouraged to pay via credit or debit card online or by telephone.
- Temporarily suspend water disconnections for nonpayment of bills during the outbreak, until the state of emergency is lifted or the Board of Commissioners takes action to end this grace period. This suspension would not reduce the amount owed, and customers would be cautioned against allowing themselves to get behind in their payments unnecessarily.
- Utility bill penalties and late fees will be waived until the state of emergency is lifted or the Board of Commissioners takes action to end this grace period.
- No public recreation spaces will be available for rental use by groups or individuals.

Section 6. This proclamation shall become effective immediately. Proclaimed this the 23rd day of March 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Section 7. This proclamation shall remain in effect through the 28th day of March 2020 at 5:00 p.m., unless otherwise rescinded. The order will automatically renew every five days until it is amended or rescinded by the mayor, acting mayor, or board of commissioners.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal of the Town of Hillsborough to be affixed this 23rd day of March in the year 2020.


Jenn Weaver, Mayor
Town of Hillsborough

