WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 (Coronavirus) to be a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared an infectious disease national emergency declaration to combat COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Oklahoma has declared an emergency caused by the impending threat of COVID-19 to the people of this State and the public’s peace, health and safety; and,

WHEREAS, health professionals and researchers have determined that COVID-19 is spread by human contact and interaction; and

WHEREAS, avoidance of human contact through methods such as social distancing is believed to stop the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 is a disaster affecting life, health, and safety of Sallisaw residents and non-residents alike; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Charter of the City of Sallisaw, Article X, Section 1, allow the Mayor or any three (3) commissioners to declare an emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE SALLISAW CITY CHARTER, I, ERNIE MARTENS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SALLISAW DO HEREBY PROCLAIM AND DECLARE:

SECTION ONE: A state of emergency exists within the corporate limits of the City of Sallisaw, Sequoyah County, Oklahoma.

SECTION TWO: This proclamation shall become effective at 11:59 PM, Saturday, April 4, 2020.

SECTION THREE: The following City of Sallisaw facilities shall be closed, and all programming and/or events scheduled at said locations shall be postponed and/or cancelled until the expiration of this emergency declaration. At any time, the City Manager may identify other city facilities for closure:

1. Sallisaw Civic Center, 111 N. Elm Street.
2. Stanley Tubbs Memorial Library shall be closed to the public based upon the direction of the Eastern Oklahoma Library District.
4. Sallisaw Soccer Fields at South Elm and Port Arthur Streets.
6. Rodeo Grounds, North Walnut Street.
SECTION FOUR: The City Manager shall revoke any pending permits and not issue any new permits, or accept reservations, for any public or private event on any City street, sidewalk, facility, park, pavilion, or property until the expiration of this emergency declaration.

SECTION FIVE: Meetings of all City of Sallisaw commissions and boards, and its Public Trusts shall continue as scheduled, unless circumstances related to COVID-19 dictate the cancellation of meetings. If held, these meetings will remain open to the public, but steps will be taken to ensure no close contact between attendees, and good hygiene.

SECTION SIX: All dockets of the City of Sallisaw Municipal Court, as well as juvenile court, shall be suspended until further notice.

SECTION SEVEN: The City Manager is authorized to make necessary operational changes to protect employees and the public from exposure to the COVID-19 virus, including, but not limited to the following:

a) Limit access to, or to close, all city facilities including city hall, if City Manager feels it is necessary for the protection of the public and city employees. If city hall is closed to public access, the City shall ensure citizens are able to communicate with the city as needed.

b) Take appropriate actions related to employees including, but not limited to, implementing best practices for hygiene and social distancing, ordering self-quarantine of employees, implementing protocols for first responders, canceling job related training, limiting employee travel for city business, discouraging off duty employees from travel or attendance at crowded venues.

c) Discontinuance of utility cutoffs due to non-payment and waiver of late and reconnect fees.

d) The City Manager and/or designee(s) shall be authorized to make emergency purchases of goods and services and enter into contracts deemed necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public and to protect public or private property from further harm or damage. Emergency purchases of goods and services shall not be subject to competitive bidding or other purchasing requirements established by city ordinance or policy. Contracts pursuant to this section may be entered into by the City Manager without prior approval of the Board of City Commissioners.

SECTION EIGHT: All in-person gatherings for social, spiritual and recreational purposes, including, but not limited to community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based, or sporting events; parades, concerts, festivals, conventions, fundraisers and similar activities shall be limited to ten (10) persons or less, unless otherwise dictated by any emergency declaration of the State of Oklahoma, or subsequent amendments. Groups shall abide by the requirements of any current Declarations of Emergency issued by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma, and amendments thereto.

SECTION NINE: Restaurants, bars and other privately-owned gathering places shall abide by the requirements of any current Declarations of Emergency issued by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma. Such facilities are further encouraged to transition to "take-out" or "delivery" options.

SECTION TEN: For their protection, and the protection of others, all citizens of Sallisaw are encouraged to follow guidelines of proper hygiene and social distancing (maintaining a minimum of six (6) feet between others), and to educate themselves on the COVID-19 virus by visiting the Oklahoma State Department of Health at:

https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov/
SECTION ELEVEN: Following the guidance of the Declaration of Emergency issued by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma on Sunday, March 15, and amendments thereto:

a) All adults over the age of sixty-five (65), and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions, collectively referred to as “vulnerable individuals,” shall stay in their home, or place of residence, except for working in a critical infrastructure sector and the conduct of essential errands. Essential errands shall mean those errands which are critical to everyday life and includes obtaining medication, groceries, gasoline, and visiting medical providers. The vulnerable population is encouraged to use delivery and/or curbside services whenever available.

b) All business sectors located in Sallisaw not identified as being a critical infrastructure sector (or Essential Businesses), as defined by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, or other business sectors as identified by the Governor of Oklahoma, shall close. Nothing in this provision shall prevent restaurants and bars from providing pick-up, curbside and delivery services. This directive shall be effective until otherwise directed by the State of Oklahoma or the City of Sallisaw. This list of critical infrastructure sectors and emergency declarations of the State of Oklahoma, and subsequent executive memos, may be viewed at the following sites:

   • https://www.okcommerce.gov/covid19/ (Essential by NAICS codes)
   • https://www.sos.ok.gov/execorders.aspx

In addition to the above noted Declaration of Emergency, and subsequent amendments, issued by Governor of the State of Oklahoma:

1. Until further notice, effective Saturday, April 4, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., the City of Sallisaw shall institute a curfew from the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. for all persons in the city limits of Sallisaw. This curfew shall exempt essential workers, essential businesses and services and emergency travel. Essential Business workers should carry an Essential Business Letter from their employer.

2. Until further notice, effective Saturday, April 4, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., all residents living within the corporate limits of the City of Sallisaw are required to shelter in place at their place of residence as provided herein:

   a. Persons may leave their residence only for “Essential Activities” as defined herein or to operate Essential Businesses.

   b. For the purpose of this Proclamation, “Essential Activities” shall include:

      • To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family, household members, or pets. Examples include, but are not limited, to obtaining medical supplies or medications, visiting a health care professional, obtaining supplies to work from home, or perform property maintenance.

      • To obtain the necessary services or supplies for themselves, family or household members, or pets or to deliver those services or supplies to others.

      • To engage in outdoor activity, provided individuals follow social distancing guidelines issued by the CDC. Examples include walking, running, biking or hiking.

      • To perform work at an Essential Business.

      • To care for or transport a family member or pet to another household.

      • To move belongings to another place of residence either in or outside the city limits of Sallisaw.

      • To otherwise carry out activities specifically allowed for in this Proclamation.
c. For purposes of this Declaration "Essential Businesses" shall mean those businesses identified by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma, or his designee, as critical infrastructure sectors by the Governor's Fourth Amended Executive Order 2020-07 dated March 24, 2020, and amendments thereto, the Governor's Executive Memorandum 2020-01 and amendments thereto, and essential businesses/industries as identified by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce NAICS codes, including critical government workers as defined by the governmental employer. To identify "Essential Businesses and Services", please review these websites:

https://www.okcommerce.gov/covid19/ (Essential by NAICS codes)

SECTION TWELVE: This state of emergency shall continue until 11:59 P.M., Thursday April 30, 2020, unless extended by the City of Sallisaw or terminated earlier by further proclamation of the City of Sallisaw, or the cancellation of the Declaration of Emergency by the State of Oklahoma.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the City of Sallisaw, Oklahoma, this 3rd day of April, 2020.

ERNIE MARTENS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DIANNA DAVIS, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)