PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION
DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY
IN THE CITY OF SALLISAW, OKLAHOMA
AMENDMENT #4
(Changes from last amendment identified by underline)

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, the Governor of the State of Oklahoma, on April 22, 2020, issued the “Open Up and Recover Safely Plan”; and,

WHEREAS, health professionals and researchers have determined that COVID-19 is spread by human contact, and interaction and 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, Thursday, April 23, 2020 and shall supersede all other emergency proclamations issued by the City of Sallisaw prior to this date.

SECTION THREE: Following the “Open Up and Recover Safely Plan” guidelines, 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 dates noted below. At any time, the City Manager may identify other city facilities for closure, or proceed with opening these facilities. At any time, the dates and times noted below may change based on further guidance of the State of Oklahoma:

1. Sallisaw Civic Center, 111 N. Elm Street, closed until further notice.
2. Stanley Tubbs Memorial Library shall be closed to the public based upon the direction of the Eastern Oklahoma Library District.
6. Rodeo Grounds, North Walnut. Facility shall be closed to events until further notice. Day use by individuals, or groups of less than 10, is allowed unless otherwise stated.
7. City of Sallisaw municipal swimming pool and Jay Reynolds Park Splashpad, closed until further notice.
8. Brushy Lake Park Campground. Day use of the park and campgrounds shall remain open. Camp sites shall be limited to half those available until further notice.
9. All Parks in the City Limits of Sallisaw. All parks shall remain open for day use only until further notice.

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 until such time as determined by the City Manager.

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 follow the guidelines and dates of the “Open Up and Recover Safely Plan”.

SECTION NINE: Restaurants, bars and other privately-owned gathering places shall abide by the guidelines and dates of the “Open Up and Recover Safely Plan.”
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 “Open Up and Recover Safely Plan”:

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 continue to follow the safer-at-home guidelines and 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 shall obtain a copy of and follow the “Open Up and Recover Safely Plan” guidelines issued by the State of Oklahoma, and other subsequently issued guidelines. This document, along with other guidance, may be viewed at the following sites:

- https://www.okcommerce.gov/covid19/

c) All citizens of Sallisaw shall continue to follow guidelines to maximize social distancing when in public, avoid socializing in groups or facilities that do not readily allow for social distancing and wear protective face coverings (masks) when in public.

d) All citizens shall minimize non-essential travel and adhere to CDC guidelines and Executive Orders of the Governor of the State of Oklahoma regarding isolation following travel.

SECTION TWELVE: This state of emergency shall continue until 11:59 P.M., Sunday May 31, 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 23rd day of April 2020.

[Signature]
ERNE MERTENS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

[Signature]
DIANNA DAVIS, CITY CLERK