

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING
MARCH 18, 2020**

Mayor Douglas Jeffrey IV called the Special Emergency Meeting of the Vernon City Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 18, 2020 at City Hall, and a quorum was declared present.

Mayor Douglas Jeffrey IV

Commissioners: Britt Ferguson, Pam Gosline, Justin Marsh and Don Aydelott per phone

Staff Present: City Manager Martin Mangum, City Attorney Jon Whitsitt, Fire Chief J.J. Oznick, Police Chief Randy Agan, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, Tourism Director Amanda Lehman, City Secretary Marsha Jo Stone, Captain Wayne Hodges

Public Present: Daniel Walker, Kathy McClellan, Dr. Travis Lehman, County Judge Greg Tyra, Rev. Norris Thomas, Police Chaplain Bob Deikman

1. **Call To Order**
 - A. Declaration of Quorum – Mayor Jeffrey declared a quorum
 - B. Invocation – Commissioner Marsh led the group in the Invocation
 - C. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Marsh led the group in the pledge to the United States Flag and to the Texas Flag

2. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on preventative measures to remediate the spread of Coronavirus- COVID-19**

No Action Taken

3. **Discussion, Consideration and Give Input on a possible Mayoral Declaration of Local State of Disaster due to Public Health Emergency**

Mayor Doug Jeffrey read the following Declaration of Local State of Disaster:

**CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS
MAYORAL DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vernon, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease in our community; and

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Vernon, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 2. That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration, unless continued or renewed by the City Council of the City of Vernon, Texas.

SECTION 3. That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

SECTION 4. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Vernon, Texas, emergency management plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

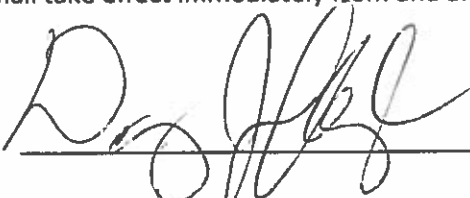
SECTION 5. That this declaration authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the City's rules, pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 6. That this declaration hereby authorizes the City Manager to close any city facility to public access to limit the exposure to the COVID-19 virus, however, under no circumstances may a facility be closed to the public during Open Meetings or Hearings of the City of Vernon or any of its boards.

SECTION 7. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 8. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED this 18th day of March, 2020.



Doug Jeffrey, Mayor

Attest:

Marsha Jo Stone

Marsha Jo Stone

City Secretary

Mayor Jeffrey signed the Mayoral Declaration of Local State of Disaster due to Public Health Emergency, which became effectively immediately and will remain in effect for seven days. The Commission will discuss extending on March 24, 2020.

Adjourn

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Commissioner Marsh seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.



Douglas Jeffrey IV
Douglas Jeffrey IV Mayor

ATTEST:

Marsha Jo Stone
Marsha Jo Stone, City Secretary