RESOLUTION NO. 2020- 044

RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020 the first case of COVID-19 was detected in the United States in a traveler returning from Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China; and on March 6, 2020 the first case of COVID-19 was detected in the State of Minnesota in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cottage Grove’s Emergency Management Division has been preparing for weeks, working diligently with local, state, and federal partners to maintain situational awareness and respond to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of March 14, 2020 the World Health Organization Situation Report confirms a total of 142,539 cases of COVID-19 in 135 countries, including 5393 deaths; and as of March 15, 2020 a total of 35 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Minnesota including one in Washington County;

WHEREAS, additional local cases will trigger a more aggressive public health response and are predicted to impact residents of Cottage Grove and those who work in or travel through the City; and the need for social distancing, school closings, and quarantine methods to stop the spread of COVID-19 is expected to cause significant challenges; and

WHEREAS, the City Administrator and the Director of Public Safety find that this situation threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the community and will cause a significant impact on the ability of public safety personnel to address any immediate dangers to the public as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City Administrator and the Director of Public Safety find that traditional sources of financial aid, assistance and relief will not be able to compensate for the potential impact of COVID-19 and additional coordination and assistance on resources, including employees that will be needed from Washington County, the State of Minnesota, and Federal resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor of the City of Cottage Grove, County of Washington, State of Minnesota, under the authority of Minnesota Statutes Section 12.29, declares that a state of emergency exists within the City of Cottage Grove, effective March 15, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 12.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all City departments and offices are directed to operate and support the response to this incident, under the direction and coordination of the Emergency Management Division, including implementing new employee protocol, strategies and processes to ensure that the public services are maintained.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this State of Emergency will remain in effect until the emergency status no longer requires emergency response and recovery efforts.

Passed this 15th day of March, 2020.

Mayor Myron Bailey