



## PROCLAMATION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY FOR THE TOWN OF OCEAN CITY DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT

**WHEREAS**, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services has declared that novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”) presents a serious public health threat and the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic event that continues to create dangerous and life-threatening public health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, Maryland Governor Larry Hogan issued a proclamation on March 5, 2020, declaring a state of emergency in Maryland, to expand statewide response to novel coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, President Donald Trump issued a proclamation on March 13, 2020, declaring a national emergency in response to the coronavirus outbreak; and

**WHEREAS**, in the best interests of the Town to protect those who live and work in Ocean City during this public health emergency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD W. MEEHAN**, Mayor of the Mayor and City Council of Ocean City, and pursuant to the power and authority of Town Code Sec. 18-1(2), do hereby adopt Governor Larry Hogan’s executive order of March 16, 2020, and declare a state of civil emergency as a result of novel coronavirus, this 16 day of March 2020.

Effective at the times and for the duration, hereinafter set forth, the following ORDERS are enacted:

- 1) All bars and restaurants will close at 5:00 p.m. today, March 16, with no restriction on carry out, drive through and food delivery services.
- 2) All gyms and movie theaters will close at 5:00 p.m. today, March 16.
- 3) Mayor and City Council, Commission and Committee meetings will be canceled or modified as determined by the Mayor, Council President and City Manager.
- 4) Only essential business should be conducted in Town facilities.
- 5) The Convention Center is closed.
- 6) Indoor programs at Northside Park and satellite facilities are suspended.
- 7) Social gatherings of more than 50 people are prohibited in all locations and venues.

It is further Ordered that this Proclamation be posted for public display at both City Hall and the Public Safety Building, and be distributed to the news media.

AS WITNESS to my hand and official seal:

Diana L. Chavis, City Clerk

Richard W. Meehan, Mayor

