

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

EMERGENCY REGULATION: BUSINESS LICENSES

WHEREAS, the City issued a Proclamation Declaring State of Emergency on March 16, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS, at that time, in accordance with guidance from the President of the United States and the Center for Disease Control, the City urged the public to practice social distancing and not attend events where ten or more people will be gathered;

WHEREAS, said outbreak continues to emerge and spread rapidly, so that the number of cases of COVID-19 since the City's Proclamation was issued has risen from eight confirmed cases and nine presumptive positive cases to 275 confirmed cases as of Monday, March 30;

WHEREAS, health officials have now confirmed twelve cases of COVID-19 in Penobscot County; and

WHEREAS, the risk of community spread throughout Bangor impacts the life, health and safety of the public and public health is imperiled by the person-to-person spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Chapter 85 of the City of Bangor's Code of Ordinances ("Bangor City Code") generally requires businesses currently licensed through the City to renew their licenses once per year;

WHEREAS, Bangor City Hall has been closed to general public in light of the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, in the granting or denying of licenses or renewals of licenses under Chapter 85 of the Bangor City Code, various inspections are often required;

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the City of Bangor and the public health, safety and welfare to delay such inspections to preserve the health and welfare of the inspectors and those members of the public that such inspectors might otherwise encounter;

I, Catherine M. Conlow, City Manager of the City of Bangor, pursuant to the City's Proclamation Declaring State of Emergency of March 16, 2020 and Section 28-79 of the Bangor City Code, regulate as follows, effective as of March 31, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.:

- 1. Any license or permit issued under Chapter 85 or Chapter 278 of the Bangor City Code that was valid and effective on March 16, 2020, is hereby deemed valid and effective until the end of the City of Bangor's State of Emergency declared in the City's Proclamation of that date, as renewed by the City Council of the Coty of Bangor on March 19, 2020 (the "City's State of Emergency"), unless such license is specifically repealed or revoked by the City of Bangor, the State of Maine, or another applicable government entity;
- 2. Notwithstanding § 85-3(A) of the Bangor City Code, the City Clerk is not required to act on an application for a business license or permit until the end of the City's State of Emergency, unless required to do so under state or federal law;
- 3. Any application for a business license or permit deemed effective under section 1 above, and which the Clerk has not acted upon pursuant to section 2 above, shall not be deemed denied under § 85-5(C) or otherwise unless and until the Clerk does not act upon said license or permit after the end of the City's State of Emergency.
- 4. Nothing in this Regulation shall be construed to limit enforcement activity by the City of Bangor on any ground other than expiration of a business license or permit during the declared State of Emergency;
- 5. Nothing in this Regulation shall be construed to limit enforcement activity by or the licensure requirements of any governmental entity other than the City of Bangor; and
- 6. This Emergency Regulation shall remain in effect throughout the duration of the City's State of Emergency, and any expired business license will have to be renewed after that time.
- 7. Notwithstanding paragraphs one through six above, the City Clerk and Council shall continue to process licenses and permits governed by Maine Revised Statutes Title 28-A, Part 3, as necessary and Chapter 85 of the Bangor City Code remains in full force and effect regarding any license or permit governed by Title 28-A, Part 3, except as modified by state law.

Dated: March 30, 2020

Catherine M. Conlow

City Manager