

DECLARATION NO. 21-01

**DECLARATION OF A CONTINUING STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE
VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
(COVID-19 – January 5, 2021)**

WHEREAS, the Village of Vernon Hills (“Village”) is a home rule unit of local government as provided by Article VII, Section 6 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, also known as the “novel coronavirus,” is a dangerous disease which has spread around the world, including in the United States, the State of Illinois and Lake County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a direct and serious threat to the public’s health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 virus a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the Lake County Board of Commissioners issued a disaster proclamation in Lake County, Illinois related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Illinois issued a disaster proclamation in the State of Illinois related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and on March 20, 2020, the Governor issued a statewide stay-at-home order aimed at stopping the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a nationwide emergency under Section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 52 U.S.C. 5121, *et seq.*, related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2020, the President of the United States of America recommended the country continue the practice of “social distancing” through April 30, 2020, including avoiding gatherings greater than ten (10) persons at a time, and limiting travel outside of the home for essential purposes only; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, the Governor of the State of Illinois extended the statewide stay-at-home order aimed at stopping the spread of COVID-19 to April 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 pandemic is a contagious disease that is likely to cause loss of life, loss of productivity, hardship and suffering to persons residing in or doing business in and around the Village; and

WHEREAS, Section 11-1-6 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/11-1-6, provides that the corporate authorities of the Village of Vernon Hills may grant the Village President the

extraordinary power and authority to exercise, by executive order during a state of emergency, such of the powers of the Village's corporate authorities as may be reasonably necessary to respond to the emergency; and

WHEREAS, on Thursday, March 19, 2020, the Village President and Board of Trustees adopted an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Amending the Vernon Hills Village Code With Regard to the Village President's Authority to Declare a State of Emergency Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-1-6" which created new Section 6-2 of the Village Code of Ordinances, entitled "Village President's Authority to Declare a State of Emergency," authorizing the Village President to declare a state of emergency in the Village pursuant to Section 11-1-6 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/11-1-6; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Village President signed Declaration of Emergency 20-1, declaring a state of emergency in the Village of Vernon Hills; and

WHEREAS, as of the time of the signing of this Declaration 21-01, the Village President has determined that the state of emergency declared on March 19, 2020 has not been resolved and that all of the findings made in Declaration of Emergency 20-01 supporting the need for a Declaration of Emergency are remade for purposes of this Declaration 21-01; and

WHEREAS, continuing the state of emergency in the Village is necessary in order to allow the Village to assist in preventing the loss of life and injuries, alleviating damages, loss, hardship and suffering related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED AND ORDERED, under oath by the Village President of the Village of Vernon Hills, Lake County, Illinois:

SECTION 1: Incorporation. That the recitals above shall be, and are incorporated in this Section 1 as if restated herein.

SECTION 2: Declaration of a Continuing State of Emergency. That the State of Emergency declared on March 19, 2020 remains in effect in the Village of Vernon Hills, Lake County, Illinois.

SECTION 3: Executive Orders. That the Village President is authorized to exercise, by executive order, such powers of the Village President and Board of Trustees as the Village President deems reasonably necessary to allow the Village to respond to the emergency.

SECTION 4: Procedures, Protocols and Regulations Subject to Suspension. That the Village Manager shall present requests to the Village President for approval of executive orders described in Section 3 above. Executive orders may address any Village regulations reasonably necessary to allow the Village to respond to the emergency.

SECTION 5: Duration. That the Continuing State of Emergency declared herein shall expire no later than the adjournment of the next regular meeting of the Village Board after this Continuing State of Emergency has been declared or until the authorizations above are


withdrawn by passage of an ordinance by an affirmative majority vote the Village Board at a public meeting. This state of emergency may be extended or terminated by further executive order or declarations of the Village President.

SECTION 6: Filing. That this declaration shall be filed with the Village Clerk upon its execution by the Village President.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 5th day of January, 2021



Roger Byrne, Village President



Notary Public

