



VILLAGE OF HOOSICK FALLS, NEW YORK DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.1 OF 2020

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) designated the novel coronavirus outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2020, the WHO announced a name for the new coronavirus disease as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order No. 202, declaring a State disaster emergency for the entire State of New York founded upon the threat that COVID-19 poses to the health and welfare of its residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, a local state of emergency was declared pursuant to Article 2-B, Section 24 of the New York State Executive Law by the County of Rensselaer due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the serious impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) upon the Village of Hoosick Falls, although presently unknown due to a lack of testing authorized by applicable governmental agencies, is inevitable and will cause a significant health and safety threat to the inhabitants of the Village of Hoosick Falls and its visitors; and

WHEREAS, the existence of these conditions poses a real, immediate and continued danger to the health of our community, which requires immediate measures to protect the lives, health and safety of the people in the Village of Hoosick Falls;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT ALLEN, MAYOR, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Village of Hoosick Falls, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article 2-B of the New York State Executive Law, hereby declare a **STATE OF EMERGENCY** within the territorial limits of the Village of Hoosick Falls, effective at 10am on March 18, 2020, founded upon the threat of the coronavirus and COVID-19, which imperils the public health, safety, and well-being of residents, visitors, and employees of the Village of Hoosick Falls.

FURTHERMORE, this State of Emergency shall remain in effect for thirty days or until rescinded at my direction or by a subsequent order; and

FURTHERMORE, I hereby direct all departments of the Village of Hoosick Falls to act under my direction to take whatever steps may be necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure, and provide such emergency assistance deemed necessary; and

FURTHERMORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Sections 24(1)(c) and 25 of New York State Executive Law, and as limited thereby, I direct that the **Village Hall**, located at 24 Main Street, in the Village of Hoosick Falls, State of New York, **remain closed to the general public** for five (5) days (with exception of the main lobby, which will remain open), from Wednesday, March 18, 2020 through Sunday, March 22, 2020, subject to extension by further order. Mail deliveries will continue in the ordinary course. All persons wanting interaction with any Village Department shall do so by telephoning or emailing the appropriate Village official. Both telephone numbers and email addresses are available by visiting Village of Hoosick Falls website at www.villageofhoosickfalls.com. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Hoosick Falls Police Department will remain open to the public and accessible through the main lobby of the Municipal Building, the only part of the building that will remain open to the general public; and

FUTHERMORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Section 24(1)(g) of the New York State Executive Law to temporarily suspend or modify any local law, ordinance, order, rule, or regulation, or parts thereof during a disaster emergency, if compliance with such local law, ordinance, order, rule, or regulation would prevent, hinder, or delay action necessary to cope with the disaster emergency or if necessary to assist or aid in coping with such disaster, I hereby **suspend** the following:

- (a) Village of Hoosick Falls' Procurement Policies and any associated Local Laws to allow the undersigned or his designee to expend Village funds and resources in the best interest of the Village in connection with the current public health crisis; and
- (b) Those provisions of Hoosick Falls Local Law No. 4 of 2002 and Hoosick Falls Local Law No. 1 of 2016, or any other local law adopted by the Village of Hoosick Falls, requiring re-occupancy or bi-annual inspections of one-family, two-family, or multiple dwelling structures used for rental purposes; and
- (c) All peddler's licenses and/or permits.

Said suspensions shall run for a period of five (5) days from the date of this Executive Order through March 22, 2020, subject to extension by further order. The suspension of the aforesaid policies and Local Laws shall be for the minimum deviation from the requirements of same consistent with the disaster action deemed necessary; and

FURTHERMORE, the **meetings** of the Village of Hoosick Falls Board of Trustees will continue by in-person meetings, but with no opportunity for public attendance. Audio recordings

of these meetings will be made in conjunction with existing Board policy about recordings, and will be made available on the Village of Hoosick Falls' YouTube page. All meetings of the Village of Hoosick Falls Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals will continue as scheduled, but each meeting may be conducted either via teleconference or by an in person meeting, at the election of the Chairperson of the respective board, but with no opportunity for public attendance; at any such in-person meeting, applicants may choose to participate via remote access to the extent technically available, or may otherwise attend in-person subject to the limitation of being represented by no more than two people. All such meetings will be recorded and subsequently transcribed. The applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Law have been suspended by a Declaration of Emergency by the Governor of New York, allowing the formats of these meetings to occur as described. Public input for any noticed public hearings may be accomplished by submitting written comments by mail or email to the Village of Hoosick Falls Village Clerk on or before the opening of the public hearing if time reasonably allows, or by mail postmarked within ten (10) calendar days of the close of the public hearing; and

FURTHERMORE, I hereby direct all Village Department Heads to arrange, modify or limit the work schedules of their respective departments in such a manner as may be necessary to attempt to minimize the risks to Village employees associated with the current novel coronavirus, COVID-19 outbreak in accordance with recommendations issued by all relevant medical professionals and/or government agencies, and further, to coordinate with the Mayor's Office to meet the directives of the Governor's Executive Order No. 202.4; and

FURTHERMORE, subject to the requirements of the New York Unified Court System, the Hoosick Falls Village Court is closed until further notice, except that individual matters deemed essential may proceed as each Village Justice determines, consistent with the guidelines and protocols issued by the New York Unified Court System.

I further order that, as a result of my declaration of emergency, changes to Village services as described in Schedule "A" hereto shall go into effect, and remain in effect until further order.

All Village of Hoosick Falls local laws or Code provisions that are contrary to the above are hereby suspended to the extent necessary, and all other Village of Hoosick Falls local laws or Code provisions that may prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this emergency are also suspended, but only to the minimum deviation extent necessary. Said suspensions shall run from the date of this Executive Order through March 22, 2020 subject to extension by further order.

This Executive Order and emergency declaration is intended to be consistent with, and not conflict with or supersede, any Executive Order issued by the Governor of the State of New York or any Executive directive thereof, or any other local emergency declaration or order issued pursuant to Section 24 of the New York State Executive Law.

As the Chief Executive of the Village of Hoosick Falls, I, Robert Allen, exercise the authority vested to me under Section 24 of the New York State Executive Law, to preserve the public safety and hereby render all required and available assistance vital to the security, well-

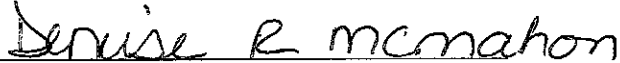
being, and health of the citizens of the Village. I hereby direct all departments and agencies of the Village of Hoosick Falls to take whatever steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure and provide such emergency assistance as deemed necessary.

EXECUTED ON THIS 18th DAY OF MARCH, 2020 AT 10:00 AM IN THE VILLAGE OF HOOSICK FALLS.


Robert Allen, Mayor

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF RENSSELAER)

On this 18th day of March, 2020, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared Robert Allen, Mayor of the Village of Hoosick Falls, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.


Notary Public – State of New York

DENISE R. MCMAHON
Notary Public, State of New York
Reg. No. 01MC6175911
Qualified in Rensselaer County
Commission Expires Oct. 22, 2023

Schedule A - Changes to Village of Hoosick Falls Services

As it relates to Executive Order No. 1 of 2020 and the COVID-19 National Emergency

The Ann Bornt Municipal Building will be closed off to the public for the foreseeable future, and will be re-assessed as needed in accordance with the New York State Executive Law. While the side and back entrances will remain locked, the front entrance and main lobby will be the only part of the building open to the public. The hallway to the Village Office and the windows to the Village Office will remain closed/locked.

If paperwork or payments need to be dropped off to the Village Office, please use the Drop Box in the main lobby of the Municipal Building. It will be checked regularly. Please note that no cash payments will be accepted at this time – payments need to be received via check or money order. Money Orders can be obtained at banks or at the post office, and should be made out to “Village of Hoosick Falls.”

The Village Police Department will continue its normal operations. However, the side door to the Municipal Building will be locked, so the only access to the police is through the Main Lobby. If you need an officer and no one is present in the Department, please pick up the silver phone next to the Police Office Window and push the first button. This will immediately connect you with County Dispatch. Simply state if it is an emergency or not, and ask that they send an officer back to the Municipal Building.

The Village Office Staff (Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and Treasurer) will implement office hours between 8am to 11am on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday only. Voicemails and emails will be checked daily.

The Village Code Enforcement Officer will suspend any in person meetings unless absolutely necessary and is set up ahead of time by appointment. He will be checking his voicemails and emails daily.

- Due to Executive Order No. 1 of 2020, the requirements for all bi-annual inspections of one-family, two-family, or multiple dwelling structures used for rental purposes are suspended. When the emergency is lifted, we will work to make up any of these inspections that were missed.
- Pre-tenant inspections can still be setup, but now have several requirements that have to be met for the safety of the Village Code Enforcement Officer. Please contact him for more details.

The Village Transfer Schedule will immediately begin using its summer schedule. It is:

- Tuesday: 8am-noon
- Saturday: 8am – 2PM

Additionally, with the Village Office closed, any Village and Town of Hoosick resident may

purchase permits directly from the Transfer Station. They are \$10 for Village Residents, \$20 for anyone outside of the Village. Permits last for the year.

The Village Sewer Department will divide up the daily and weekly workload between the Operator and Assistant Operator, while maintaining all hours and duties required by state and regional laws and policies consistent with operating and maintaining the Waste Water Treatment Plant and its systems, and will remain on call for any emergencies that arise.

The Village Water Department will act in accordance with the same procedures and policies set up for the Sewer Department, including division of workload and remaining on call.

The Village of Hoosick Falls Department of Public Works will reduce its workload to 3 employees per day maximum, with further changes allowed by the DPW Superintendent as needed.

In the case of a Village Emergency, such as a broken water pipe or sewer line, the Mayor will temporarily suspend these rules until the emergency is taken care of.

Funeral home employees who need assistance from Village Officials should call the police department.