

**TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
COMMON COUNCIL
EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION**

**Declaration of Local Public Health Emergency
in the Town of Quartzsite, Arizona**

WHEREAS, A.R.S. §§26-307, 26-308, 26-309, 26-311, 26-312, 26-316, and §26-317 authorizes the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency and establishes guidelines for the management of that emergency, when the Town of Quartzsite is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-2-7 of the Town Code for the Town of Quartzsite authorizes the Common Council of the Town to declare an emergency or a local emergency due to natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, which was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December of 2019, and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) considers this virus to be a significant public health threat that has, and continues to, spread globally; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 illness a public health emergency of international concern and on January 31, 2020, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency due to the COVID-19 illness; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 the President of the United States issued “Coronavirus Guidelines for America,” emphasizing the serious threat to public health, safety and welfare represented by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the Governor of the State of Arizona, issued a Declaration of Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the La Paz County Health Department Emergency Operations Center was opened in reference to COVID-19 and with this, a Joint Information Center was established for public information coordination related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Quartzsite continues to plan and prepare for event and facility closures, modified staffing plans, work-from-home programs and enhanced communications to employees to ensure effective Continuity of Operations of Town Government; and

WHEREAS, prudence requires that precautionary measures be taken proactively due to the potential widespread nature of COVID-19 within the Town of Quartzsite, and its threat to public health, safety, and welfare as referenced in the Governor's Declaration of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, the above facts give credence to the conditions of extreme peril and public health emergency; and the declaration of a town emergency will enable the Town of Quartzsite to provide emergency resources, request additional resources and potentially receive mutual aid from other political sub-divisions and entities. **NOW THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED**, that a local emergency now exists in the Town of Quartzsite, Arizona,

FURTHER, the Town Manager, or designee is directed to coordinate emergency operations for Quartzsite and to take all appropriate actions needed to mitigate the effects of COVID- 19 on the Town of Quartzsite.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED, that during the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties as outlined in Article 3-6 of the Town of Quartzite Town Code, except those in conflict with this proclamation and as prescribed by State Law, by Ordinances and Resolutions of the Town of Quartzsite shall be in force. Citizens are urged to cooperate with this emergency declaration and to every degree possible, abide by the safety announcements, advisories and restrictions established by the Town and to cooperate with the community's public safety agencies and emergency services personnel.

Town Hall will remain open for the time being, but various programs, events and activities may be suspended if it becomes necessary. Further details regarding suspended programs, events and activities will be forthcoming.

Closures of other Town facilities **MAY** occur as needed in the future and the Town will monitor those needs on an ongoing basis.

PURSUANT to A.R.S. §38-431.02 as amended, **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** to the general public that during the declared State of Local Emergency a possible quorum of the Common Council of the Town of Quartzsite may be in attendance during the periodic briefings on the Emergency; however, no formal discussion/action will be taken by members in their role as the Common Council of Quartzsite.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Common Council of the Town of Quartzsite, Arizona, on this **23rd** day of **March 2020**.

This Declaration is in effect for 60 days unless renewed by the Town Council


Norm Simpson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tina Abriani, Town Clerk

Given under my hand in these free United States in the Town of Quartzsite, Arizona, on the 23rd day of March two thousand twenty and to which I have caused the Seal of the Town of Quartzsite to be affixed and have made this proclamation public.