



PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 20-03 (A)

FOR

THE CITY OF LEWISTON

UTILITY SHUT-OFFS AND LATE FEES

April 14, 2020

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Idaho Governor Brad Little declared a state of emergency due to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), which declaration remains in effect;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued an emergency declaration for the country in response to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases within the U.S., which declaration remains in effect;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Mayor Michael Collins, with the approval of the City Council, through Resolution 2020-14, declared a local disaster emergency exists in the City of Lewiston due to the occurrence and imminent threat to public health and safety arising from the effects of COVID-19 and appointed the Lewiston City Manager as the Director of Civil Defense pursuant to Lewiston City Code § 12-6;

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Lewiston City Council adopted Ordinance No. 4774, which amended and enacted various sections of Chapter 12 of the Lewiston City Code related to disasters and Civil Defense;

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2020, Idaho Governor Brad Little issued a Stay at Home Order for all of Idaho State and an Extreme Emergency Declaration, which allows the State to more effectively increase health care capacity, take steps to reduce and slow the spread of COVID-19, and take rapid and decisive steps to improve the condition of Idahoans whose job and incomes are being harmed by the pandemic;

WHEREAS, there is and will be significant potential for economic hardship during and following the COVID-19 pandemic, which hardship might affect the ability of citizens of the City of Lewiston to timely pay utility bills for water, wastewater, and solid waste;

WHEREAS, the City of Lewiston wants to ensure that no one is without essential water, wastewater, and solid waste services at this critical time;

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 12-8(1) of the Lewiston City Code, the Director of Civil Defense has the authority to make and issue orders, rules, and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by a disaster; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 12-27 of the Lewiston City Code, the Director of Civil Defense has the authority to issue orders suspending City ordinances, resolutions, and policies, or portions thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alan Nygaard, City Manager and Director of Civil Defense of the City of Lewiston, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Lewiston City Code §§ 12-8(1) and 12-27, hereby order as follows:

1. **Continuation of Essential Utility Services:** Water and wastewater services shall not be discontinued to any customer served by the City of Lewiston, the Central Orchards Sewer District, the Lewiston Orchards Sewer District, or the Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District while this Order is in effect. Additionally, solid waste services shall not be discontinued to any customer served by the City of Lewiston while this Order is in effect.
2. **Late Fees:** No late fee shall accrue or be due and payable during the period this Order is in effect for failure to timely pay for water, wastewater, and solid waste services provided by the City of Lewiston, the Central Orchards Sewer District, the Lewiston Orchards Sewer District, or the Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District; provided, however, customers shall continue to be billed for such services and shall be responsible for payment thereof.
3. **Notice of Order:** A copy of this Order shall be posted on or near the front door of Lewiston City Hall, on the City's website, and on the City's social media accounts. Additionally, a copy of this order shall be e-mailed to all persons subscribed to the City's e-mail notification services and provided to the Lewiston City Council, the City Attorney, the Fire Chief, the Chief of Police, the Nez Perce Board of County Commissioners, the Nez Perce County Sheriff, the Nez Perce County Prosecutor, and all news media that have requested notification of such orders.
4. **Duration of Order:** This Order shall remain in effect until rescinded or vetoed or until the City of Lewiston Declaration of Emergency is terminated, whichever comes first.

ISSUED this 14th day of April 2020.

DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE



Alan Nygaard, City Manager, City of Lewiston