

RESOLUTION 2020-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH; URGING PERSONS THAT LIVE, WORK, VISIT OR DO BUSINESS IN POLK CITY TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS IN CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES IN ORDER TO SLOW OR STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19); ENCOURAGING CITIZENS TO ADHERE TO SAFETY PROTOCOLS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission; and

WHEREAS, as of July 20, 2020, FDOH reports that over 350,000 Floridians (including 9,489 Polk County residents and 268 residents of Zip Code 33868) have tested positive for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of July 20, 2020, FDOH reports that approximately 5,000 Floridians (including 175 Polk County residents) have died from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 appears to be spread from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises his or her voice, and droplets can then land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, recent studies show that a significant portion of individuals with COVID-19 lack symptoms (“asymptomatic”) and that those who eventually develop symptoms can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms (“pre-symptomatic”); and

WHEREAS, the CDC recommends, in order “[t]o reduce the spread of COVID-19 that people wear cloth face coverings in public settings when around people outside of their household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain;” and

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2020, State Surgeon General Scott A. Rivkees advised that “[a]ll individuals in Florida should wear face coverings in any setting where social distancing is not possible” with very limited situational exceptions; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission is mindful of the need to protect and preserve the rights and civil liberties of the citizens of Polk City while aggressively defending the health and wellbeing of those citizens; and

WHEREAS, cloth face coverings appear to be the most effective way to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when widely used by people in public settings; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the City Commission that all citizens, visitors, workers and business owners have a civic duty to safeguard the health of their fellow citizens and to demonstrate personal responsibility by helping slow the spread of COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, THAT:

SECTION 1. INCORPORATION OF RECITALS. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein and are true and correct statements of fact.

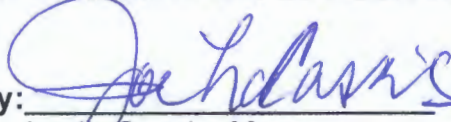
SECTION 2. FACE COVERINGS ENCOURAGED TO BE WORN INDOORS OR OUTDOORS WHEN SOCIAL DISTANCING CANNOT BE MAINTAINED. In accordance with the June 22, 2020, FDOH Public Health Advisory, Polk City strongly advises, urges and advocates that those persons who work, live, visit or do business in the City's municipal limits to wear a face covering, both indoors and outdoors, when unable to maintain proper social distancing.

SECTION 3. SOCIAL DISTANCING AND OSHA PROTOCOLS. Polk City strongly encourages all persons who work, live, visit or do business within the City's municipal limits to protect each other's health by strictly adhering to appropriate social distancing and safety protocols published by the CDC and OSHA.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall be effective as of the date of adoption.

RESOLVED, PASSED, AND CERTIFIED AS TO PASSAGE THIS 20th DAY OF JULY, 2020.

CITY COMMISSION OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA

By: 
Joe LaCascia, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: 
Patricia R. Jackson, City Manager/Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM & LEGALITY

By: 
Thomas A. Cloud, City Attorney