

Ordinance No. 899-2020

By Council Member Kelley

FOR PASSAGE
November 18, 2020

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

Authorizing Cleveland City Council and other City of Cleveland public bodies to hold, conduct and attend meetings and hearings by teleconference, video conference or any other similar electronic technology for as long as the Mayor's Civil Emergency Proclamation continues in effect.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Mayor Frank Jackson declared a Proclamation of Civil Emergency in the City of Cleveland due to the threat to the health and safety of all citizens caused by the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Proclamation of Civil Emergency includes a Mass Gathering Order that prohibits public and private gatherings of greater than 10 people occurring outside of a single household or living unit, including but not limited to block/street parties and tailgating events; and

WHEREAS, this Council, as well as all public bodies associated with the City, have been holding public meetings virtually since the Mayor's Proclamation of Civil Emergency and the Governor's State of Emergency Executive Order issued March 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio and the City of Cleveland are experiencing a massive increase in coronavirus cases and hospitalizations, consistently setting records for the most coronavirus cases in a single day, both in the state and the City; and

WHEREAS, the persistent increases in coronavirus cases, hospitalizations and deaths continues to endanger the health, safety and welfare of persons and property in the City; and

WHEREAS, to remain in compliance with the Proclamation of Civil Emergency, and to continue to carry out the essential business of the City during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative to continue to allow the City's public bodies to meet virtually; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance constitutes an emergency measure providing for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health, or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That Cleveland City Council and any other City of Cleveland public bodies as may be required to hold public meetings under the Revised Code, are authorized to hold, conduct and attend meetings and hearings by teleconference, video conference or any other similar electronic technology for as long as the Mayor's Civil Emergency Proclamation issued March 11, 2020, as amended, continues in effect. Such public bodies shall continue to use the methods previously employed to hold virtual meetings so that the public has proper notice of a meeting and can observe and hear the discussions and deliberations of all the members of the public body, whether the member is participating in person or electronically.

Section 2. That this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

11/18/2020
KJK:rns

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**REPORT
after second Reading**

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READ FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME

READ FIRST TIME
referred to

REPORTS

CITY CLERK

READ SECOND TIME

CITY CLERK

READ THIRD TIME on NOVEMBER 18, 2020

PRESIDENT

CITY CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR

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