

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

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MAYOR
Deana Holiday
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**COUNCIL
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Ward B
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CITY MANAGER
Frederick Gardiner

East Point Adopts Emergency Ordinance

City Council Approves Fourth Emergency Ordinance Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

EAST POINT, GA.- At the March 30th Special Called Meeting, the East Point City Council voted to adopt a fourth emergency ordinance **effective Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 12:00 a.m.**

“It remains critically important for residents to stay home as we endeavor to flatten the curve of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 disease, so we have made the decision to extend the closure of non-essential businesses and to extend the April 1st deadline to submit all property tax applications and documents,” said Mayor Deana Holiday Ingraham. “We will continue to monitor updates regarding the Coronavirus/COVID-19 and take additional measures, as needed, to continue to put the health, welfare and safety of our community first.”

The **fourth emergency ordinance** provides:

- Non-essential businesses shall remain closed through **April 7, 2020**, to coincide with the stay at home order.
- The April 1st application deadline for all property tax exemption applications (i.e., homestead, senior, disabled person, and disabled veteran), is extended to a future date to be determined by the City Manager. Applications can also be picked up at the front entrance of the East Point Customer Care facility, located at 2791 East Point Street, East Point, Ga 30344. Property tax exemption applications can be submitted online at www.eastpointcity.org or mailed to 2757 East Point Street, East Point, Ga 30344..

The following provisions for the **third emergency ordinance** adopted on March 24th still apply:

- Residents are required to stay in their place of residence, to the maximum extent possible, **through April 7, 2020**. During such time, residents may leave their residence to provide or receive essential services or engage in essential activities, work for essential businesses and government services and engage in outdoor activity, as long as they are implementing social distancing practices
- Existing childcare facilities are considered an essential business
- **A Citywide Curfew has been established from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., daily until April 7, 2020 at 7:00 a.m.,** except for individuals identified as exemptions. Individuals exempt from this ordinance include:

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- Homeless (They are encouraged to find shelter)
- First Responders
- Emergency Management Personnel
- Emergency Dispatchers
- Court Personnel
- Law Enforcement Personnel
- Individuals performing essential government functions
- Individuals leaving their residence to work for or obtain services from any Healthcare Provider

The following provisions in the **second emergency ordinance** adopted on March 22nd still apply:

- All restaurants and other establishments that sell food or beverages for consumption on the premises will be closed to in-person dining or alcohol consumption
- All restaurants and other establishments that provide food may offer food for takeout and delivery services only.
- Establishments that are licensed for the sale of beer and/or wine for consumption on the premises may sell unopened bottles or cans of beer and wine with the purchase of food for takeout only, but not delivery. Unopened cans and bottles must meet federal law for sealed containers.
- Businesses affected by these closures shall establish systems that restrict in-person contact as much as possible, to include a limitation of the number of customers at a time to be on the premises.
- All essential businesses and services can continue to operate while implementing social distancing of six (6) feet per person. Essential businesses and services include:
 - Food
 - Grocery Stores
 - Food Banks
 - Outdoor Farmers Markets
 - Businesses that provide food, shelter, social services and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged people.
 - Gas Stations
 - Banks and financial institutions
 - Hotels
 - Hardware Stores and nurseries
 - Plumbers and Electricians
 - Exterminators
 - Custodial/janitorial workers
 - Handyman Services
 - Funeral Homes and Morticians
 - Moving Services
 - HVAC installers
 - Carpenters
 - Landscapers



- Gardeners
 - Property Managers
 - Private Security personnel
 - Healthcare Providers and facilities
 - Transportation services
 - Residential facilities
 - Warehouses and Distribution Centers
 - City and County Government Services
 - Laundromats/laundry service
 - Media Services (newspapers, magazines, television, radio, podcasts, etc...)
 - Educational Institutions
- Essential businesses may be open to the public during the hours of **7:00 a.m. to 9:00p.m. Healthcare providers, pharmacies and hotels are exempt from this requirement.** All businesses shall make the effort to ensure that adequate social distancing is being maintained by at least six (6) feet of personal space and provide a station(s) to wash hands with warm water and antibacterial soap, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol, or both.

The following provisions in the **first emergency ordinance** adopted on March 16th still apply:

- All East Point parks and playground facilities are closed to the public.
- The City will not accept applications or issue permits for events that involve the gathering of more than the number of people recommended by the CDC.

To continue supporting our local businesses, we encourage small business owners to take advantage of the loans being provided by the Small Business Administration since Georgia has been designated as an eligible disaster area. This will allow small businesses to be able to apply for up to a \$2 million loan from the federal Small Business Administration (SBA). For more information visit the SBA website (www.sba.gov/disaster)

As previously announced, the city has suspended disconnection of utility services and will not assess late fees. Although utility services will not be disconnected, utility payments are still being accepted online at www.eastpointcity.org, at the Customer Care drive-thru and drop box, by mail and by phone. While the Jefferson Park Recreation Center and all City buildings remain closed to the public until further notice, sanitation and recycling will continue services on their regular schedule.

The City is encouraging East Point residents to follow the best practices from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention and the Department of Public Health during this time to reduce the spreading of the virus. These best practices include:

- Stocking up on supplies
- Implementing social distancing, at a minimum of six feet
- Avoid large crowds
- Avoid all non-essential travel

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- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid touching surfaces in public places
- Avoid touching your face, nose and eyes
- Clean and disinfect your home to remove germs often

The City of East Point will continue to monitor the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic and work with our partners at all levels of government to remain up to date. For more information on COVID-19, please visit the Georgia Department of Public Health website, www.dph.georgia.gov, and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention website, www.CDC.gov

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About The City of East Point

The City of East Point is approximately 13.8 miles with a population of over 35,000. Located southwest of Atlanta, East Point is conveniently located minutes away from Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. This quaint urban community's prime location, numerous retail, and great restaurants make it an attractive place for a "live-work-play-shop-stay" environment because there's no point like East Point. For more information about the City of East Point visit www.eastpointcity.org. Also like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofeastpoint/ and follow us on twitter @cityofeastpoint, snapchat @cityofep1, or instagram @cityofeastpoint.

