RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF GOLDSBORO
POSTPONING THE MAY 5, 2020 ELECTION UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1, 2020
DUE TO THE EVENT OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND
CATASTROPHIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a severe respiratory disease, resulting in serious illness or death, caused by person-to-person spread of the novel coronavirus, which was not previously found in humans; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the US Department of Health and Human Services has declared that COVID-19 creates a public health emergency, is a public health catastrophe, and a public safety emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 5th, 2020, the Governor of the State of Maryland declared that in an effort to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the State, that a State of Emergency and Catastrophic Health Emergency exists with the entire State of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, a Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak was issued by the President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Caroline County Commissioners declared that a state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency exists in Caroline County, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Maryland Department of Health recommend social distancing and avoiding gatherings of more than ten (10) people; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Governor of the State of Maryland issued Executive Order Number 20-03-30-01 prohibiting large gatherings and events larger than ten (10) persons and requiring all persons living in the State of Maryland to stay in their homes or places of residence unless otherwise permitted in the Order; and

WHEREAS, a municipal election is not permitted pursuant to Executive Order Number 20-03-30-01; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the threat to human health caused by the spread of COVID-19, and to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, it is necessary and reasonable that individuals in the Town refrain from congregating; and

WHEREAS, the Town election would ordinarily be conducted at a polling location that hinders social distancing, enables the transmission of COVID-19, and poses a risk to the public health, welfare, and safety; and

WHEREAS, the state of emergency and the catastrophic health emergency exists that is impairing the ability of the Town officials, employees, and volunteers of the Town to hold an election on the date currently required by the Charter; and
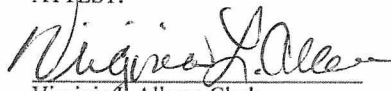
WHEREAS, the Town election is normally held on the first Tuesday in the month of May in accordance with the Town Charter; and
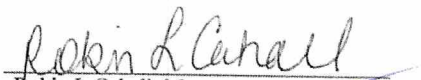
WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of Goldsboro believe it is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of the Town, its citizens, officials, employees, and volunteers to postpone the Town election so such election and pre-election activities do not occur during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Executive Order No. 20-03-30-03 of the Governor of the State of Maryland and the applicable provisions of Title 4, Subtitle 3 of the Local Government of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Town has amended its Charter to provide that the Town Mayor and Council, may, in the event of a state of emergency or public health catastrophe, postpone the date of a Town election.
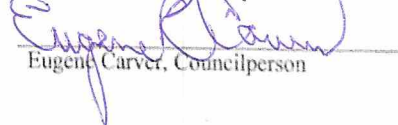
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF GOLDSBORO that the Town election scheduled for the first Tuesday in May, 2020, which is May 5, 2020, be postponed to the first Tuesday in September, 2020, which is September 1, 2020.

ATTEST:

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Virginia L. Albers, Clerk

_____
Robin L Cahall, Mayor

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Robert Jarrell, Councilperson

_____
Eugene Carver, Councilperson

Resolution No. 2020-03
Postponing ~~June~~ 2020 Election May v c.A
Page 2