



City of Charles Town

101 East Washington Street, P.O. Box 14, Charles Town, WV 25414
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RESOLUTION

A Resolution to Rescind Resolution #2020-006 and Reconvene Future City Council Meetings in the Council Chambers

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Jim Justice declared a state of emergency for all counties in West Virginia to allow agencies to coordinate and create necessary measures to prepare for and respond to the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 Governor Jim Justice issued Executive Order 09-20 requiring West Virginians to stay-at-home and non-essential businesses within the state to temporarily cease operations as a means for slowing the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in response to the Governor's initial directives, City Council adopted Resolution #2020-006 at a special meeting on March 30, 2020, to temporarily suspend Section 111.01(1)(a) of the city code and conduct future Council meetings telephonically or through other electronic means; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2020, Governor Justice released initial guidance entitled *West Virginia Strong – The Comeback*, a plan for reopening West Virginia's economy and setting the stage for lifting some of the public gathering restrictions imposed in his previous executive orders; and

WHEREAS, *The Comeback* guidance continues to be periodically updated but was supplemented on November 14, 2020 with Executive Order 77-20, which requires face coverings in all public buildings and created a communication issue for members of Council and the public who found it difficult to hear others behind the face coverings; and

WHEREAS, Governor Justice has recently started to lift face covering restrictions for some West Virginians and publicly announced his intention for a more widespread lifting of the face covering mandate on June 20, 2021; and

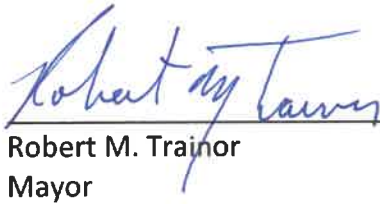
WHEREAS, while COVID-19 remains present in the community, public health officials have acknowledged that its risks are mitigated by the presence of vaccines, social distancing and sanitation practices, and lower prevalence of community spread.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Charles Town City Council rescinds Resolution #2020-006 and plans to hold all future City Council meetings in the Council Chambers beginning with the next regularly scheduled meeting on June 22, 2021; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Council will allow, to the extent it does not conflict with any other rules or by-laws, that other City Boards, Committees, and Commissions may continue to conduct meetings telephonically or by other electronic means under the requirements that all members and staff may hear, and be heard, by each other, and by which members of the public may, at a minimum, hear the proceedings, until such time as the new Council convenes to review the matter.

Adopted the 4th day of JUNE, 2021.

Attest:



Robert M. Trainor
Mayor



Daryl Hennessy
City Manager/Clerk