

CITY OF STEVENSON, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-295

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO SEVERE
WINTER STORM ACTIVITY

WHEREAS, beginning January 17, 2017, and continuing through January 19, 2017, excessive snow, freezing rain, and ice accumulation created emergency conditions in the City of Stevenson;

WHEREAS, this snow and ice was in addition to the large snow accumulation that occurred in the weeks just prior to this storm;

WHEREAS, freezing rain and high winds damaged utility lines throughout the City and interrupted service to the water and sewer treatment facilities;

WHEREAS, extensive damage has occurred to city roads and storm drains, utility facilities, private property, residential and commercial properties;

WHEREAS, storm debris has accumulated on city streets blocking roadways and storm drains;

WHEREAS, due to the conditions stated above, the City activated policies and procedures set out in the Skamania County Department of Emergency Management Disaster Recovery Assistance Guidebook and the City of Stevenson Emergency Guidelines (herein "the emergency guidelines");

WHEREAS, due to above described conditions it was necessary for the safety and welfare of the community to direct the Public Works Department to commit substantial resources to maintaining the primary roadways and clearing storm drains to prevent flooding;

WHEREAS, the Governor of Washington declared a state of emergency through Proclamation 17-01 dated January 13, 2017, due to severe winter storms and ice;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Stevenson City Council does resolve as follows:

Section 1. There is hereby declared an emergency retroactive to January 17, 2017, meaning there is a real, immediate threat to the proper performance of essential functions which will likely result in material loss or damage to property, bodily injury, or loss of life, if immediate action is not taken; and the Council further ratifies all emergency action retroactive to January 17, 2017.

Section 2. Pursuant to the emergency declared in Section 1, City departments and officers, are (1) authorized to enter into contract and incur obligations necessary to combat such emergency; (2) direct that work be undertaken to protect the City's infrastructure; and (3) direct necessary debris removal and cleaning of storm water facilities necessary to protect the health and safety of persons, property and the environment.

Section 3. The City Administrator will consult with the Mayor as practical and present any necessary or appropriate action items for review and consideration by the Council at the earliest possible date.

Section 4. The declaration of a local emergency set forth in Section 1 shall terminate by Council action when the Council determines that there no longer is a threat to public health, safety, and welfare.

Section 5. The City hereby invokes the emergency exception to the State public works competitive bidding requirements as set forth in RCW 39.04.280 due to the exigent and emergent nature of the conditions listed above and the threat to life, health, and safety.

Section 6. The Council recognizes the City Administrator closed City Hall for one day due to power failure and instructed City Hall staff to stay home. Council affirms the City Administrator's decision to close City Hall and to instruct City Hall staff to stay safe under the extreme conditions, and agrees with the Mayor's decision not to require employees to use vacation time for that day. Council intends to revise the City Personnel Policy to formalize this as a policy for future events of this kind.

PASSED by the City Council this 26th day of January, 2017, and effective beginning January 17, 2017.

Frank Cox, Mayor of the City of Stevenson

ATTEST:

Nick Hogan, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kenneth B Woodrich, PC
City Attorney