

RESOLUTION 23-126

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING AND EXTENDING THE PROCLAMATION THAT A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY EXISTS BECAUSE OF THE CATASTROPHIC IMPACTS CAUSED BY HURRICANE IAN; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER ERRORS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*, authorizes the waiver of procedures and formalities, otherwise required of municipalities, and to take whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community in the event of a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38 *Florida Statutes*, specifically authorizes municipalities to declare a state of local emergency and to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of political subdivisions required by law pertaining to performance of public work and taking whatever action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community such as but not limited to entering into contracts; incurring obligations; employing permanent and temporary workers; utilizing volunteer workers; renting of equipment; acquiring and distributing supplies, materials and facilities with or without compensation, and appropriating and expending public funds; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fort Myers Beach, Florida (Town), pursuant to its inherent home rule powers under Florida Constitution and otherwise has adopted certain emergency procedures set forth in Chapter 12, Article II – “Emergency and Disaster Planning” of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Fort Myers Beach, Florida (“Code”), and is otherwise authorized to activate the Town’s emergency plan; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida and Lee County have declared a state of local emergency due to the catastrophic impacts of Hurricane Ian to Lee County; and

WHEREAS, as defined in the Code, Hurricane Ian has caused a catastrophic disaster in the Town causing extensive damage to public utilities, public buildings, public communication systems, public streets and roads, public drainage systems, commercial and residential buildings, and areas; and

WHEREAS, Section 12-21 of the Code provides that where it is not possible to obtain a quorum to convene an emergency meeting to proclaim a state of local emergency, or extend or rescind such a proclamation, the Mayor, Vice-Mayor, or Town Manager are authorized to proclaim, extend, or rescind a local state of emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The foregoing whereas clauses are true and correct and hereby adopted as the legislative and administrative findings of the Town Council and made a specific part of this Resolution; all exhibits attached hereto are incorporated herein and made a specific part of this Resolution.

Section 2. Hurricane Ian has caused a catastrophic disaster in the Town, damaging, or destroying over ninety percent (90%) of the Town's public utilities, public buildings, public communication systems, public streets and roads, public drainage systems, commercial and residential buildings, and areas and continues to pose a serious threat to the health, lives, property, and safety of the business owners and residents of the Town. Accordingly, the state of local emergency is hereby extended for seven (7) additional days *nun pro tunc* from 9:00 AM on the 16th day of October 2023.

Section 3. The amendment and extension of the proclamation of a state of local emergency set forth in Resolution 22-35 is an emergency measure necessary for the protection of the public safety, due to the catastrophic disaster caused by Hurricane Ian.

Section 4. As provided in Section 252.38(3)(a), *Florida Statutes* and Chapter 12, Article II of the Code, the Town hereby waives the procedures and formalities otherwise required by law of a municipality as set forth in said State law and the Code.

Section 5. The Town Manager or designee is hereby designated as the declaring official for purposes of implementing the emergency and disaster regulations of the Town. The Town Manager or designee will exercise all powers necessary to protect the health and safety of the public set forth in any Executive Order that may be issued by the Governor, Chapter 252, Fla. Stat., and Chapter 12, Article II of the Code. This proclamation also authorizes the Town Manager or designee to utilize government employees and volunteers to assist in securing private property to minimize the overall damage to the Town.

Section 6. The state of local emergency shall remain in effect until terminated as provided in Section 12-21 of the Code. However, the mandatory curfew and prohibition regarding the use of fresh water supplied by the County or local water company for any purpose other than cooking, drinking, or bathing set forth in Section 12-24 of the Code are hereby waived at this time.

Section 7. As provided in Section 12-21(a) of the Code, the Mayor, Vice-Mayor, or Town Manager may extend the proclamation of a state of local emergency as the "responsible official" of the Town.

Section 8. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 9. Any scrivener or typographical errors that do not affect intent of this Resolution may be corrected with notice to and authorization of the Town Attorney and Town Manager without further process.

Section 10. If any clause, section, other part, or application of this Resolution is held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, in part or application, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Resolution.

Section 11. This Resolution shall become effective upon the signature of the Mayor.

This Resolution was ADOPTED this 16th day of September 2023 upon the signature of the Mayor at 9:00 a.m.

TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH


Dan Allers (Oct 18, 2023 14:46 EDT)

Dan Allers, Mayor

ATTEST:


AMY BAKER (Oct 24, 2023 13:03 EDT)
Amy Baker, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE USE
AND RELIANCE OF THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH ONLY:


Becky Vose (Oct 18, 2023 16:02 EDT)
Vose Law Firm, Town Attorneys

This Resolution was filed in the Office of the Town Clerk on this 16th day of September 2023.