

RESOLUTION NUMBER 24-154

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA, DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO TROPICAL STORM DEBBY; PROVIDING THE TOWN WITH POWERS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THOSE PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES, CHAPTER 252, AND TOWN CODE CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE VI; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(3), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Town of Fort Myers Beach to declare a state of local emergency and to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of political subdivisions by law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 12 of the Town Code of the Town of Fort Myers Beach authorizes certain powers in the event of a local state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, a state of local emergency proclamation is allowed for seven (7) days with appropriate extensions pursuant to law; and

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Debby may strengthen in force as it approaches Florida, and current forecast models predict that Tropical Storm Debby will strike Florida as a Category 1 hurricane; and

WHEREAS, once formed, Tropical Storm Debby poses a severe threat to the Town of Fort Myers Beach, particularly due to the current King Tide conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is the potential for damage to public buildings, public communications systems, public streets and roads, public drainage systems, temporary structures, and to commercial and residential buildings Town-wide; and

WHEREAS, Town Code Section 12-23, "Emergency measures" provides that "In addition to any other powers conferred by law, upon the declaration of a state of local emergency pursuant to this article, the town manager or designees shall have the power and authority to order and promulgate all or any of the following emergency measures to be effective during the period of such emergency in whole or in part, with such limitation and conditions as the town manager or designees may deem appropriate to protect the town's health, safety and welfare, and/or waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the town by law pertaining to these measures..."; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fort Myers Beach should take timely precautions to protect public and private property and members of the public from the potential effects, once formed, of Tropical Storm Debby; and

THEREFORE, under the powers vested in it pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and under Chapter 12 of the Town Code of the Town of Fort Myers Beach, the **Town Council does hereby proclaim the existence of a state of local emergency in the Town of Fort Myers Beach, Florida, as identified above.**

SECTION 1. State of Local Emergency. The following emergency powers and other provisions shall be in force during this state of local emergency:

1. The Town Manager, or designee, is authorized to take all actions necessary and appropriate to protect human life and property, including the promulgation of rules and orders as may be necessary subject to the limitations of Section 252.33, Florida Statutes. This resolution further authorizes the Town Manager, or designee, to utilize all lawful authority granted to the Town of Fort Myers Beach by Federal, State, County, or Town Emergency Management Laws, Rules, Regulations, Orders and, including, but not limited to, Section 252.46 and Section 252.38(3)(a)(1) through Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, inclusive.
2. All existing laws, ordinances, and rules inconsistent with the provisions of Sections 252.31 to Section 252.905, Florida Statutes, inclusive, or inconsistent with any rule or order specifically promulgated under this resolution shall be suspended during this period of time and to the extent that such conflict exists.
3. The Town Manager may suspend, toll or extend the time requirements, notice requirements and deadlines for final action on applications for permits, licenses, rates and other approvals under the Town of Fort Myers Beach Code of Ordinances, to the extent necessary to accommodate the emergency.
4. Pursuant to Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, the Town hereby exercises its authority and waives the procedures and formalities otherwise required of a political subdivision by law, pertaining to:
 - Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
 - Entering into contracts;
 - Incurring obligations;
 - Employment of permanent and temporary workers;
 - Utilization of volunteer workers;
 - Rental of equipment;
 - Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities; and
 - Appropriation and expenditure of public funds
5. The Town Manager shall follow FEMA guidelines in procuring services, materials, labor and equipment necessary to respond to the emergency, including recovery efforts. The Town Manager shall abide by the "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles,

and Audit Requirements” for federal awards, codified at 2 C.F.R. §§200.317 through 200.326.

6. Pursuant to Section 12-23, of the Code of the Town of Fort Myers Beach, in addition to any other powers conferred by law, the town manager or designees shall have the power and authority to order and promulgate all or any of the following emergency measures to be effective during the period of such emergency in whole or in part, with such limitation and conditions as the town manager or designees may deem appropriate to protect the town's health, safety and welfare, and/or waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the town by law pertaining to these measures:
 - (a) To appropriate and expend funds; make contracts; incur obligations; obtain and distribute equipment, materials, and supplies for emergency management purposes; provide for the health and safety of persons and property, including emergency assistance to victims of any emergency; and direct and coordinate the implementation of emergency management plans and programs in accordance with the requirements of state and federal law.
 - (b) To appoint, employ, remove, or provide (with or without compensation) rescue teams, coordinators, other emergency management workers and other permanent or temporary workers.
 - (c) To establish, as necessary, primary and secondary emergency operating centers to provide continuity of government and direction and control of emergency operations.
 - (d) To assign and make available for duty the offices and agencies of the town, including the employees, property, or equipment thereof relating to health, medical and related services, transportation, construction, and similar items or services for emergency operation purposes, for deployment within or outside the limits of the town.
 - (e) To request state assistance or invoke emergency-related mutual-aid assistance pursuant to existing contracts and/or state or local law.
 - (f) To waive any procedures and formalities otherwise required of the town by law pertaining to performance of public work and/or the taking of whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the town.
 - (g) To suspend or limit the sale, dispensing, or transportation of alcoholic beverages, firearms, explosives and/or combustibles.
 - (h) To utilize all available resources of the town government as reasonably necessary to cope with the emergency occasioned by the disaster.
 - (i) To make provisions for availability and use of temporary emergency housing and emergency warehousing of materials.
 - (j) Preceding or during the emergency, to call on the National Guard or the Army, Coast Guard or other law enforcement division or other agency as necessary to assist in the mitigation of the emergency or to help maintain law and order, rescue and traffic control.
7. Pursuant to Sec. 12-24, “Prohibitions during state of emergency”, of the Code of the Town of Fort Myers Beach, whenever a state of local emergency has been declared, and until

such state of local emergency is terminated, the following prohibitions shall apply throughout the town, unless and until the same shall be waived or modified by a quorum of the town council at a general, special or emergency meeting:

- (a) It shall be unlawful and an offense against the town for any person to use the fresh water supplied by the county or local water company for any purpose other than cooking, drinking or bathing.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to be out and about on the public rights-of-way or other public areas of the town between the dusk and dawn, except for law enforcement officers, members of the town fire control district, emergency medical personnel, town councilmembers, other persons authorized by the town manager, and regular employees of local businesses while traveling to and from their jobs for their regular hours, providing such employees have in their possession personal identification and identification of the business by which they are employed.

8. Any person who refuses to comply with or violates any provision of this declaration of local emergency shall be guilty of a municipal violation. Each day of such violation shall constitute a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the town from taking such other lawful action in any court of competent jurisdiction as is necessary to prevent or remedy any refusal to comply with, or violation of, this article or the emergency measures which may be made effective pursuant to this article. Such other lawful action shall include but shall not be limited to, an equitable action for injunctive relief or an action at law for damages. In addition, any person violating any rule or order issued pursuant to this Resolution or any person who willfully fails or refuses to comply with the order or orders of any duly authorized law enforcement officer or personnel charged with the responsibility for the enforcement of such orders shall, upon conviction therefor, be punished as provided by Section 252.50, Florida Statutes, and by such other laws as may be applicable to the offense.

SECTION 2. Conflicts. Any and all Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Severability. If any provision or portion of this Resolution or the application is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions, portions or applications of the Resolution, which can be given effect without the invalid provision, portion or application, and to this end the provisions, portions, or applications of this Resolution are declared severable.

SECTION 4. Effective Date and Termination Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Fort Myers Beach and shall terminate automatically seven (7) days from this date unless terminated earlier or extended by a document of equal dignity herewith.

SECTION 5. Direction to Implement. The Town Manager is directed to implement this Resolution.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Town Council upon a motion by *Councilor King* and seconded by *Councilor Safford*, and upon being put to a vote, the result was as follows:

Dan Allers, Mayor
Jim Atterholt, Vice Mayor
John R. King
Scott Safford
Karen Woodson

Aye
Aye
Aye
Aye
Aye

ADOPTED this 5 day of August, 2024 by the Town Council of the Town of Fort Myers Beach, Florida.

FORT MYERS BEACH TOWN COUNCIL



Dan Allers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amy Baker, Town Clerk

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



Vose Law Firm, LLP, Town Attorney

This Resolution was filed in the Office of the Town Clerk on this 5 day of August 2024.