

**CITY OF MANKATO
EMERGENCY ORDINANCE UNDER SECTION 2.15 OF THE MANKATO CITY
CHARTER RELATING TO FLOOD EMERGENCY PREPARATION AND IN FLOOD
FIGHTING AND RESCUE OPERATIONS**

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2024, Mayor Najwa Massad issued an Emergency Declaration pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 12.29, declaring an Emergency and finding immediate action necessary to increase the level of flood protection and provide other emergency aid to avoid catastrophic damage to residential and commercial property adjacent to the River; and

WHEREAS, this Emergency Declaration arose out of information provided that the Minnesota River could reach historic levels, which would cause a major flood event; and

WHEREAS, heavy rains and flooding have occurred throughout Blue Earth County, including Mankato and various other municipalities on June 20, 2024 through June 22, causing substantial damage to private and public properties and closures of city parks, facilities and roads due to flooding and standing water, with the extent of such damages being at present unknown, and

WHEREAS, flooding can lead to many potential health hazards including transfer of disease carrying materials, bacteria, parasites, and viruses; and

WHEREAS, such flooding has caused damage to public and private structures rendering them unsafe to traverse, inhabit or occupy; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Declaration directed invocation by the City Manager and other appropriate staff of all available disaster planning and authority, both local and interjurisdictional, and authorized deployment of appropriate community containment and mitigation strategies; and

WHEREAS, that Declaration included authority to authorize aid and assistance under the applicable local and interjurisdictional plans, including allowing the City Manager and other appropriate city staff to request and coordinate appropriate aid and resources from surrounding jurisdictions, Blue Earth County, the State of Minnesota, and the Federal government, as needed; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Declaration may not continue for more than three days pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 12.29 except by or with the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision; and

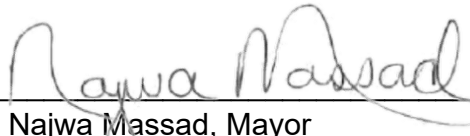
WHEREAS, the City Council has the authority to enact an emergency ordinance under Section 2.15 of the Mankato City Charter; and

WHEREAS, Sections 2.14 and 2.15 of the Mankato City Charter, alter the notice and hearing requirements otherwise required for ordinances when the Council is considering emergency ordinances.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANKATO HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The local emergency declaration enacted on June 21, 2024, be continued.
2. The City Manager and appropriate city staff continue to invoke all available disaster planning and authority, both local and interjurisdictional, and authorize deployment of appropriate community containment and mitigation strategies including authority to authorize aid and assistance under the applicable local and interjurisdictional plans.
3. The City Manager and appropriate staff utilize the city's emergency preparedness plan and use the portions that are necessary for response to and recovery from the emergency.
4. As part of that plan the City Manager may enact emergency personnel actions, direct the performance of public work, enter into contracts as necessary related to the emergency, incur obligations and rent equipment as necessary to address the emergency and invoke emergency administration of collective bargaining agreements as needed. During the period of this emergency, the city and labor unions may temporarily suspend collective bargaining, negotiations, grievance processing, and labor management committee meetings, and may engage in any other administrative enforcement activities, administrative penalties, and fees as they arise and are deemed necessary based on the existing emergency.
4. The Director of Public Safety for the City of Mankato or other official of the City designated by the City Manager may prohibit access to public and/or private areas damaged by the flood and deemed to be unsafe for access or whose safety cannot be reasonably ascertained.
5. The Director of Public Safety for the City of Mankato or other official of the City designated by the City Manager may prohibit access to public and/or private areas damaged by the flood and deemed unsafe by constructing or causing the construction of fences and other barriers around public and/or private property until the determination has been made that the property can be accessed safely.
6. Pursuant to Charter, this ordinance becomes effective upon adoption and shall automatically stand repealed as of the 61st day following the date of adoption, which is August 24, 2024, unless this Council repeals the ordinance by adoption of a repealing ordinance in the same manner as adoption of this emergency ordinance.

Adopted this 24th day of June 2024.

By: 
Najwa Massad, Mayor

Attest: 
Renae Kopischke, City Clerk