

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION NO. 2020- 5

A PROCLAMATION WAIVING CERTAIN PROCEDURES AND FORMALITIES PERTAINING TO THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZED CONTRACTOR LICENSES PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 2002-48.

WHEREAS, on or about March 1, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order No. 20-51, declaring a Public Health Emergency in the State of Florida because of the threat of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) to spread among humans, which may pose a threat to public health and safety and cause a threat to the entire State of Florida, including St. Johns County; and

WHEREAS, on or about March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order No. 20-52, which, among other things, waived procedures and formalities otherwise required by law for political subdivisions in accordance with the provisions of Section 252.38, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, St. Johns County Emergency Proclamation No. 2020-1 declared a state of local emergency, pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes and St. Johns County Ordinance No. 2019-40, because of the severe threat that COVID-19 poses to St. Johns County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020 and March 31, 2020, pursuant to section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners extended the state of local emergency for an additional seven (7) days; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has caused extensive concerns to the private citizens and public sectors in St. Johns County; and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County is exerting efforts to address emergency conditions and assist affected citizens and properties; and

WHEREAS, part of those efforts is to safely and expeditiously conduct the business of the County and to facilitate the conduct of economic activity and private business, while protecting the health, safety, and welfare of public officials, members of the public, the public sector, and private citizens; and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County Ordinance No. 2002-48 provides, among other things, for the examination, registration, and licensing of contractors in St. Johns County, including the review and approval of Authorized Contractors Licenses by the St. Johns County Contractors Review Board (CRB), if the CRB, following personal appearance of the applicant, determines all licensing requirements of Ordinance No. 2002-48 have been satisfied; and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County, as well as members of private business and the general public, have raised concerns about the ability of St. Johns County to facilitate, or not impair, economic activity and the conduct of private business through the issuance of Authorized Contractors Licenses, while protecting the health, safety, and welfare of public officials, members of the public, the public sector, and private citizens in light of COVID-19 and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance regarding social distancing and avoiding gatherings of more than ten (10) people; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order 2020-52, Emergency Proclamations 2020-1, 2020-2, and 2020-4, and St. Johns County Ordinance No. 2019-40 authorize the waiver by St. Johns County of procedures and formalities required of the County by law or by County ordinance, policies, rules, or regulation pertaining to, among other things, the performance of public work and the taking of whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, during the pendency of the state of local emergency, the waiver of certain procedures and formalities of Ordinance No. 2002-48, specifically that license applicants must personally appear before the CRB prior to approval, furthers the public interest by allowing for the safe and expeditious conduct of the business of the County and the facilitation of economic activity and private business, while protecting public health, safety, and welfare and following CDC guidance regarding social distancing and gatherings.

NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with the emergency power vested in the County pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and St. Johns County Ordinance No. 2019-40, it is hereby ordered:

1. The above recitals are hereby incorporated into the body of this Proclamation and adopted as findings of fact.
2. The definitions set forth in Section 1 of Ordinance No. 2002-48 are hereby incorporated into this Proclamation.
3. The requirement of Subsection 7.D of Ordinance No. 2002-48 that an applicant for an Authorized Contractors License personally appear before the CRB as a prerequisite for the issuance of an Authorized Contractors License is hereby waived.
4. This Proclamation shall expire upon the expiration of St. Johns County Emergency Proclamation 2020-4, including any extension thereof.
5. This Proclamation shall be effective upon filing with the Clerk in accordance with Section 252.46, Florida Statutes.

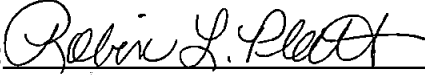
DONE and ORDERED this 31st day of March, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 

Jeb S. Smith
Printed Name

ATTEST: Brandon Patty, Clerk

By: 
Deputy Clerk

Rendition Date: MAR 31 2020

