

ORDINANCE NUMBER 844

AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT THE MAYOR EXTRAORDINARY POWERS TO PROVIDE FOR THE SAFETY AND HEALTH OF Wynne INHABITANTS AND FOR AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, “municipal corporations shall have the power to make ordinances which as to them shall seem necessary to provide for the safety, preserve the health of such corporations and the inhabitants thereof.” A.C.A. 14-55-102 Purpose generally); and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus presents a grave and growing danger to the health of our citizens and residents so that the City Council should empower Mayor Hobbs to take needed measures as recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Arkansas Department of Health, or other recognized scientific and health authorities to slow the spread of this pandemic; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WYNNE, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. That the City Council of the City of Wynne, Arkansas hereby enacts the following:
EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS PANDEMIC BY GRANTING NEW POWERS TO MAYOR HOBBS TO PRESERVE THE HEALTH OF WYNNE RESIDENTS.

WHEREAS, the City of Wynne’s most important duty is the perseverance of health and safety of its citizens and other inhabitants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WYNNE, ARKANSAS THAT:

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Pandemic now presents a grave threat of illness and death to every American and every Wynne resident; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that Wynne’s public health and safety require that the City Council place extraordinary powers with the Mayor’s authority to better protect our citizens during this pandemic emergency.

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED AND ENACTED that Mayor Hobbs shall have the following powers and duties during the City of Wynne efforts to protect its citizens beginning immediately upon the passage and enactment of this ordinance and emergency clause.

- (1) Mayor Hobbs may regulate or prohibit gathering of residents in public or private places serving the public, including revocation of current business licenses in accordance with city ordinance 812.
- (2) Mayor Hobbs may locally enforce recommendations for the Center of Disease Control (CDC), Arkansas Department of Health and other recognized scientific of health authorities with regulations or prohibitions of activities that could increase spreading of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- (3) Mayor Hobbs may take other necessary actions to promote and preserve the health and safety of our citizens and residents.

- (4) All regulations and actions taken by Mayor Hobbs pursuant to this ordinance during this emergency shall have the full force of law and shall be interpreted and enforced to Chapter 1: General Provisions of the Code of Ordinances, City of Wynne.
- (5) Any person or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of these regulations or fail to comply therewith or with any of the requirements thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be liable to a fine of no less than \$100.00 and no more than \$500.00 for each offense. Each day such violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 2: EMERGENCY CLAUSE. The Wynne City Council recognizes that Wynne and its citizens are under dire threat from the COVID-19 Pandemic and that our citizens' health and safety require that this ordinance granting the Mayor extraordinary powers to protect our citizens constitutes an emergency such that this ordinance must and will go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED in and for the City of Wynne, Arkansas this 14th day of April, 2020.

Jennifer Hobbs, Mayor

Kevin Watts, City Clerk