

RESOLUTION NO. 34-20

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS
ENCOURAGING THE USE OF MASKS IN RELATION TO
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

WHEREAS, an outbreak of COVID-19 (coronavirus) has resulted in an ongoing global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2020, Governor Hutchinson issued Executive Order 20-37, declaring that the emergency declared pursuant to Executive Order 20-03, and its amendments was terminated, and that **the public health and disaster emergency and declaration of the State of Arkansas as a disaster area resulting from the state-wide impact of COVID-19 was declared** and would be effective for sixty (60) days unless renewed; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2020, the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), released guidance regarding the use of face masks/coverings by the general public which asserts that ample evidence exists to support the efficacy of wearing face masks to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 including a study funded by the World Health Organization (WHO); and

WHEREAS, the afore-mentioned ADH guidance on masks recommends that the general public should wear face coverings in ALL indoor environments where they are exposed to non-household members and distancing of 6 feet or more cannot be assured. This includes, but is not limited to, workplaces, retail stores, businesses, places of worship, courtrooms, jails/prisons, schools, healthcare facilities, and other people's homes; and

WHEREAS, the afore-mentioned ADH guidance recommends that the general public should also wear face coverings in ALL outdoor settings where there is exposure to non-household members, unless there exists ample space of 6 feet or more to practice physical distancing; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) encourages the use of cloth face coverings to curb the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, during the month of March 2020, the Arkansas Department of Health issued multiple directives closing all dine-in opportunities for all bars, clubs and retail food establishments ; closing all nonessential functions of gyms and indoor entertainment venues; and, closing all barber shops and beauty salons, cosmetology establishments, and massage therapy clinics; and

WHEREAS, during the month of May and June 2020, the Arkansas Department of Health revised multiple directives allow retail food establishments, gyms and indoor entertainment venues, barber shops and beauty salons, etc. to reopen to the public with various limitations, but all subject to patrons and staff, who come in contact with patrons, being required to wear masks.

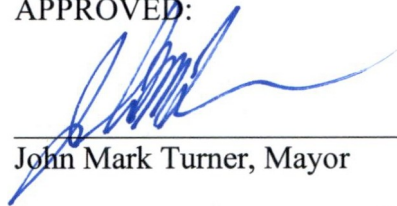
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS,
ARKANSAS:**

The City of Siloam Springs does not attempt to mandate the use of masks/facial coverings, nor does the City attempt to penalize those who choose to abstain from wearing such coverings. However, the City of Siloam Springs **strongly encourages all of those who may safely wear facial coverings to do so** in the effort to help curb the spread of COVID-19, in particular to protect the most vulnerable members of our state, as well as to ensure that the hard won progress made by the citizens of Arkansas in reopening our shared economy is preserved.

The City of Siloam Springs **strongly encourages all businesses that are subject to an Arkansas Health Department directive requiring the business to require patrons to wear masks do so** in the effort to help curb the spread of COVID-19, in particular to protect the most vulnerable members of our state, as well as to ensure that the hard won progress made by the citizens of Arkansas in reopening our shared economy is preserved.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this 7th day of July 2020.

APPROVED:



John Mark Turner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cil:tlctdi--C
Clerk (E. Ellis, City Clerk)

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