

March 10th, 2026
Town Council
Regular Meeting
Res. No.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACTING TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (VDEM) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REGARDING THE WINTER STORM FERN WEATHER EVENT

WHEREAS, on the evening of January 24, 2026, the Town of Warrenton experienced an extraordinary snow, sleet, and ice event, resulting in significant expenses to prepare, respond, and recover from Winter Storm Fern; and

WHEREAS, a Local State of Emergency was retroactively declared effective January 22, 2026, in accordance with Code of Virginia § 44-146.21, providing the necessary legal framework for emergency response and state-level financial aid eligibility; and

WHEREAS, the Town's newly established independent Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has successfully coordinated with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and various Town departments to document initial damages, which were originally estimated in excess of \$65,373; and

WHEREAS, through the diligent internal efforts of Public Works and Utilities staff, the Town has realized significant cost savings on equipment repairs while continuing to identify long-term damage; and

WHEREAS, the VDEM Public Assistance (PA) program provides a vital mechanism for the Town to recover eligible costs not covered by insurance, thereby protecting the Town's General Fund and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) allocations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Warrenton Town Council this 10th day of March 2026, that Interim Town Manager Martino is hereby authorized to execute and submit a Notice of Intent and all other necessary documents to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) to formally proceed with the Public Assistance (PA) process for Winter Storm Fern.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Emergency Management Coordinator is authorized to serve as the primary point of contact for VDEM and is directed to provide all required documentation, including Damage Survey Reports and Force Account labor records, to ensure the maximum allowable reimbursement of public funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any funds recovered through the VDEM Public Assistance program shall be applied toward the restoration of Town infrastructure, equipment, and the mitigation of future extreme weather impacts in alignment with the Warrenton Plan 2040.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

ATTACHMENT: None

Votes:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent from Vote:

Absent from Meeting:

For Information:

Interim Town Manager

Emergency Management Coordinator

ATTEST: _____
Town Recorder