

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR WARRENTON, VA

WHEREAS, on Thursday, January 22, 2025, Governor Spanberger declared a state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia based on National Weather Service forecasts indicating a severe winter storm with heavy snow, sleet, ice, and record-breaking subfreezing temperatures likely to cause significant transportation difficulties and power outages; and

WHEREAS, a potential, serious threat to public health, safety, and welfare was created by Winter Storm Fern in the Town of Warrenton beginning January 24, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the disruption in transportation routes threatens the delivery of public safety services and goods to citizens and businesses, requiring additional personnel, equipment, contractors, and resources to be mobilized; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2026, Interim Town Manager Christopher Martino, in his capacity as the local director of emergency management, issued a Declaration of Local Emergency to proactively address the impacts of the storm; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that on January 22, 2025, under the Code of Virginia § 44- 146.19 Powers and duties of political subdivisions, and § 44-146.21 Declaration of local emergency, a local emergency existed in the Town of Warrenton, Virginia.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED, that during the existence of said emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Emergency Manager and Emergency Management Coordinator of the Town of Warrenton shall be those prescribed by State law and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of the Town, in order to mitigate the effects of said emergency.

- All Town of Warrenton assets are hereby ordered to be placed at the disposal of the Town Manager or Emergency Management Coordinator
- All Town regulations prescribing procedures for the conduct of Town business, if strict compliance would hinder necessary action in coping with the emergency, are hereby suspended. Suspension of such procedures shall be at the direction of the Town Manager or designee.
- All employees of the Town are hereby directed to exercise the utmost diligence in the discharge of duties required of them for the duration of the emergency and in execution of emergency laws, regulations, and directives – state and local.
- All citizens are called upon and directed to comply with necessary emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials and emergency responders in executing emergency operations plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officials.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of Warrenton, Virginia, this day, February 10, 2026, that the Declaration of Local Emergency made by the Town Manager on January 22, 2026, which was furthermore terminated on February 4, 2026, as a result of Winter Storm Fern, is hereby confirmed.

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:

Town Manager

Town Emergency Management Coordinator

ATTEST: _____
Town Recorder