## Record of Resolutions

Resolution No.: 2020-88 Passed: November 9, 2020

## A RESOLUTION TO URGE GOVERNOR DEWINE AND THE OHIO LEGISLATURE TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR OPERATING PUBLIC MEETINGS ELECTRONICALLY

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, the Ohio Legislature passed House Bill 197, which included a provision to: allow state boards & commissions, local & county governments, and higher education boards to operate meetings electronically during the declared emergency but not beyond December 1, 2020, so long as the public is aware and can participate electronically; and

WHEREAS, Ohio has experienced a large spike of positive COVID19 cases recently; and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2020, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine called the virus a "red tide going all the way across Ohio", with approximately 29 Counties in Ohio currently at Level 3 – Very High Risk of exposure; and

WHEREAS, with the increase of the COVID-19 cases and the deadline of December 1, 2020 quickly approaching there is an immediate need to address the safety and security of our Ohio communities by extending this deadline; and

WHEREAS, it has been announced that Senator Fedor has introduced SB 365 to extend this deadline, which is a step in the right direction to preserve the health, safety and general welfare of all Ohioans.

## NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of West Lafayette, State of Ohio as follows:

**Section 1.** This Council and Mayor hereby urges Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio Legislature to approve an extension of the operation of public meetings to take place in an electronic setting until the Emergency is lifted.

**Section 2.** This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, necessary for the preservation of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the Village of West Lafayette, such emergency arising out of the immediate need for the passage of this legislation to ensure timely delivery to the Governor, state representatives and senators and be in force immediately from and after its passage.

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Passed on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November 2020

Stephen R. Bordenkircher, Mayor

Attest:

Amy Bourne, Fiscal Officer