ORDINANCE NO. 451

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION OF DISASTER AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND, PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.

WHEREAS: The City of Lytle, Texas is a duly incorporated Type A general law municipality existing under the laws of the State of Texas; and,

WHEREAS: On March 18, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Lytle, Texas, issued a proclamation declaring a local disaster and public health emergency for the City of Lytle, Texas, resulting from COVID-19 (novel coronavirus); and,

WHEREAS: On May 24, 2021, the City Council of the City of Lytle, Texas, modified and extended the Mayor's proclamation of March 18, 2020 until July 1, 2021; and,

WHEREAS: The Center for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of COVID-19 cases that have spread into the United States; and,

WHEREAS: As of June 28, 2021, over 2,545,000 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Texas; and,

WHEREAS: President Trump declared a national emergency on March 13, 2020; and,

WHEREAS: Governor Greg Abbott declared a public health disaster on March 13, 2020; and,

WHEREAS: Reports received as of June 28, 2021, report over 51,200 fatalities in Texas; and,

WHEREAS: Coronavirus as compared to the seasonal flu shows results of a huge fatality rate difference of 1% and 0.1%; and,

WHEREAS: Coronavirus as compared to H1N1, Swine Flu, had a fatality rate of only 0.02 percent; and,

WHEREAS: COVID-19 is more contagious than seasonal influenza once symptoms appear; it may be possible to control by testing widely and quickly isolating those who have the disease; and,

WHEREAS: The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the Texas Division of Emergency Management, and other state agencies continue their ongoing preparations so that all of state government is working together to limit the spread of the virus and protect Texans; and,

WHEREAS: The estimated difference between a 0.1 percent and a 1.0 percent fatality rate could result in 360,000 dead Americans; and,

WHEREAS: The responsibility of local, state and national government is dependent on how we respond when the difference in fatality rates demands extreme measures be taken to combat the
coronavirus as compared to the seasonal flu; and,
WHEREAS: The United States Center for Disease Control recommends that citizens stop
handshaking, clean hands at the door, schedule regular hand washing, avoid touching faces and
cover coughs and sneezes, disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, tables, desks, and handrails
regularly, and increase ventilation by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning; and,

WHEREAS: If you are not fully vaccinated, the Center for Disease Control recommends the
use of videoconferencing for meetings when possible, adjusting or postponing meetings or
gatherings of more than ten (10) people, and to limit travel to essential travel; and,

WHEREAS: If you are fully vaccinated, the Center for Disease Control recommends that you
wear a mask when traveling, avoid crowds, practice social distancing and wash your hands often;
and,

WHEREAS: The Center for Disease Control recommends citizens stay home if they are feeling
sick or when they have a sick family member in their home; and,

WHEREAS: Households with vulnerable seniors and those with underlying health conditions
should conduct themselves as if they were a significant risk to the person with underlying
conditions; and,

WHEREAS: A large gathering of unidentifiable individuals without necessary mitigation for
the spread of infection may pose a risk of the spread of infectious disease; and,

WHEREAS: A declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to
reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to
undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including
isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation,
including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or
evacuated and request assistance from the Governor of state resources; and,

WHEREAS: The COVID-19 virus spreads between people who are in close contact with one
another through respiratory droplets; and,

WHEREAS: The continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of
widespread illness, which requires emergency action; and,

WHEREAS: A declaration of local disaster includes the ability to take measures to reduce the
possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, and promote the health and safety of Lytle
residents; and,

WHEREAS: The City of Lytle will work collaboratively with Atascosa, Medina and Bexar
Counties to ensure that all appropriate and necessary measures are taken to limit the
development, contraction and spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS: The conditions necessitating declaration of a local disaster and public health
WHEREAS: Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code provides that a local state of disaster and/or public health emergency may not be continued for a period in excess of seven days without the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LYTLE, TEXAS:

Section 1. RENEWAL AND EXTENSION OF DISASTER AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION.

A. That the local disaster and public health emergency proclaimed for the City of Lytle, Texas, by the Mayor on March 18, 2020, and as herein modified, is hereby renewed and shall continue until 11:59 p.m. on September 1, 2021 and shall be subject to further modification, renewal and extension by the Lytle City Council.

B. Citizens shall continue to follow the Governor’s emergency proclamations.

Section 2. REPEAL. Any provision contained in the City of Lytle’s Code of Ordinances that is in conflict with the terms of this Ordinance is hereby repealed.

Section 3. CODE OF ORDINANCES. It is the intention of the City Council of the City of Lytle that this ordinance shall become a part of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lytle and may be renumbered and codified therein accordingly.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Section 5. SEVERABILITY. If any section, provision, subdivision, clause, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged or held unconstitutional or invalid, it shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any other part of provision contained herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 28th day of June, 2021.

RUBEN GONZALEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JOSIE CAMPA, City Secretary