The Emergency Council Meeting for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville, held in Building B of the Town Hall Complex, was called to order by Mayor Shull at 6:00 P. M. Members present were Mayor Shull, Council Member Etheredge, Gambrell, Cain, Speech-Lemon, Mitchell, Wise, Prouse, and Hall.

Mayor Shull turned the floor over to Attorney Spradley to go over *COVID-19 EMERGENCY ORDINANCE #2020-02*. Due to the state of emergency which continues to exist in the Town of Batesburg-Leesville, the following provisions are being placed into motion:

- 1. The Batesburg-Leesville Hospitality Tax is suspended. Beginning April 13, 2020, no further amounts shall be collected by food service providers. All amounts collected prior to the suspension are due and payable immediately. The Hospitality Tax shall resume and be in full force and effective on June 5, 2020.
- 2. Effectively immediately, no penalty shall be assessed for late payment of water bills, which shall expire on June 5, 2020.
- 3. Effectively immediately, there shall be no penalty for late payment of business license fees, which shall expire on June 5, 2020.
- 4. All town park equipment is closed to public use. Open areas such as tracks and greenspace will remain open as long as social distancing is observed. This has already taken place.
- 5. Section 1-3-7 of the Batesburg-Leesville Code of Ordinances is modified to allow attendance at meetings by video conferencing. Votes cast by video conferencing will be counted. The Town Manager is to select an appropriate application and send instructions to Council Members and staff as to installation and use. It is up to the individual Council Member and staff member to install and become familiar with the application if they chose to avail themselves of this option.
- 6. Section 1-3-5 (6) of the Batesburg-Leesville Code of Ordinances is suspended until such time as a safe alternative is put into place. This will suspend public comment during regular council meetings until staff is able to provide a safe platform for comments to take place.
- 7. All previous Emergency Ordinances are renewed as if passed again on this date.

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These provisions shall become effective immediately and shall stay in place until revised/removed by a further vote of Council, upon the passing of <u>60 days or upon the end of the emergency situation</u>.

A motion was made by Council Member Hall with a second by Council Gambrell to adopt as written. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE:

9 Approved

0 Denied

A motion was made by Council Member Cain with a second by Council Member Gambrell to adjourn at 6:13 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE:

9 Approved

0 Denied

Approved this 13th day of April 2020.

Lancer D. Shull, Mayor

ATTEST:

rudy E. Edwards, Town Clerk