RESOLUTION NO. 2021 – 132
AUTHORIZATION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Pandemic Emergency of the second wave of COVID-19 constitutes a serious hazard to lives in the City of Cullman and places a strain upon the area healthcare resources; and

WHEREAS, Cullman Regional has requested that the City of Cullman, pursuant to its authority under ALA CODE§ 11-45-1 and CODE§31-9-10 (1975), to provide for the health and safety of persons and property, find it in the best interest of the City due to the climbing hospitalizations accredited to Covid-19 and its variants, to assist the Hospital in providing medical services by providing Fire/EMT and Police services on-site, at the large event occurring this weekend; and

WHEREAS, Governor Kay Ivey issued an Executive Order on August 13, 2021, declaring a state of emergency in the State of Alabama regarding Covid-19 in order to ensure that healthcare resources may be primarily used to fight Covid-19 and the newly formed variants of the virus and allow hospital staff to insure proper care for those in the hospital and other health care needs; and

WHEREAS, ALA CODE§31-9-10 (1975) provides the power and authority for a political subdivision such as the City of Cullman to declare a state of local emergency and to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of a political subdivision by law, including but not limited to:

a. Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
b. Entering into contracts;
c. Incurring obligations;
d. Employment of temporary workers;
e. Utilization of volunteer workers;
f. Rental equipment;
g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities;
h. Appropriation of expenditure of public funds.
i. To assign and make available duty the employees, property, or equipment of the city relating to firefighting, engineering, rescue, health, medical and related service, police, transportation, construction, and similar items or services for emergency management purposes, within or outside of the physical limits of the political subdivision.
j. To assist medical services within or outside of the physical limits of the political subdivision during the State of Emergency as the Council and/or Mayor see fit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 19th day of August, 2021, that the second wave of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) poses a serious threat to the residents of the City of Cullman, Alabama, and the local healthcare system/resources that a State of Local Emergency has been declared, effective 7:00 p.m., on this date for the City of Cullman, Alabama.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 19th day of August, 2021.

ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR this the 19th day of August, 2021.

President of the City Council

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk
August 18, 2021

Dear Mayor Jacobs and Members of the Cullman City Council:

Due to exigent circumstances within the healthcare industry (hospital and ER overcrowding, bed shortages, labor shortages, and an ambulance crisis, etc.), I am requesting on behalf of Cullman Regional that the City of Cullman, pursuant to its authority to provide for the health and safety of persons and property, find it in the best interest of the City to provide Fire/EMT and Police services on-site at the event this weekend. The hospital is providing medical support this coming Saturday and will need assistance due to the large crowd that is expected.

Your first responder presence and assistance will help Cullman EMS to maintain current response times for Covid related issues within the city during the event and will also allow reasonable staffing of our hospital. In addition, use of equipment is requested. The items needed are a 20x40 tent, power supply, and air conditioning.

As you know, Governor Kay Ivey has declared a new State of Emergency due to the dire medical resource situation caused by the Covid-19 resurgence. As of yesterday, according to Alabama Hospital Association President Dr. Don Williamson, there were 1,562 total staffed ICU beds in the state and 1,560 patients in need of ICU care, leaving Alabama hospitals with a net of two ICU beds remaining.

Therefore, under your powers and authority, along with the recently issued State of Emergency, I am requesting your on-site assistance and availability for the upcoming event this Saturday in the form of Fire/EMT and Police services, as needed, to assist with the current medical services, and to prevent further strain upon the delivery of healthcare for our citizens.

Sincerely,

Nesha Donaldson  
Chief Operating Officer