

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Faye Stewart, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: REAFFIRMATION OF DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

DATE: January 16, 2024

Background

On Saturday January 13, 2024 a severe winter storm hit the City and surrounding area. Freezing began at approximately 10:00 am and by 3:30 pm the entire City was without power. The storm caused trees and tree branches to fall taking down utility lines, damaging structures, and blocking most if not all the City streets. At the time of writing this memo, nearly 78 hours later the City remains without power.

City staff has worked 24 hours per day maintaining services and responding to the needs of the community. A warming site has been operating at City Hall and a second site was established Monday evening January 15th at the Hwy 99 Shelter.

On Sunday, January 14, 2024 at 8:55 am I issued a Local Declaration of State of Emergency as trees continued to fall further damaging City infrastructure and local utilities. A second storm may hit the City and surrounding area on January 16th and 17th with more freezing rain and potential flooding.

The Declaration of State of Emergency as issued is attached as along with the Declaration of Emergency notice that was sent to Lane County.

Any Declaration of State of Emergency issued by the City Manager or Emergency Manager must be reaffirmed by the City Council within 10 working days.

City Staff will be keeping track of all time and equipment used to address the emergency. If the emergency is recognized, State or Federal funds might be identified to recover some of the costs. The City Council will have to take action to rescind the declaration when the event is over. After the declaration is rescinded staff will prepare a report to the City Council.

Recommendation

That the City Council, by motion reaffirm the Local Declaration of State of Emergency issued by the Interim City Manager on Saturday January 13, 2024 at 8:55 am and authorize the Mayor to sign the Local Declaration of State of Emergency.

Cost

Costs to address the emergency will be determined.

Faye Stewart, Interim City Manager