

CITY OF NEWPORT

R E S O L U T I O N
OF THE
C O U N C I L
No.

WHEREAS, the dangerous health effects of Covid-19 pandemic prohibited the Newport City Council from meeting in the City Hall Chambers starting on March 23, 2020; AND

WHEREAS, the City Council met all State of Rhode Island Open Meetings requirements using the Zoom platform from March 23 to June 24, 2020; AND

WHEREAS, public participation in Council meetings using the Zoom remained strong; AND

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2020, the Council voted to convene meetings in the City Hall Chambers using a Council Chambers/Zoom hybrid necessary to comply with Rhode Island's social distancing requirements while allowing Open Meetings public participation; AND

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 numbers continue to hold steady in Rhode Island putting Administration, Staff and Council at risk for infection; AND

WHEREAS, the technological integration of the hybrid model has been difficult to implement restricting the public's engagement in Council meetings; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Newport City Council meetings return to the Zoom platform starting August 12, 2020 until the public can fully contribute or until the Covid-19 epidemic numbers lower to satisfactory levels; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Council thank the Administration and Staff for their hard work during this very challenging time.

LYNN UNDERWOOD CEGLIE
JEANNE-MARIE NAPOLITANO
KATHRYN E. LEONARD

IN COUNCIL
READ AND PASSED

Laura C. Swistak
City Clerk