

CHAPTER 9
CIVIL EMERGENCIES

SECTION 1:

A. Definitions

1. A civil emergency is hereby defined to be:

a. A riot or unlawful assembly characterized by the use of actual force or violence or any threat to use force if accompanied by immediate power to execute such force by three (3) or more persons acting together without authority of law.

b. Any natural disaster or man-made calamity including flood, conflagration, cyclone, tornado, earthquake or explosion within the corporate limits of the Town resulting in the death or injury of persons or the destruction of property to such an extent that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

2. Curfew is hereby defined as a prohibition against any person or persons walking, running, loitering, standing or motoring upon any alley, street, highway, public property or vacant premises within the Corporate Limits of the Town during the hours in which a curfew has been imposed, excepting persons officially designated to duty with reference to said civil emergency.

B. Proclamation by Mayor

When in the judgment of the Mayor a civil emergency as defined herein is deemed to exist he shall forthwith proclaim in writing the existence of same.

C. Imposition of Curfew

After proclamation of a civil emergency by the Mayor, he may order a general curfew applicable to such geographical areas of the Town or to the town as a whole, as he deems advisable and applicable during such hours of the day or night as he deems necessary in the interest of the public safety and welfare.

D. Additional Regulations

After proclamation of a civil emergency the Mayor may also in the interest of public safety and welfare make any and all of the following orders:

1. Order the closing of all retail liquor stores.
2. Order the closing of all taverns.
3. Order the closing of all private clubs or portions thereof wherein the consumption of intoxicating liquor and/or beer is permitted.
4. Order the discontinuance of the sale of beer.
5. Order the discontinuance of selling distributing or giving away gasoline or other liquid flammable or combustible products in any container other than a gasoline tank properly affixed to a motor vehicle.
6. Order the closing of gasoline stations and other establishments, the chief activity of which is the sale, distribution or dispensing of liquid flammable or combustible products.
7. Order the discontinuance of selling, distributing, dispensing or giving away of any firearms or ammunition of any character whatsoever.
8. Order the closing of any or all establishments or portions thereof, the chief activity of which is the selling, distribution, dispensing or giving away of firearms and/or ammunition.
9. Issue such other orders as are immediately necessary for the protection of life and property.

E. Emergency Powers

During the period of a declared state of emergency the Mayor shall have the power to invoke any or all of the following provisions:

1. Alcoholic beverages.

No person shall consume any alcoholic beverages in a public street or place which is publicly owned or in any motor vehicle driven or parked thereon which is within a duly designated restricted area.

2. Weapons.

No person shall carry or possess any rock, bottle, club, brick or weapon, who uses or intends to use the same unlawfully against the person or property of another.

3. Incendiary Missiles.

No person shall make, carry, possess or use any type of "Molotov Cocktail", gasoline or petroleum base fire bomb or other incendiary missile.

4. Restricted Areas.

No person shall enter any area designated by the Mayor as a restricted area unless in the performance of official duties or with written permission from the Mayor or his duly designated representative, or such person shall prove residence therein.

F. Penalties

Any person violating any provisions of this Ordinance shall be punished in accordance with the provisions as set forth in Chapter I, Article III of the Code of the Town of Williamsport.

Reenacted: September 11, 1989

Chapter 31 in 1989 Codification