AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS OR MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ST. CHARLES COUNTY AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING LOCAL, STATE, AND/OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS, DUE TO THE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization officially declared a pandemic due to the Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) COVID-19, and on March 13, 2020, Missouri Governor Michael L. Parson declared a State of Emergency in Missouri to assist with the State’s response to this health threat; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann declared that a State of Emergency exists in St. Charles County, Missouri, to assist with the St. Charles County’s response to the health threat posed by SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes Novel Coronavirus 2019 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, County government must continue to provide essential government services to its citizens and provide for the public health and safety of the residents of St. Charles County; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all governments across the region and requires a regional response; and
WHEREAS, St. Charles County Department of Emergency Management is working with federal, state, and local agencies to further effective cross-jurisdictional response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and need timely approval of the agreements and memoranda of understanding necessary to achieve such effective response; and

WHEREAS, any Agreement between St. Charles County and another political subdivision shall outline the duties of the parties; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 70, Revised Statutes of Missouri, authorizes intergovernmental agreements between political subdivisions for the operation of a common service and for the purposes herein set out; and

WHEREAS, the St. Charles County Charter, Article II, Section 2.528 provides that the County may cooperate or join by contract or otherwise with any political subdivision to provide a common service; and

WHEREAS, the St. Charles County Charter, Article II, Section 2.529 of the Charter of St. Charles County provides that the County Council shall have the power to exercise legislative power pertaining to public health and welfare, police and traffic, building construction, and planning and zoning, in the part of the County outside incorporated Cities, Towns, and Villages, and on such other subjects as may be authorized by the Constitution or by applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the St. Charles County Charter, Article II, Section 2.532 of the Charter of St. Charles County provides that the
County Council shall have the power to provide for disaster planning and civil defense as required by applicable law or deemed appropriate for the County; and

WHEREAS, the St. Charles County Charter, Article II, Section 2.605 states that to meet a public emergency affecting the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare, the Council may adopt emergency ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The County Executive, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding with other government, including local, state, and/or municipal governments, for the purposes of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, including but not limited to necessary support for a shared IT system; providing temporary housing facilities for first responders and to protect their families from being exposed to COVID-19; joint purchasing and procurement agreements; joint law enforcement efforts; joint emergency response efforts; and joint infrastructure and support necessary for effective regional response.

Section 2. Any Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding related to COVID-19 shall be in a form approved by the St. Charles County Counselor’s Office.

Section 3. Compliance with the terms of any Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding related to COVID-19 shall be the responsibility of the appropriate County
department as designated by the Director of Administration.

Section 4. The County Executive, or his designee, is hereby further authorized to execute amendments to or renewals of such Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding for St. Charles County, related to COVID-19, and any such amendments or renewals shall be in a form approved by the St. Charles County Counselor’s Office.

Section 5. Declaration of Emergency. The St. Charles County Council has previously declared an emergency exists, as set forth in the Emergency Declaration of the County Executive, and as confirmed by the increasing number of positive cases of COVID-19 in St. Charles County. It is necessary for all local governments to act in concert and efficiently allocate and reallocate resources to respond.

Section 6. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval and shall be valid upon lawful execution of the agreements or memoranda of understanding by the appropriate officials of each governmental entity entering into such agreements or memoranda of understanding as required by Chapter 70 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

_______________________________________
DATE PASSED

_______________________________________
DATE APPROVED BY COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Emergency Ordinance re Agreements due to COVID-19.4-20.G