

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY
FOR THE TOWN OF NEW MILFORD, CONNECTICUT
PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTIONS 502 (f) and 808(d)**

WHEREAS, the Housatonic River ("River") flows through the entire north to south length of New Milford including through Sega Meadows and adjacent to River Road and has strong currents, large freestones on the riverbed and deep pools; and

WHEREAS, there is no Connecticut DEEP swimming protection or patrol, crowd management nor lifeguards and there have been four drowning in the River at or near Sega Meadows in the past two years, and

WHEREAS, numerous issues relating to hazardous water use, camp and cook fires, garbage, waste and trash accumulation and parking continually arise so as to cause public safety threats of drowning and from fires, human waste, unsanitary garbage disposal and hindrance of first response vehicles should rapid-action and rescue become necessary, placing the public and first responders at risk of harm, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has received requests for intervention from the New Milford Fire Marshal and first response agencies relating to the current above-described state of affairs it is critically important that the Town take action, and

WHEREAS, the Town through its Mayor, has authority pursuant to New Milford Charter section 808 (d) to declare a public safety emergency and take all reasonably necessary action in his judgment to attempt to ameliorate the above-described conditions and reduce the threats to public safety,

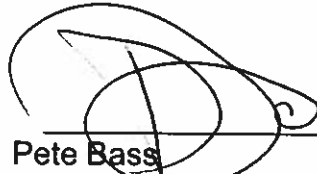
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED pursuant to New Milford Charter Sections 502 (f) and 808 (d), that the Town is in a state of a local public safety emergency as a result of the above-described conduct and resulting conditions which conditions constitute threats to public safety and life..

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that, during the existence of said local public safety emergency I, Pete Bass, as the Town of New Milford's chief executive officer and chief administrative officer, shall assume and exercise the powers, functions, and duties prescribed and provided by law, including but not limited to the Connecticut General Statutes, New Milford Charter Sections 808(d), 501 and 502, including the power and authority to temporarily suspend the effect of regulations of other municipal agencies, place signage, suspend and/or regulate parking and deploy police personnel together with and in addition to all rights and authorities provided for under the Town's Code of Ordinances, and may take such action as necessary to protect the public health and mitigate this emergency consistent with pertinent constitutional, statutory, regulatory, Charter, and Ordinance provisions; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that this state of emergency shall remain in effect until terminated by further order; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that this Order shall be available for review and inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town of New Milford during regular business hours and shall be posted at both the Town Clerk's Office and on the Town's website at www.newmilford.org and a copy sent to the State Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

Dated: July 27, 2022



Pete Bass
Mayor of the Town of New Milford, CT

Attested:


~~Noreen Prichard~~ *Gale Finardec*
Deputy Town Clerk
Town of New Milford

