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<th>Council Member</th>
<th>Intro</th>
<th>Second</th>
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<th>No</th>
<th>Abstain</th>
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<td>Von Rudenborg</td>
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<td>Deputy Mayor Canestrino</td>
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CITY OF HACKENSACK

RESOLUTION NO. 159-20

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY “NO-CASH” POLICY FOR TAXES, FEES, ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS DUE TO THE CITY OF HACKENSACK

WHEREAS, Coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) is a contagious, and at times fatal, respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus; and,

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation’s healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Phillip D. Murphy issued Executive Order No. 103, which declared a Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency exists in the state of New Jersey due to COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 103 states that “the spread of COVID-19 within New Jersey constitutes an imminent public health hazard that threatens and presently endangers the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of one or more municipalities or counties of the State;” and,

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was declared to be a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency pursuant to his constitutional and statutory powers, including those granted by Sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. § 1601, et seq.) and consistent with
Section 1135 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 1320b-5); and,

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, to further protect the health, safety, and welfare of New Jersey residents by reducing the rate of community spread of COVID-19, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 104, which established statewide social mitigation strategies for combating COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2020, Governor Murphy issued Executive Orders Nos. 107 and 108, which adopted additional social distancing requirements, including restrictions on the operations of non-essential businesses; and,

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2020, the extent of the COVID-19 pandemic in the State of New Jersey had reached a level that prompted Governor Murphy to declare that “we’re at war;” and,

WHEREAS, the total number of recorded COVID-19 cases in the state of New Jersey as of April 1, 2020 has climbed to more than 22,000, including over 350 fatalities, with an expectation that these numbers will increase substantially; and,

WHEREAS, scientific evidence exists that virus that causes COVID-19 can linger on various surfaces, including money, for an indeterminate length of time; and,

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has recommended that people stop using cash whenever possible in order to prevent the possible spread of the virus; and,

WHEREAS, governmental entities, businesses and citizens throughout the world are taking steps to reduce the excessive handling of cash; and,

WHEREAS, the Hackensack Tax Collector’s office acts as the City’s central cashier and thus collects a substantial amount of cash each year; and,

WHEREAS, out of an abundance of caution, and given that cash regularly flows through the Tax Collector’s Office, the City Council believes it is prudent to issue a temporary “no-cash” policy to require all payments to the City to be made by alternate means; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council will constantly monitor this policy and make adjustments whenever required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Hackensack that through May 31, 2020, the City will
temporarily not accept cash as payment for taxes, fees, assessments and other obligations due to the City of Hackensack; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager is authorized to make adjustments to this policy as events warrant during this period, and to grant exceptions to this policy so long as in his judgment any such exception does not negatively impact the health and safety of City employees; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager is authorized to extend this policy for a period of up to sixty (60) days past May 31, 2020 if in his judgment it is required for the health and safety of City employees; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution shall be prominently posted at City Hall in an area that remains open to the public, if any, and posted on the City’s website.

**CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY OF THE RESOLUTION PASSED AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF HACKENSACK HELD ON APRIL 7, 2020.**

[Signature]

DEBORAH KARLSSON, CITY CLERK