

RESOLUTION 2025-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA, RATIFYING THE STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY IN BELLEAIR DECLARED BY THE MAYOR DUE TO HURRICANE HELENE AND ITS POTENTIAL THREAT OF HARM TO THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OF THE TOWN OF BELLEAIR; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION DATE.

WHEREAS, as of September 24, 2024, Hurricane Helene posed a serious potential threat to the residents and property of the Town of Belleair; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Helene had the potential to cause extensive damage to public utilities, public buildings, public communication systems, public streets and roads, public drainage systems, commercial and residential buildings and areas; and

WHEREAS, it was therefore necessary for the Town of Belleair to take protective measures to ensure the safety of its residents; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2024, the Governor of the State of Florida promulgated Executive Order 24-208 declaring a State of Emergency as a result of Hurricane Helene; and

WHEREAS, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners declared a State of Emergency effective on September 24, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, provides authority for a political subdivision such as the Town of Belleair to declare a State of Emergency allowing the Town to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of political subdivisions by law pertaining to:

1. Performance of public work and taking whatever action is necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the community.
2. Entering into contracts;
3. Incurring obligations;
4. Employment of permanent and temporary workers;
5. Utilization of volunteer workers;

6. Rental of equipment;
7. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation of supplies, materials and facilities;
8. Appropriation and expenditures of public funds.

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Town of Belleair issued a Proclamation of Emergency on September 24, 2024, providing for declaration of a state of emergency within the Town of Belleair.

WHEREAS, Hurricane Helene made landfall near Perry, Florida at around 11:10 PM on the 26th day of September, 2024; and

WHEREAS, as of November 2, 2024, the conditions causing the State of Local Emergency to be declared regarding Hurricane Helene were no longer present; and

WHEREAS, while the Town experienced severe weather conditions, the Town's emergency response and various departments have been able to manage the situation and no extraordinary powers are expected to be needed as of the date of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA, DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. Each of the above recitals are incorporated herein as the findings of the Town Commission.

Section 2. A State of Local Emergency presented by Hurricane Helene existed effective 12:00 PM the 24th day of September, 2024, for all territory within the legal boundaries of the Town of Belleair, Florida.

Section 3. The Town Commission ratifies the Mayor's proclamation of emergency and the waiver of any procedures and formalities as provided in Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, including any measures taken by the Town Manager to respond to the emergency.

Section 4. The State of Local Emergency presented by Hurricane Helene is hereby terminated effective November 2, 2024.

Section 5. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA, THIS 14th day of January, 2025.

Mike Wilkinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Christine Nicole, Town Clerk

Approved as to form:

Jay Daigneault, City Attorney