**Chapter 9**

**EMERGENCY, STATE OF**

**Sec. 9-4. Continuity of Operations**

1. Town Council, Planning Commission, Town board, committee or commission may, at their election, conduct previously scheduled meetings or special meetings and act upon scheduled or proposed agenda items before them for the duration of the emergency declaration thereafter, under normal procedures or by solely electronic means in compliance with public notice, access, and other requirements of Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) to the extent practicable.
2. In the event that a public hearing matter is deemed by the applicable governing body to require action during the emergency declaration, the public hearing may be conducted by an open public comment period in which electronic public comment period shall be advertised electronically by the Town Clerk and public comments shall be submitted in writing electronically or otherwise and the Clerk shall provide such public comments to the Town Council or other governing body prior to their vote.
3. During the period of the emergency declaration citizens are encouraged to email all public comments to the Town Clerk in lieu of attending the Town Council meetings.