

City of Winterset

Press Release

\*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*

March 17, 2020

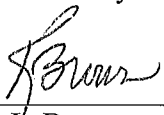
Following the Governor's announcement that COVID-19 has now become community spread, and following her recommendations to limit public exposure, starting on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all City facilities will be closed to the public. We will continue to monitor the situation and will make a determination about reopening city facilities as the situation evolves.

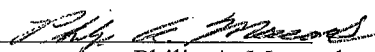
We are encouraging the public to conduct their business with the City electronically or over the phone whenever possible. In cases where that does not work, we will make arrangements to accommodate you. For your reference the following are already available to our customers:

1. Utility accounts can be paid online: by credit or debit card through our website or by phone. You can also submit your payments through the secure drop box outside city hall. The drop box will be checked numerous times per day.
2. The building department will work with you on permits and inspections. You can make your payments by dropping your payment off at the drop box or calling in with your credit or debit card. Inspections will continue; however, they will be done in a manner which restricts exposure. Again, call for more information.
3. Park & Recreation – please use the online system for making all registrations. When or wherever cancelations are necessary, we will work to refund those days.

If you are not feeling well, please stay home. The virus is transmitted by way of droplets when you cough or sneeze and can live on surfaces for up to six hours. That being said, it is not a tough virus so it can be killed by using our normal flu protocols. Wash your hands, don't touch your face, stay home if you are feeling sick.

We, as a city, have taken precautions to make sure our employees and their families are safe, as well as making sure we can provide the services you need and deserve during this challenging time. Each department has come up and is engaged in a plan to ensure that staff members remain healthy and are available to serve you. Although some services may be temporarily suspended, rest assured that everything will be back to normal as soon as possible. As Governor Reynolds said, "Now is the time for all Iowans to come together and do the right thing." We are Iowa nice. We look out for one another. This is only temporary. Be patient. We will get through this. Be that Iowan, do the right thing.

  
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Kelley L. Brown  
Winterset City Administrator

  
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Philip A. Macumber  
Winterset Mayor