

City of Mequon Community Alert: COVID-19

Friday, March 13, 2020 - 4:00 p.m.

The City of Mequon, in coordination with the Washington/Ozaukee Public Health Department, as well as other state and federal agencies, is closely monitoring the recent increase in respiratory illnesses caused by a new Coronavirus (COVID-19). COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that can be transmitted from person-to-person. Symptoms include a fever, cough, and shortness of breath. At the present time, there have been a growing number of cases (19) confirmed in Wisconsin, yet the risk of contracting the virus remains very low.

To date, the City has been monitoring the spread of COVID-19 both regionally and nationally. Even though the virus has not yet been identified in our immediate area, the City, like many other organizations and institutions across the country, is following the CDC's recommendations. Most recently, City has implemented proactive measures at all its facilities through increased sanitation procedures. Regular operations also continue across all City Departments, yet the organization is prepared to modify the delivery of services to the community as conditions may otherwise dictate. Currently, the City's Police and Fire Departments are equipped to respond to COVID-19 cases and any other calls for service; as is the case in any emergency, residents, and businesses are advised to call 911 if immediate assistance is required.

During what may be a prolonged period where contact with other members of the public is discouraged and/or avoided, residents will continue to have access to several City services. Below are some helpful links to online City resources that can be accessed telephonically or electronically:

- City Website: www.ci.mequon.wi.us
- Staff Directory: www.ci.mequon.wi.us/directory
- Payments: <https://www.ci.mequon.wi.us/finance/page/bill-payment-resources>
- Agenda, Minutes & Videos: <http://mequoncitywi.iqm2.com/Citizens/default.aspx>

Furthermore, the City is ready and able to help residents with inquiries by phone. The City's main phoneline numbers are:

- City Hall: (262) 242-3100
- Public Works Department: (262) 242-3500
- Police Department (non-emergency): (262) 236-2019
- Fire Department (non-emergency): (262) 242-2530

Additionally, the April 7 primary election is approaching in the coming weeks. Those that are limiting contact with others are encouraged to have an absentee ballot mailed to their home. This can be done by visiting www.myvote.wi.gov or by contacting the Mequon City Clerk's Office at: 262-236-2912 / cfochs@ci.mequon.wi.us. Another option to avoid lines on election day is in-person absentee voting. In-person absentee voting can be completed during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) at City Hall between March 23 - April 3. As of now, the City Clerk's Office will be moving all in-person absentee voting to the Council Chambers in City Hall in order to

reduce human contact. The Common Council Chambers are accessible through City Hall's Cedarburg Road entrance.

In past elections, Special Voting Deputies routinely visited the Mequon residential care facilities to assist residents with voting. On March 12, Governor Evers issued Executive Order #72, prohibiting Special Voting Deputies to conduct balloting in residential care facilities. Alternatively, ballots will now be transmitted to these affected voters by mail. For a more complete explanation, please view the Wisconsin Election Commission's website at: <https://elections.wi.gov/index.php/node/6712> or contact the Mequon City Clerk's Office at 262-236-2912 / cfochs@ci.mequon.wi.us.

As the community navigates circumstances related to the spread of this virus, residents are again encouraged to follow the CDC's recommendation to follow basic hygiene practices. Wash your hands with soap and water, cover your coughs, and stay at home and away from other if you are sick or feeling ill. For additional information regarding COVID-19, please visit:

The CDC's website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html>

The Wisconsin Department of Health at: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm>

The Washington Ozaukee County Public Health Department at: <http://www.washozwi.gov/>

The City appreciates the patience from Mequon residents and the community at-large as collectively, we work through this quickly evolving situation together. Further updates will be provided via the City's regular communication channels (City Website, the Mequon Weekly Bulletin, Facebook, etc.) as conditions warrant, and as new or updated information becomes available.