



PRESS RELEASE

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE

Release 2

For Immediate Release: March 18, 2020

Contact: Mayor Robert B. Mielke, 715-261-6800

The City of Wausau has been monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic very closely and over the past couple of weeks has been taking action internally to ensure we are ready for whatever comes next. The City is being proactive with our entire workforce by implementing significantly intense cleaning and disinfection requirements and practicing social distancing. We are minimizing in-person meetings, minimizing travel outside the area, encouraging use of sick leave when appropriate, scheduling meetings and daily work orders are provided via email rather than full group/crew meetings. Some divisions have moved employees to second shift to help maintain critical services and also separate the workforce to mitigate spread of any virus.

Your City government is focused on ensuring continuity of all services through the duration of this pandemic. We know over the next few weeks there will be a large increase in the number of cases in Wisconsin as testing has just begun over the past few days and test results are taking about 7-days. We have already been preparing the best we can with the information we know at this time. New and changing information will be coming in daily and we will continue to adapt and make decisions based on any new information provided to us. We are currently following the CDC Guidelines the best that we can and still ensure continuity of services City wide. The guidelines we continue to follow can be found at the following links:

Wisconsin Health Department Coronavirus information can be found at

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm>

CDC information about the Coronavirus can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Marathon County Health Department information can be found at <https://www.co.marathon.wi.us>

Again, our focus here at City Hall, both elected officials and staff, is to ensure a continuity of service for all residents within the City of Wausau. Our focus is to ensure we find ways to continue to operate efficiently, effectively and ensure critical decisions are made during this challenging time. We are finding ways to hold meetings remotely and still ensure open meetings laws are met to ensure citizens are informed of City business. Elections are still scheduled for April 7 and early voting still remains open to residents. Voting stations are being kept clean as possible throughout the day and we are taking every recommended precaution to prevent the spread of any disease, for the workers and the general voting public.

We encourage all residents to follow CDC guidelines to mitigate the spread of any disease. Please stay calm and patient, we are all in this together. As more information comes forward and any changes to City services are made will be forthcoming in future press releases. Thank you.