

Greetings from your Mayor.

I'm sure all of you are aware of the Covid-19 situation. As you know the situation is changing daily, and it is something that none of us anticipated.

Our Chief of Police Paul Falls is also our Emergency Management Director and has been in constant contact with Hennepin County Emergency Management and Hennepin County Public Health.

Like you, I have been following the situation via the news media. I have also been in contact with our staff on a regular basis to determine how this will affect our residents and staff and how we can keep as many people from contracting this disease.

Our number one priority is to ensure that we can continue to provide all essential city services; such as police protection and fire service as well as adequate water supply.

To this end we have closed the lobby at city hall effective today, March 17<sup>th</sup> until further notice. For now we will still be processing building permits, land use applications and other applications. You will be able to drop off forms and other applications and/or payments in the vestibule during normal business hours. For now you will also be able to pick up forms if you call and make a request. Our phone lines will still be open and we will also be addressing/answering emails. This may change as we continue to move through this pandemic.

Our police department will be open as usual. There will be no civil finger printing or child car seat inspections until further notice. If you have an emergency you still need to call 911.

I have made a Statement and Determination regarding conducting Council meetings. Starting Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> we will be conducting Council meetings via telephone until further notice. Minnesota State Statutes, section 13D.021 authorizes cities to meet in this manner under certain circumstances. We are researching ways to be able to include the public for these meetings. Please check our website frequently for updates.

Our first and foremost concern is to keep you - our residents safe and healthy as well as our staff so they can continue to deliver city services.

If you need temporary financial assistance WECAN may be able to help. They are currently closed to in-person services. However, they may take phone calls. Their

Number is: (952) 472-0742

Some of the area churches are volunteering to help with grocery delivery.

Check with your church or simply call any of the local churches to see what they are offering.

Please practice the recommendations by the CDC and Minnesota Health Department. A link is provided on our web site.

Stay safe and healthy.

Your Mayor

Lisa Whalen