

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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## **City of Kaukauna Declares Public Health Emergency**

KAUKAUNA, WI (March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020) – Effective immediately, Mayor Tony Penterman has declared a Public Health Emergency in the City of Kaukauna in an effort to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus (Coronavirus).

As of this morning, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the City of Kaukauna. However, cases are popping up in nearby counties, including Outagamie and Winnebago, as well as throughout the state. We are proactively trying to minimize the spread of this virus locally.

Beginning Tuesday, March 17th, the City of Kaukauna will take the following precautions:

- The following City buildings will be closed to the public until Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>
   (except for early voting at the Municipal Services Building beginning Monday,
   March 23<sup>rd</sup> and the Municipal Services Building and the SPAR Building for voting
   on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>):
  - Municipal Services Building
  - Fire Station
  - Streets, Parks, and Recreation (SPAR) Building
  - 1000 Islands Environmental Center



- Kaukauna Public Library
- Kaukauna Utilities
- Committee and Council meetings will be held as normal. However, while these
  meetings are open to the public, we ask that you use your best judgment when
  attending. With any public comment or concern, please contact the Mayor's office
  or your district alderperson.
- April 7<sup>th</sup> Election Absentee ballots to vote are available by mail. You can request one at myvote.wi.gov. For those without internet access, you can contact our City Clerk's office at 920-766-6300 for assistance. In-person early voting starts March 23 as scheduled and polling locations will still be open and operating normally for anyone who prefers to vote in person on Election Day.

Even though our buildings are closed to the public, City services will continue as normal. With questions, we encourage you to call, email, or use our website to contact the appropriate department. A page has also been created on the City website dedicated to updating residents on the COVID-19 situation. To follow along with updates from each City department, visit our website at https://cityofkaukauna.com/covid-19-info/.

The following recommendations have been made by the CDC to help prevent the spread of this virus:

- Know how this virus spreads. There is currently no vaccine to prevent the coronavirus. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed.
- Clean your hands often. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. And if you yourself are sick, stay home.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissues in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Nonessential travel for all individuals is discouraged.

Please call your healthcare provider if you experience symptoms including cough, fever, or other respiratory problems. And follow along with these websites for updates as this situation evolves:

- Outagamie County https://www.outagamie.org/government/departments-f-m/health-human-services/public-health/communicable-disease/covid-19-2019-novel-coronavirus
- WI Department of Health Services https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm
- CDC https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

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## PROCLAMATION OF A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS**, in December 2019, a novel strain of the coronavirus now named Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) was detected and has spread throughout many countries, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and the United States Department of Health and Human Services has declared a Public Health Emergency; and the Governor of the State of Wisconsin has declared a public health emergency, as defined in Section 323.02(16); and

WHEREAS, the existence of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Wisconsin, constitutes a condition within the City posing an imminent threat of disaster within the meaning of Chapter 323 of the Wisconsin Statutes that could impair medical care, health protection, and other critical systems of Outagamie County; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kaukauna is responsible for the well-being of the public it serves and its employees and must undertake efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the emergency could cause the City to expend, commit and exhaust all of its available resources; and could request state assistance and advises the State of Wisconsin of our emergency conditions; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED**, by the Mayor, that a local public health emergency, as defined in Section 323.02(16) of the Wisconsin Statutes, now exists for the City of Kaukauna and shall remain in effect for 60 days unless by proclamation otherwise; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 323, as Mayor of the City of Kaukauna, in testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the great seal of the City of Kaukauna to be affixed.

Done at the City of Kaukauna this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

Anthony Penterman, Mayor City of Kaukauna