

CITY OF BERLIN PRESS RELEASE

The City of Berlin is closely monitoring the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 12, 2020, Governor Tony Evers declared a public health emergency for the State of Wisconsin due to COVID-19. Municipalities are beginning to pass emergency declarations as a precautionary measure at this time to enable the City to effectively respond as needed if the situation escalates and urgent decisions need to be made.

As information and updates are changing hour by hour and minute by minute, we will continue to monitor the situation closely. The City of Berlin is following recommendations from local, state and federal agencies in order to establish preemptive measures to assist in reducing the spread of COVID-19. For symptoms, precautionary measures and the latest information from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) regarding COVID-19, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> or Department of Health Services (DHS) www.dhs.wisconsin.gov.

The City of Berlin's top priority is the health, safety and welfare of our community and its residents. The City of Berlin has taken initial steps to address these top priorities for our community and safety of our City employees, as well as ensuring the continuation of essential city services in the case the pandemic escalates in our area. The following measures have been taken to date:

- Public Health attended the March 3 Committee of the Whole meeting to address COVID-19 issue and provide guidance to residents on best practices to minimize the impact of the virus.
- Review and evaluation of policies and procedures to ensure public health; recommendations are met to ensure essential services are maintained and minimize any potential disruption to services.
- Enacting preventative measures to reduce potential public exposure to COVID-19 in regard to meetings and other City events.
- Signage regarding preventative measures from the CDC has been posted in and around City facilities.
- Cleaning and sanitizing of high traffic surfaces in City buildings has been heightened along with ensuring hand washing and sanitizing supplies are available.
- Utility workers entering homes for normal maintenance procedures will be suspended until further notice and utility emergencies will be assessed on a case by case basis. Residents can continue to use and drink water from their tap as usual.
- With the April 7 election, we encourage residents to consider getting an absentee ballot by contacting City Hall or going to MYVOTE.WI.GOV and choosing Vote Absentee at the upper right corner of the page.
- The Senior Center will be closed until further notice as the elderly are particularly susceptible to COVID-19; however, the essential services of providing Senior Nutrition

program meals and Senior Transportation for essential needs, such as grocery shopping and medical appointments, will continue.