

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, one of the greatest responsibilities of any elected official is the protection of the electorate served and the protection of the greater public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses a serious and potentially deadly threat to the public and the public health as the Federal Center for Disease Control ("CDC") has noted that serious illness occurs in 16% of cases with older people and people of all ages with severe chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease, lung disease and diabetes or those who are immunocompromised, seeming to be at a higher risk of developing serious COVID-19 illness and noting that the World Health Organization has determined COVID19 to be a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, across the globe, the disease has been dramatically spread through contact by those with no known correlation to any affected areas or without contact with those known to be infected, called "community spread" and the Iowa Department of Public Health ("IDPH") has now identified community spread in multiple area in the State of Iowa and has issued new recommendations for individuals with underlying medical conditions, and all Iowans should be prepared for cancellations and disruptions in routine activities; and

WHEREAS, a high rate of infection has been shown to overwhelm medical systems throughout the world and numerous governmental entities and epidemiologists have stated that community spread in the United States poses the same risk of overwhelming American medical systems; and

WHEREAS, the IDPH has recommended the immediate implementation of several mitigation measures to have the most significant impact on slowing the spread of the virus, including avoiding large gatherings of more than 10 people, and considering adjustments for smaller gatherings with high risk groups; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Iowa has issued a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency on March 17, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 372.14(2) and the City of Dyersville Code of Ordinances Section 15.02(2) grant the Mayor powers in circumstances when public danger or emergency exists to take extraordinary steps to protect the public health and safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOREGOING AND OTHER VALID EMERGENT CONCERNS, I, JAMES A. HEAVENS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DYERSVILLE, PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING:

I hereby determine that a state of emergency or public danger exists and direct that all gatherings of 10 people or more on public property or public right-of-way are hereby prohibited and any permits or permissions previously granted are hereby rescinded and any amounts paid for such permits shall be refunded upon request.

I further determine and direct the Police Chief to enforce such direction to avoid any such gatherings on public property and public right-of-way, whether formally or informally organized.

I further strongly suggest, consistent with the recommendations of the IDPH, that private gatherings of 10 or more people on private property should be avoided and appropriate adjustments for smaller gatherings with high risk groups should be made.

For the protection of the residents, program participants, their families, and city staff, I hereby cancel all City of Dyersville recreational programs through at least April 12, 2020. All program registrations will be suspended until April 12, 2020.

I hereby cancel all City Board and Committee meetings through at least April 12, 2020.

I hereby issue a moratorium on the issuance of special event permits and solicitor's licenses through at least May 1, 2020.

I hereby close all City owned buildings to public access beginning March 17, 2020 through at least April 12, 2020.

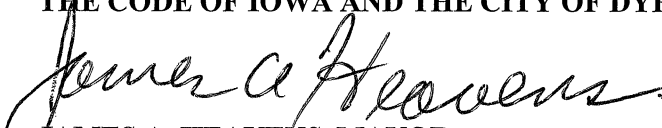
City staff in these buildings shall work to provide services to the public electronically, by phone, by mail, and when possible, by appointment as well as access to information and the ability to participate in meetings by alternative means.

I hereby determine and direct the City Administrator to evaluate the ongoing operations of the city organization and adjust operations, accordingly, including the authority to further restrict access to facilities.

Per City of Dyersville Code of Ordinances Section 15.02(2), the public is advised that the violation of a mayoral proclamation of emergency or of any subsidiary proclamation thereto evidencing the exercise of emergency powers or of any rule or order issued pursuant thereto by the mayor or city administrator of any order issued pursuant thereto by any peace officer or of any directive issued by designated emergency management or emergency services personnel pursuant thereto shall constitute a violation of that section and shall be punishable as a misdemeanor as provided by Title 1, Chapter 4 of the city code.

This Proclamation of emergency and public danger is part of an ongoing response of the City of Dyersville to an ever-changing situation to protect public health and safety. This proclamation may be modified or superseded with more restrictive proclamations at any time as circumstances warrant. Please be aware these decisions have been made based upon the information available today. You can find the most recent information about the City's response to COVID-19 at www.cityofdyersville.com.

PROCLAIMED THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH 2020 BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CODE OF IOWA AND THE CITY OF DYERSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES.


JAMES A. HEAVENS, MAYOR
CITY OF DYERSVILLE