

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

A Message from Mayor Steve Myers



March 17, 2020

Dear Citizens of Pacific,

I want to assure everyone that the City has been working very hard to prepare for the impacts of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). We have been in constant communication with City staff departments, elected officials and our partners through Pacific and beyond: Pacific Fire and EMS, Meramec Valley R-III Schools, St. Louis County and Franklin County governments, Governor Mike Parson, Missouri Municipal League and many others. **This is a crisis unlike any most of us have ever faced.** However, our community has rallied together many times in the past, and I have no doubt that we can weather this storm as well! However we will need the cooperation of all residents and businesses as we face this threat.

Citizens should know that City Hall will remain open for regular business hours, though we may need to scale back certain operations. We are sanitizing all surfaces regularly at City Hall and will do so until further notice. We are asking people to do City business by phone, email or Internet as much as possible, and we will continue to work on ways to improve our capabilities in this regard. **Please find a list of City Hall phone numbers and email addresses elsewhere on this notice.** Our Police officers interact with the public on a daily basis, but until further notice they will need to take all reasonable health precautions to protect both themselves and the public we serve. Please be cooperative at all times with those men and women sworn to protect us. The City will continue to do building inspections and occupancy inspections, and our Public Works Department will continue to respond to residents as necessary, but again all our employees will take all reasonable safeguards necessary to protect both themselves and the public health.

With respect to City meetings, we are investigating alternate ways to continue to conduct City business, likely through either audio or electronic means. Required public hearings will be postponed until further notice. All Pacific Municipal Court dates will be cancelled until May, 2020. Board of Aldermen meetings will continue, but again may be conducted through electronic or other means. At all times we will conduct our business in accordance with Missouri law and directive.

We would note that City water and sewer customers may pay their utility bills online at www.pacificmissouri.com; **Click on Online Bill Pay to enter the bill pay portal.** Like many other utility providers, the City will suspend water shut-offs for non-payment until further notice. However, people should understand that late fees and penalties will continue to apply.

The City has also created a website where information will be posted: <https://www.pacificmissouri.com/271/Coronavirus-Information>, and we will also communicate through the City's Facebook page and phone notification system, if necessary.

It is very important that citizens are informed with facts dealing with the Coronavirus issue and are receiving information from reputable sources and not from sources spreading hearsay. It is very sad that some people would attempt to use this situation for political gain or to cause unnecessary concern just to increase viewership or readership but, in my opinion, that very thing is happening.

Folks should also guard against fraudulent scammers who are trying to make a quick buck. If you are approached by someone trying to get your private information or attempting to sell you something relating to the Covid-19 outbreak, be very cautious before proceeding with any transaction and check their references with the Better Business Bureau (bbb.org / (314) 645-3300) and / or the Missouri Secretary of State office

(sos.mo.gov / 573-751-4936). People are also welcome to report scams or fraudulent activities to the Pacific Police Department, 636-257-2424.

As of this writing (March 16) there are six confirmed cases of coronavirus in Missouri. These cases are contained and we understand the individuals are expected to recover. However we do understand that it is likely that we will see more cases, including some in the local area. We are hopeful that the containment measures put in place by federal and state authorities, with the cooperation of our citizens, will help keep the spread of this virus to a minimum.

The general guidance we are receiving is to advise all citizens to avoid gatherings of 10 or more people, and to take other reasonable health precautions:

- ◆ Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for last least 20 seconds
- ◆ Avoid close contact with those who are sick
- ◆ Avoid large crowds where the risk of exposure may be higher
- ◆ Do not travel unnecessarily
- ◆ Don't touch your eyes, mouth or nose, especially with unwashed hands
- ◆ Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that are frequently touched
- ◆ Stay home if you are sick
- ◆ Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue

Please don't hesitate to contact any of our City officials for help or for more information.

May God bless you and your families as we go through this difficult time together.

Thank you,



Mayor Steve Myers
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City Hall phone numbers / extensions / email addresses

City Hall 636-271-0500. Extensions: Code Enforcement 196 gwatson@pacificmissouri.com; Accounts Payable / Park Rentals 211 jfuszner@pacificmissouri.com; ; City Administrator 213 sroth@pacificmissouri.com; ; City Collector 214 dkelley@pacificmissouri.com; ; Utility Billing and Building 215 rae.pacificmissouri@gmail.com; Community Development Director 216, bkopp@pacificmissouri.com; ; City Clerk 217 kbarfield@pacificmissouri.com; ; Court Clerk 218 mallen@pacificmissouri.com; ; Building Inspector 219 swaggoner@pacificmissouri.com; ; Deputy City Clerk 223 dhayden@pacificmissouri.com.

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