

City of Burlington, IA Emergency Proclamation

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses a serious threat to the public health and safety of the City of Burlington, Iowa, as outlined by the Center for Disease Control (“CDC”); and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Public Health (“IDPH”) has now determined that community spread of COVID-19 has occurred in the State of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has recommended that persons do not congregate in gatherings of over fifty (50) persons to attempt to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the general public; and

WHEREAS, “*The President’s Coronavirus Guidelines for America: 15 Days to Slow the Spread*” recommends no public gatherings with more than 10 individuals for the next 15 days, through March 31st; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Burlington has agreed with the need for the Mayor to exercise the power vested in the Mayor’s position by Section 372.14(2) of the Code of Iowa (2019) to declare an emergency and govern through proclamation to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Burlington, Iowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jon D. Billups, the duly elected mayor of the City of Burlington, Iowa, do hereby proclaim the following:

1. That a state of emergency or public danger exists within the City of Burlington because of the threat of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
2. That based upon the advice of the CDC and other public health agencies, I hereby declare the Burlington City Hall will be closed to the public beginning upon the execution of this Proclamation. Staff shall report as normal. Citizens may utilize various alternatives for paying bills, getting permits, and conducting any other City business. Official meetings of the Burlington City Council and other boards and commissions shall be open to the public as required by law, though this will be done through an electronic format including call-in procedures as possible.
3. That again based upon the advice of the CDC and public health agencies; I furthermore hereby declare the Burlington Public Library will be closed to the public beginning upon execution of this Proclamation. Staff shall report as directed by the Library Board of Trustees. Further information on options for accessing library services will be publicized on the City and Library’s websites and Facebook pages.
4. That again based upon the advice of the CDC and public health agencies, access to the Burlington Police Department, Burlington Fire Department, Burlington Public Works, and Burlington Sewer Plant, shall also be closed to the general public beginning upon the execution of this Proclamation. People needing service from these departments are encouraged to use normal call in numbers for the appropriate level of service. Staff shall report as normal.
5. That again based upon the advice of the CDC and public health agencies, I declare that access to the Senior Center and the Depot will be closed to the public beginning upon execution of this proclamation.

6. All Park and Recreation organized activities are suspended immediately until further notice.
7. That pursuant to CDC recommendations, gatherings of ten (10) or more people are strongly discouraged until further notice.
8. That this Proclamation of Emergency may be modified and/or superseded by future proclamation of the Office of the Mayor of Burlington, Iowa as future events warrant.
9. That all aspects of this proclamation of the Office of the Mayor of the City of Burlington, Iowa, shall be enforceable by the Burlington Police Department and any violation of the same shall result in prosecution under State law and/or seeking of an injunction against further violations from the District Court.
10. More information will be shared with the public as it becomes available.

Dated this 17th day of March, 2020.

By:


Jon D. Billups, Mayor

Attest:


Kathleen P. Salisbury, City Clerk

