



City of Laurens, Iowa

"The Busiest Little Town in Iowa"

272 North Third St.
Laurens, IA 50554
Phone: (712)841-4526
Fax: (712)841-4611

Mayor
Rod Johnson

Council Members
Jean Swanson
Aaron Christenson
Rich Newgard
John Jamison
Julie Potter

**City Manager/
City Clerk**
Hilary Reed

**Deputy City
Clerk**
Joan Hoben

**Public Works
Director/Water
Superintendent**
Julian Johnsen

**Sewer
Superintendent**
Pete Runneberg

**Street
Superintendent**
James Litwiller

**Sanitation
Superintendent**
Dan Pomeroy

Police Chief
Tom Shaw

City Attorney
Ann Beneke

March 17th, 2020

Dear Citizens of Laurens, Business Community Members, and Visitors,

We wanted to take this time to share with you how the City of Laurens is responding to and preparing for the global COVID-19 pandemic.

City staff and city officials have been monitoring the status and impact of the coronavirus locally and statewide to make sure our community's actions are informed by the most accurate and authoritative information. We are continuously working with county, state, and federal health officials to best protect our residents and staff.

With that being said, at the March 16th City Council meeting, elected officials cautiously made the decision to close all city buildings to the public, including the Laurens Public Library, effective immediately until the end of March. This was not a decision that was made lightly, but in regards to the COVID-19 Pandemic, one that was deemed necessary. This decision will be reassessed on March 27th.

The City of Laurens, Laurens Municipal Power & Communications, and Laurens Congregate Meals intend to continue providing the valued services that you have come to depend on and utilize regularly. With the closings, we will have to alter these services to some extent.

- **Laurens Emergency Services**
 - Remain unchanged
 - The Laurens Police Department requests that persons calling for **NON-EMERGENCY** situations leave their phone number with the dispatcher at the Communications Center. Officers will return your call ASAP.
 - Please dial 911 in case of an emergency!
- **Congregate Meals**
 - Congregate Meals will continue with home delivery starting at 11:00 a.m.
 - **Carryout meals** are available. Meals may be picked up between: **11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
 - Please utilize the driveway to pick up meals from the Congregate Meal door on the south side of the building. Meals will be brought to your car for you.
 - If you are new to this service, reservations are required. Please call **841-2577** to make reservations or with any questions.



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- **Laurens Municipal Power and Communications**

- Payments for communications and utility bills may be made in the following ways:
 - Mail
 - Dropbox on the South side of the Municipal Building
 - Phone with credit or debit cards – call (712) 841-4610
 - Online (Utility Bills Only) at www.lmpc-ia.com
- New service installations for Communications services are currently on hold.
 - Service calls will be evaluated on a case by case basis.
 - Please call **(712) 841-4610** with any questions.

- **City of Laurens**

- Applications for Summer Help and Nuisance Contract Work Bid forms are still due April 1st. These may be left in the drop box.
 - If you need any applications or bid forms please call 841-4526 or email Hilary at laurencitymgr@laurens-ia.org
- Any previously scheduled meetings to be held in City Hall will no longer be allowed until further notice.
- City Council meetings moving forward will follow state recommendations and may move to electronic meetings. Updates will be given.
- Please call **(712) 841-4526** with any questions.

- **Laurens Public Library**

- Book Drop remains open.
- Check out the many online options at www.laurenspubliclibrary.com

We urge the Laurens community to be mindful of recent events and to use common sense and best practices regarding the Coronavirus. Please follow recommendations of health officials including proper hand washing, staying home if you feel ill, social distancing, and limitations of gatherings to less than ten people in order to protect yourself and others.

We realize this is not an ideal situation, but we appreciate and thank you for your understanding, patience, and cooperation. We need all hands on deck, but we will get through this together!

We will continue to monitor this situation and will provide updates as needed.