

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-01

WHEREAS, the undersigned, is the duly elected Mayor of the City of Knox, Indiana (“City”); and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 coronavirus (“Coronavirus”) has spread to Indiana, and based on information provided to my office by Federal, State, and County health officials, the potential rapid spread of the Coronavirus can be mitigated by limiting public interests; and,

WHEREAS, on or around March 6, 2020, Governor Eric J. Holcomb issued Executive Order 20-02, declaring COVID-19 a public health emergency and since then as issued several Executive Orders listing directives to control and reduce the global threat presented by COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has issued a statement that community-based interventions such as school dismissals, event cancellations, social distancing can help slow the spread of COVID-19. The CDC further recommends that individuals can practice everyday prevention measures like frequent hand washing, staying home when sick and covering coughs and sneezes. The CDC on March 15, 2020 issued guidance recommending that no gatherings of more than 10 people take place for at least eight weeks; and

WHEREAS, the City of Knox will continue to adhere to the guidelines issued by Governor Eric J. Holcomb and the CDC as new information becomes available in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, under the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Knox, Starke County, Indiana, it is hereby declared that:

1. Public access to the City of Knox City Hall and all other City of Knox municipal buildings shall be closed to the public effective Tuesday, March 24, 2020 through April 30th and only accessible to City employees and other persons deemed essential by the Office of the Mayor, the Chief of Police, the Fire Chief, and the City Clerk-Treasurer. All Police, Fire, Utility, and Planning and Code Enforcement services will remain operational. Residents are encouraged to use the payment drop-box and on-line or phone services for payments.
2. City Council and other Boards and Commissions meetings will be held only if necessary, to conduct essential City business.

3. The City of Knox will continue to offer City services, though some services will be restricted or delayed during this emergency. Services deemed "Essential Services," including public safety services and sanitation, planning and code enforcement will continue to operate with adjustments as appropriate to ensure employee and public safety. Appointments can be made for other essential business requests such as inspections, code enforcement, permits and/or utility related issues.

*MAYOR'S OFFICE 772-4553
CLERK-TREASURER/WATER UTILITY 772-3032
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY 772-4122
FIRE NON-EMERGENCY 772-4141
CITY COURT 772-3766
PLANNING/CODE ENFORCEMENT 772-5445*

4. All City of Knox Parks will continue to remain open for limited use. Visitors must utilize the rules of social distancing during any activity that includes interaction with other members of the public. Any gathering of more than ten (10) people is hereby prohibited. The parks will be available for walking, hiking, running or biking.

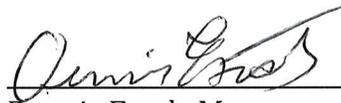
The following park amenities will be closed and unavailable for use:

Shelters
Basketball Courts
Baseball/Softball Fields and Dugouts
Playground / Exercise Equipment
Pickleball Court
Skate Park
Splash Pad

5. Stop the Spread of COVID-19 - Remember to wash your hands often, cough or sneeze into your elbow, avoid touching your face, stay more than 6ft apart and if you're sick – stay home.

This Order will be in effect immediately upon my signature and shall remain in effect until further notice.

Signed this 23rd day of March, 2020.



Dennis Estok, Mayor
City of Knox, Indiana