



April 3, 2020

Citizens of Camanche,

As we continue struggling through this COVID-19 pandemic, I would like to keep all of you informed and up to date on a more regular basis. My plan is to post a weekly update that would incorporate any changes in Governor Reynolds' emergency declaration as well as the city's emergency declaration and any other changes which would affect our citizens. These will be posted by late afternoon on Friday for as long as is necessary.

As most of you are aware, the governor has extended the school and "non-essential" business closings until the end of April. Unfortunately, it may be extended further. Health professionals do not expect to see the peak number of cases for at least another 2 or 3 weeks! Estimates are that over 2 million Americans will have been infected resulting in over 200,000 deaths by the time this is over. That means it is very likely your family or the family of someone you know will lose a loved one to this virus! There are already 15 confirmed cases in Clinton County as of today. The Iowa Board of Medicine is pressuring the governor to issue a shelter-in-place order! This is very serious folks! STAY HOME!! And when I say stay home, I don't mean take turns having parties at each other's homes! We already have community spread of this awful virus---let's not continue to help that spread! With that in mind, only leave your home if it is an absolute necessity. Absolute necessities are things such as food, medication and medical care. If you must go out, practice social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart from others). If you have access to a mask, wear one. Always wash your hands. You have heard all of this before, yet people still ignore the basic steps they could take to help us get through this so much faster! Also, to help limit the exposure to our city's public safety personnel, please only call in the event of an emergency! Keep in mind that we need these people to keep our city safe so any unnecessary exposure must be avoided. And please keep track of your dogs. Though it seems counterintuitive with more people being home, we've seen an increase in dogs at



large recently. These are avoidable situations which only expose our public works employees to others unnecessarily. Finally, DO NOT flush any wet wipes down the toilet!! There are wipes that claim they are safe for flushing, however, our sanitary sewer system is not designed to handle ANY wipes!! Also, this could further expose our public works department employees who have to tend to these situations. And, you may end up with a large plumbing invoice as individual sewer lines are more likely to become plugged.

City Council meetings have begun to occur electronically. This is allowed under Iowa Code and will continue to happen moving forward. Please check the City's website at www.camancheia.org to learn how you can attend the meeting electronically. You are able to phone in and listen or log in on the internet. You will also be able to participate in the meetings. We ask that you be patient with our first attempts at this new process. We are continuing to provide transparency while also maintaining safe human contact practices.

Lastly, I am in constant contact with all local and area leaders which allows us to share information. I would recommend subscribing to the City of Clinton, Iowa Youtube channel. Mayor Scott Maddasion will be doing live weekly updates every Thursday at 4pm throughout the entirety of this crisis. Much of the information contained in his updates comes directly from the governor, the Iowa Department of Public Health, Clinton County Emergency Management Agency and numerous other organizations. He has also agreed to present any information that the city of Camanche may deem important.

Let's be smart, people! If everyone does their part, we get through this much quicker! Stay safe, stay healthy and---most importantly---STAY HOME!!! God bless!

Mayor Trevor Willis