Office of the Mayor

CITY OF MANITOWOC

Proclamation

WHEREAS, 47 people in 10 counties in Wisconsin have tested positive for COVID-19 as of March 17th, 2020; and
WHEREAS, there are active cases in other counties in Northeastern Wisconsin; and
WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 in the United States as "high" and has advised that person-to-person spread will continue within the United States; and
WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, and can easily spread from person to person; and
WHEREAS, the federal and state governments have both declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
WHEREAS, the City of Manitowoc and its leadership has an obligation to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens and employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. NICKELS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MANITOWOC, as a result of the above-noted situation and under the powers vested in me by Article XI, Section 3 of the Wisconsin Constitution, and Wis. Stats. §§ 66.0101, Wisconsin’s Home Rule statute, as well as Wis. Stat. § 62.09(8), Wis. Stat. § 323.14 and Manitowoc Municipal Code § 3.410, declare that a state of emergency exists in the City of Manitowoc and deem it necessary and expedient for the health, safety, and protection of the city to suspend applicable ordinances, resolutions, and city policies as follows:

1. The following city facilities are ordered closed until April 6th, 2020:
   a. Manitowoc Senior Center
   b. Manitowoc Public Library
   c. Rahr-West Art Museum
   d. Lincoln Park Zoo
   e. Manitowoc Municipal Court
   f. Evergreen Cemetery office
   g. City parks restrooms will be locked
   h. All reservations made at city facilities are canceled
   i. City Hall will remain open for employees and voting. Citizens must request an appointment before visiting for any other purpose.

2. The Mayor is authorized to use public funds to respond to this emergency where he deems necessary.

3. Tax payments due March 31st, 2020 (second installment due date) may be submitted by mail or in the drop box on the west end of City Hall. The second tax installment that was due March 31st, 2020 will be extended to May 31st, 2020 (third installment due date) prior to being marked delinquent. No interest will be accrued during that period. Any current delinquent taxpayer from the first installment (that was due January 31st, 2020) will remain and interest will continue to accrue on that late payment. Additionally, animal licenses needing renewal that are paid by May 31st, 2020 will have no late fees. Other items including waiver of late/cancellation fees, interest, or the like may also be considered during this city emergency.

4. City department heads are authorized to apply for any applicable federal, state, or county aid that becomes available as a result of this pandemic.

5. City department heads are authorized to implement any federal or state law changes immediately until April 6th, 2020, and will follow up on the implementation at the next regularly scheduled common council meeting.

6. City department heads may approve telework or flexible work schedules for employees suitable to meet the needs of their departments, until April 6th, 2020 or further ordered by the Mayor.

7. All city employee travel outside the city limits for training or conferences is prohibited until April 6th, 2020 or until further ordered by the Mayor.

8. The Mayor is authorized to modify the city employee policy manual to ensure the safety and health of all employees.

9. City employees are directed to limit in-person contact with each other and the public until April 6th, 2020 or until further ordered by the Mayor. Meetings shall be conducted by phone or videoconference whenever possible.

10. Further suspensions of applicable ordinances, resolutions, and city policies may be taken should the circumstances warrant them necessary, in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Manitowoc.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Manitowoc to be affixed. Done at City Hall in the City of Manitowoc this 17th day of March, Twenty Twenty.

Justin M. Nickels, Mayor