

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

MAY 2020

Hello, everyone,

I hope you all are keeping safe and sane. I know some of you are cooped up with your kids, working from home and seeing way more of your spouse than you really care to. Some are still working and doing things they never expected. The stress can be intense and the ever-changing situation keeps everything off balance. One good thing I can see is that the way we see and treat each other has changed. We are taking precautions, giving space and showing appreciation for the people behind the scenes that maybe we took for granted before this. Thinking of others has shown up in more and more obvious ways. I am talking about the folks that are stocking the shelves or deliver the packages or just doing their job, but now we think about how they are at risk and, more importantly, are we putting them at risk unnecessarily. Thank you to those who are in the health care service. Your world has been completely turned upside down.

When things happen and there are no real experiences or history to look at and rely on, you start to realize that we will simply have to go through it and figure it out as we go. Like the country song says "If you're going through hell, keep on going." I know this is a dangerous and volatile situation, and the media's constant barrage of grim, negative and depressing reporting with death counts, finger pointing and blaming - while in the next breath saying: We are all in this together. Well, we are all in this together. This virus isn't political, racial or ethnic. It is a virus. How it got here doesn't matter at this point, as much as how we get through it now. Flattening of the curve isn't about people not getting the virus, it's about everyone not getting it all at the same time. I am not saying we should go out and try to get it. Heaven forbid! What I do think is over the next few months the majority of us will have contracted it at some level. I pray everyone makes it through as well as possible. I don't want to be negative, just realistic.

As you know, City Hall is closed to public contact until further notice. I told Barb she is not allowed to get sick! So please call her with whatever you need, and she will get you fixed up through non-contact methods. Thank you for keeping her and the rest of the city employees safe.

At some point, we will have to go back to living our lives. Maybe not quite the same as before, but hopefully not with fear or dread. We are resilient and adaptive; we will get through this. Please be responsible, don't put others at risk, prepare for the worst, and always remember our best days are still to come.

As always, thank you for your time.

Lonnie