

# Our City – COVID-19 – Essential Update

By: Mayor Marc Beitia

## 7:30 AM, March 18, 2020 – nine confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Idaho.

- There have been no confirmed cases in Power County or in the Southeastern Idaho Region for Public Health.
- The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare reports 353 people have been tested statewide.
- Recommended group or meeting size is 5 to 10 providing for appropriate social distancing (6 to 10 feet) in well ventilated areas.
- City Council will discuss COVID-19 implications for employees and citizens at 6:40 PM, in a work session prior to the regular Council meeting beginning at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be on Facebook Live on the American Falls Police Department page.
- The American Falls Police Department will be accepting donations of milk, eggs, cheese, bread, spare rolls of toilet paper, hand soap, dish soap and laundry soap. These items will be made available to the infirmed, elderly and isolated who have no one else to help provide for them. Times to drop off in the parking lot behind City Hall are at Noon, 2:00 PM, and 4:00 PM today, Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Additional donation requests to follow as needed. Watch this space.
- See the information below for other information about Our City and COVID-19.

## How you can help us help you:

- **Please practice Social Distancing** – 6 to 10 feet of separation between each other
- **Please practice Respiratory Hygiene** - sneeze or cough into your bent elbow
- **Please wash your hands frequently** - especially after touching hard surfaces and door knobs
- **Please disinfect hard surfaces regularly** – counter tops and door knobs
- **Please try not to touch your face** – eyes, nose or mouth
- **Please stay home if you are sick** – contact your healthcare provider

## New Information:

In an effort to minimize personal contact the doors to City Hall will be closed beginning on Thursday morning, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

- We are still working and providing the same services as always.
- Payments to the City can be made in the drop box.
- Payments received in cash exceeding the amount of the required payment will have a credit attached to the next month's payment and a receipt mailed to you with that next month's bill.
- Building permits and inspections can be made by appointment.
- Essential meetings with myself or other key personnel can also be made by appointment.
- Water, Waste Water (Sewer), Sanitation (Garbage) and Police services will continue.

- Police procedures have been modified to best protect both our officers and citizens.
- We will be maintaining our City Parks and paths and encourage you to use them; but to use social distancing (6 to 10 feet of separation) as you do so. Fresh air and activity are good for most of us.
- We will be developing similar protocols for the golf course in an effort to encourage those inclined to again get fresh air and exercise.

**New Services Provided:**

- If you are infirmed or in self-quarantine as directed by a doctor this service is for you.
- City personnel will be available to help you buy personal essentials and groceries.
- Service criteria include: you must be of limited mobility, feeble or weak in body or health, especially because of age or have been directed by a healthcare provider to self-isolate.
- Service phone number: 208-637-9241
- Service hours:
 

Monday through Friday	8:00 am. to 5:00 pm.
Saturday and Sunday	9:00 am. to Noon
- Protocol: Call the phone number above. The City employee receiving you call will have a series of questions for you to answer; one of those will be your preferred method of payment. A list of your needs will be taken. An American Falls Police Officer will come to your residence for the means of payment. A different City employee will gather all the items that are available in town that are on your list. The items will be given to the Police Officer to delivered back to you.
- This service will be limited to residences living within the City impact area; about three mile out of the City limits.
- This service will be limited to one delivery per week providing all the needed items on the list were able to be delivered. Those items not currently in stock will be delivered when they become available.

The City is providing this service in good faith in an effort to provide for the needs of those most vulnerable among us. This service is not intended to be for residence who actually have family or others who can provide similar assistance.