

CONTACTS: 1. DARIN WERNIG, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER 2. LOWE CANNELL, MAYOR FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, March 17, 2020

CITY OF FULTON ANNOUNCES OPERATIONAL CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19 Changes Affect City Meetings, Programs and Events

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City of Fulton has had to make many changes with the way it conducts business. Below are all of the changes that have been made as of Mar. 17, 2020. Changes to the list can occur quickly and often.

City Facilities (City Hall, Warehouse, etc.)

City facilities will be closed to the public until further notice. Staff will continue to work, and citizens may interact with City Hall staff through the drive-up utility window, the utility drop box on Court Street, through email, or by telephone at 573-592-3111. Solid Waste routes will continue as scheduled. Some city services may be conducted by appointment only. Appointments will take place outside of city facilities.

Animal Shelter

The Grabb Animal Shelter will operate by appointment-only, and will be closed to the public until further notice. Animal Shelter staff may still be contacted for assistance at 573-642-7443. Appointments will take place outside of city facilities.

Fire and Police Departments

The Fulton Police Department and Fulton Fire Departments will continue to have their restricted lobby areas open, although citizens are discouraged from visiting these locations unless absolutely necessary.

Utilities

In light of recent developments regarding the spread of COVID-19, the City of Fulton has suspended all utility disconnects effective immediately. There will be no penalties assessed during the month of March. Although City Hall will be closed to the public as of March 18, there are several ways to make your utility payment including: mailing a check, using our drop box, paying online, or coming to our drive-up window. The City encourages citizens to enroll in our

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automatic draft program. If you enroll, the City will automatically draft your bank account for the amount of your utility bill every month on the due date. That will reduce the need for inperson visits to City Hall and ensure that you never receive a penalty. If you wish to enroll, please call City Hall and request an enrollment form or come to our drive-up window.

Parks and Recreation Department

Parks & Recreation programs, activities, leagues, and events have all been postponed through April 17. All shelter reservations during this period of time are cancelled and will be refunded. No new reservations will be taken. Tanglewood Golf Course will allow daily play for individuals. Golf tournaments through April 17 will be cancelled, and no new tournament reservations will be taken. Park restrooms will be closed to the public until further notice.

Boards and Commissions

All Board and Commission meetings have been postponed until further notice. The City Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 25 has been cancelled. The City Council meetings will continue to be evaluated. Any further City Council meeting cancellations or postponements will be communicated to the public in a timely manner.

Use Tax Forum

The Use Tax Forums scheduled for March 18th and March 25 have been cancelled. This situation is fluid and policies will be reassessed frequently. Further changes will be communicated as decisions are made.

For more information or to schedule an interview regarding this story, please contact Public Information Officer Darin Wernig at 573-592-3115 or <u>publicinfo@fultonmo.org</u>.