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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BURLINGTON – COVID-19 (Update #11)

RE-OPENING CITY BUILDINGS / CITY SERVICES/ OVERNIGHT PARKING

On May 13, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court overturned the #Safer at Home order issued April 16, 2020 leaving many questions of how businesses and your local government will open. In the May 14 Press Release issued by Mayor Hefty, it was also noted the Wisconsin Legislature would perhaps issue a new set of rules and guidelines for citizens and business to follow.

Unless directed otherwise by Wisconsin Legislature, this Press Release will address how and when the City of Burlington will open its Buildings, provide various City Services and the immediate implementation of the Overnight Parking that was temporarily suspended during the Governor's Stay at Home order.

All City of Burlington Buildings will open on **May 27, 2020** in conjunction with the [Badger Bounce Back Program](#) and Racine County's [Rebound Report 2020](#). For community and employee safety, the City of Burlington will continue to take effective preventative steps to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). We will require **all** customers coming into City Buildings to sanitize their hands upon entrance, adhere to 6-foot social distancing requirement (floor will be marked), adhere to any directional signage **and wear a face covering into any City Buildings**. For your protection, City employees will also be wearing face masks. We will continue to increase cleaning in all buildings to ensure a sanitized environment. Should you not feel comfortable coming in person we will continue to provide public service via email, telephone, and US. Mail. Where possible, the City will continue flexible work options to ensure the safety of our employees.

City Services City Hall

First Floor City Hall looks a bit differently as we have installed plexiglass at our front counter. In accordance with Phase 1 we will only provide face to face customer service in City Hall to 4 customers at a time. A friendly reminder First Floor City Hall provides the following Services:

- Building Permits and zoning Matters
- Register of Deeds - Vital records and Land records
- Marriage licenses
- Tax payments and utility bill payments
- Licenses and permits
- Voter registration and absentee voting

Municipal Court Second Floor City Hall

In accordance with Phase 1 the Municipal Court Clerk will only provide face to face customer service for one person at a time and will only allow 5 people in the building at any given time.

Fines can be paid Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 8-4:30 and Tuesday/Thursday from 1-4:30. Anyone wishing to only drop off a payment may continue to do so in the drop box located on the door of the courtroom in the lobby of the police department.

Public Works – 2200 S. Pine Street

In accordance with Phase 1 Public Works will only provide face to face customer service in Public Works to 6 customers at a time. A friendly reminder Public Works provides the following Services:

- Utility Bill Payments
- Waste Oil Drop Off
- Florescent Bulb Recycling Drop Off
- Park Pavilion Rentals

Parks – Various Locations

Additional features within City Parks will open. A friendly reminder to respect others and practice social distancing from others enjoying the park open spaces and improvements.

- Playgrounds are open and equipment that had been removed will be replaced as quickly as staff can be deployed. Playgrounds will not be cleaned or sanitized and may present a risk for exposure to users. Parents are strongly cautioned about allowing their children to use the equipment. Use at your own risk.
- Drinking fountains are open. Drinking fountains will not be cleaned or sanitized and may present a risk for exposure to users. Users are strongly cautioned about using drinking fountains. Use at your own risk.
- Athletic fields are open.
- The Dog Park remains open.
- Trails remain open.
- Restrooms will remain closed. The Parks Department does not have adequate staffing or materials to be able to sanitize these facilities at a level necessary to ensure public health. The Parks Department shall endeavor to acquire staffing and materials to open restrooms as soon as safely possible.

Compost Site

Due to staffing obligations with other city services and maintenance, the extended hours offered at the compost site will end on Saturday May 16. The compost will then resume regular hours for the remainder of the season on Tuesday, May 19. The site will be open Tuesdays 2PM to 8PM and Saturdays 8AM to 4PM.

Action Steps for Police and Fire Departments

Police and Fire Services will continue full operations with additional measures implemented to protect the safety of you and our first responders.

Library

Burlington Public Library will continue to offer:

- Contactless curbside pickup service for library materials
- Information services by telephone, email, text, and chat to help patrons select materials for pickup and solve research inquiries
- A wide array of free digital resources, including e-books, audiobooks, films, and educational courses
- Daily virtual programming via Facebook
- Free wi-fi access from the Jefferson St. parking lot.

Once appropriate transparent barriers are installed, we will resume limited-duration in-person computer appointments and will expand our curbside pickup service to our full daily hours of operation. We will also be debuting new software to allow a safe, socially-distanced Summer Reading Program for all ages.

In addition to the guidance of the Rebound Racine report and the WEDC recommendations, the Library will also be utilizing the [Guidelines for Reopening Wisconsin Libraries](#) developed by the Department of Public Instruction in collaboration with libraries around the state to ensure safe service to the public as we reopen.

Overnight Parking

The City's Alternate-Side Overnight Parking ordinance had been suspended during the Governor's Stay at Home. As the order is no longer in effect, the Police Department will be enforcing the ordinance beginning immediately.

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