

Immediate Release:

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve and unfold across the nation, the City of Blair is continually monitoring the situation by working with Three Rivers Public Health and instituting measures to keep our employees, customers and residents safe. We appreciate your patience and understanding as this is an unprecedented situation and uncertain time for us all. City Administration is doing its best to make informed and compassionate decisions that balance the needs of both residents and employees. With the official Directed Health Measures “DHMs” being issued earlier this afternoon by Governor Ricketts and the Department of Health, the Blair Police department will be enforcing those “DHMs”. The City’s desire is to work for full compliance, so no official law enforcement action is needed. If restaurants, bars, and other establishments have any questions they should contact Three Rivers Public Health by calling 402-727-5396 or Blair Police Chief Joe Lager at 402-426-4747. The full DHMs can be found at <https://governor.nebraska.gov/press/gov-ricketts-announces-directed-health-measure-cass-douglas-sarpy-washington-counties>

The Blair City Council meeting scheduled for March 24th will be postponed until March 31st. The delay will allow City staff time to establish procedures for conducting the meeting, and future meetings, by teleconferencing in compliance with Governor Ricketts Executive Order No. 20-03. Once staff has the procedures established those procedures will be included in the meeting legal notices so that citizens and media can participate in the meetings. In addition, until further notice, the City office, Library, and Police Department offices will be closed to outside patrons except by appointment only. Patrons should call 402-426-4191 for City Hall or 402-426-4747 for the Police Department. Staff will continue to work, and someone will be available by phone from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday to answer questions. Patrons are asked to make all utility payments by mail, bank pay, by utilizing the drop box located next to the City Hall drive through, or by calling and using a credit card. After hour and weekend utility leaks or other “utility” emergencies should continue to be reported to 402-426-9661. Individuals and businesses needing building permits, applications for zoning actions, or building inspections should contact Shelly Jones or Brenda Wheeler for instructions on how to file at 402-426-4191. Should they determine that it is necessary to have a meeting with other staff members they will work with those individuals and businesses to get a meeting set up as quickly as possible that will allow staff to safely interact with the applicants.

Richard Hansen, Mayor