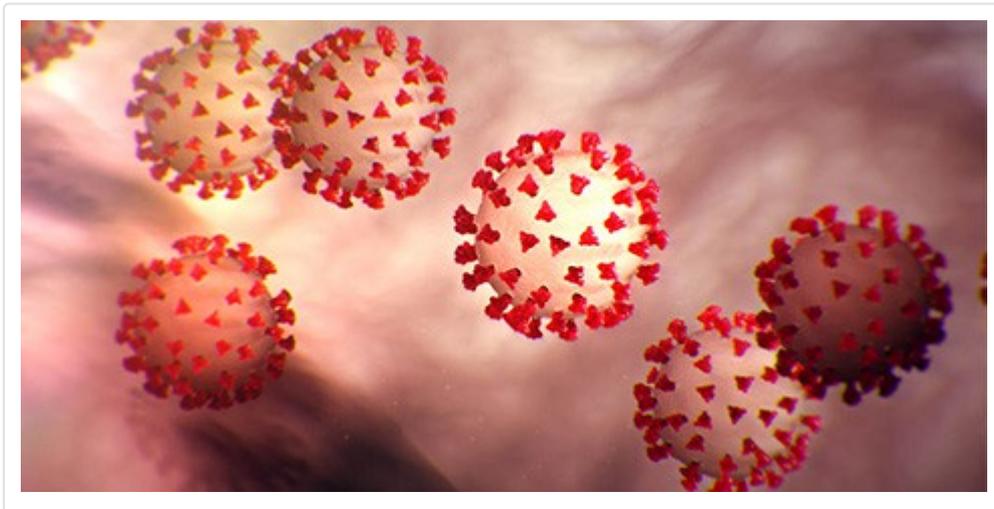


Mayor's Snapshot

March 20, 2020

Latest news and updates from Mayor Bob Severns



Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

City staff is working hard to keep our community informed and continuing to provide services as we learn more about COVID-19.

Our new Public Information Officer, Sabrina Combs, started working on Monday, March 16 and worked with staff to launch an informational page and banner on the City website. Staff is also providing updates on our social media page.

More information about service changes and updates relating to COVID-19 are available at www.oakharbor.org/community/page/covid-19-info

Some of the changes we made are to restrict access to The Center, City Hall, Marina, and Public Works buildings. Staff is available to provide assistance by phone, email, or appointment, if necessary. Current events scheduled through April 30 are postponed or canceled and future events are being reviewed by staff to determine the next steps based on recommendations from the county, state or federal government.

Utility Billing staff is not cutting off services and is working with customers regarding late payments and fees. Please call Utility Billing at 360-279-4530 to discuss your account, if you have individual questions.

City Council approved moving to a summer schedule of one Council meeting per month in April. The next City Council meeting will take place on April 7.

To meet social distancing requirements Council meetings will be electronic and online with Council members attending the meetings through video conferencing software. The live meetings will be available on Cable Channel 10 or online at www.youtube.com/cityfoakharbor. Public comments are available by calling 360-279-4504 after 5 p.m. or online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/citycouncilpubliccomment (available prior to the meeting).

On March 16, the Mayor attended the Island County Public Health meeting about COVID-19 and discussed the additional funds available from the state to assist communities with increased homelessness because of the pandemic.

Three Police Officer Cadets were in training at the Police Academy and were sent home because it closed for a month in response to COVID-19. They were planning to graduate on April 18. The Police Chief is waiting for information about when they can return to the Academy and what their new graduation date will be.

You can help support the community during this time by checking in on neighbors and helping out our business community by ordering meals to go. The Oak Harbor Main Street community launched a website with information about restaurants that are open and providing take out food options at www.oakharbormainstreet.org/dine

Island County Public Health has reported one death in our county from COVID-19. Please continue to practice social distancing.

Oak Harbor Public Schools is providing breakfast and lunch meals for students in need. More information about this program is available on their website at www.ohsd.net/Page/7919.

Thank you for continuing to practice social distancing as we work to battle this virus in our community.



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