City of Eatonton

201 N. Jefferson Ave.
P. O. Box 3820
Eatonton, Georgia 31024
www.eatontonga.us

Certified City of Ethics

JOHN REID - *MAYOR*

MARIA S. JIMÉNEZ - *CITY CLERK*

GARY M. SANDERS - *CITY ADMINISTRATOR*

TELEPHONE:
MAYOR'S OFFICE - (706) 485-9240
CLERK'S OFFICE - (706) 485-3311
FACSIMILE:
(706) 485-7912

COVID-19 Response

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Eatonton are working to ensure the health and safety of our citizens, visitors, and employees as COVID-19 continues to spread across Georgia. Generally, the City of Eatonton intends to align itself with the responses of other area governments. At a called meeting on March 19, 2020, the following actions were taken to further these goals:

1) Disconnect orders for March and April will be suspended and reconnect fees will be waived for all natural gas customers. **Penalties for late or non-payments will continue to accrue**.

2) Instruct Eatonton Police Department dispatchers to inquire about known illnesses (fever, respiratory distress, etc.) at the address for which emergency or law enforcement assistance has been requested. Notify responding emergency or law enforcement personnel of any such illnesses that will require special care.

3) Access to City Hall shall be restricted to employees only effective March 23, 2020 through April 7, 2020. All payments should be deposited in the drop box, made online, or made over the phone. Doors to City Hall should be locked and appropriate payment/service information posted on the door. Citizens are encouraged to work with City staff regarding ongoing issues via telephone and email.

4) Provide paid administrative leave of up to 112 hours for any full-time employee who is diagnosed by a medical professional (presumptive or confirmed) or quarantined for COVID-19. (This policy was adopted via resolution at the regular City Council meeting held on March 16, 2020)

5) If a partial or complete shutdown of any department is ordered and employees are sent home due to COVID-19, the current base salary of each affected full-time employee will be paid (as paid administrative leave) during such time. A separate authorization of this provision shall be required by the City Council if any shutdown exceeds two weeks. If any shutdown exceeds two weeks, the City Council will meet and explore options for displaced workers.

6) In the advent of necessity, the City will provide bulk item and oversized load pickup service on a reduced schedule. This action does not apply to Advanced Disposal curb-side pickup.

7) All Congregate Meals Program activities are immediately suspended. No senior citizens should report to the Eatonton-Putnam County Senior Center. Hot meals, frozen meals, or shelf-stable meals (in order of priority) and CDC guidance will be provided for all program clients. (Amending the action ratified at the regular City Council meeting held on March 16, 2020 and was effective on March 17, 2020)

8) The Home Delivered Meals program for seniors will be maintained for as long as the Middle Flint Council on Aging kitchen remains open. In the event of a kitchen closure, shelf-stable or frozen meals and CDC guidance will be provided for all program clients.

9) Rentals of City facilities, including the Hut and Water Works buildings are suspended immediately. Current facility rentals should be cancelled and full refunds issued for all events through April 2020. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention urges halting gatherings of 10 people or more.

10) Municipal Court dates will be scheduled and/or rescheduled for May 2020 and June 2020.

11) The response of City of Eatonton volunteer firefighters will be limited to accident and fire calls only.

12) City Council meetings held after March 19, 2020 will be held via teleconference, to the extent possible.

13) All citizens are encouraged to follow the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Georgia Department of Public Health. Practice social distancing and proper handwashing, avoid large events, stay home if sick, use hand sanitizers, and be especially protective of the elderly and chronically ill.

14) All citizens are encouraged to continue to support our local businesses.

City officials are in regular contact with local and state agencies and our community partners to ensure that we have the most current information to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of our citizens, visitors, and employees. The City will continue to monitor this rapidly changing situation and will update these policies as appropriate.

John Reid, Mayor
City of Eatonton, Georgia