



**VILLAGE OF SOMERS  
VILLAGE BOARD  
WORK SESSION ITEM MEMORANDUM**

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**WORK SESSION:** March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**TO:** Village President Stoner and Village Trustees

**FROM:** Jason J. Peters, Administrator & Chief/Emergency Manager Wilkinson

**AGENDA ITEM:** #3 Discuss Village's Emergency Response to COVID-19

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**BACKGROUND:**

On March 12<sup>th</sup> Governor Evers declared a public health emergency in response to COVID-19 coronavirus. On the same day, County Executive Kreuser declared a state of emergency for Kenosha County in effort to prevent the spread of the virus. On March 13<sup>th</sup>, President Trump declared a national emergency. This memorandum is being provided to give the Board an update on Village's response to the pandemic.

**COMMENTS:**

For the past several weeks, we have already implemented disinfecting highly trafficked areas. Given the run on cleaning supplies that has taken place, Staff has stocked up on ample disinfectants. Beginning Friday March 13, Public Works will be disinfecting these same areas on a regularly scheduled basis. Staff have been instructed to stay home if they are feeling ill.

We have posted a statement on our website, informing citizens of the following:

- Village meetings will go on as scheduled, but ask the public if they are feeling ill to please refrain from attending;
- Reminding citizens that they can pay their utilities and citation fines through our website; and
- Provided links to the CDC, Wisconsin Health Department, and Kenosha County's Health Department.
- To see post: <https://www.somers.org/news/2020/03/12/coronavirus-information/>

The State of Wisconsin has given their employees guides to avoid unnecessary travel and to avoid groups of over 50 people. Due to this fact, the meeting we had planned for March 18<sup>th</sup> regarding the Shoreline Erosion has been cancelled and replaced with an online meeting. People may attend this virtual session through Zoom at this web address: <https://zoom.us/j/152994777>

Additionally, a recording will be posted on Wisconsin Sea Grant's YouTube channel after the events. Search "Wisconsin Sea Grant" on YouTube or visit [www.youtube.com/user/UWASC](http://www.youtube.com/user/UWASC).

KUSD has also issued guidelines for its staff and facilities. Included in this policy is social distancing. Due to this policy, the school has started cancelling activities and the Village will be cancelling the final two weeks of basketball.

Chief Wilkinson has initiated the following in response to the virus:

- Cancelled Public CPR classes;
- Cancelled all public education events;
- Stopped Explorer ride along program;
- Postponing Fire Inspections other than new construction; and
- Updating policies for EMS response to limit exposure following guidelines provided and Medical Director direction.

Finally, Chief Wilkinson serves as our Emergency Manager. He has suggested that the Village may want to follow the State and County in issuing our own Emergency Declaration.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

Memo from Chief Wilkinson

Governor Evers Proclamation