



As Borough Manager, the health, welfare and safety of our residents, emergency responders, business owners, and visitors are my highest priority.

With this in mind, I want to advise all of our residents about the uniqueness and rapidly changing landscape from the coronavirus and the disease called COVID-19 which has dominated the news and headlines.

The Borough of Ringwood has been preparing for the appearance of this virus for weeks. Every decision that is made is based on the science provided by experts and from learning from the experiences of other cities and countries. When more testing is done, more cases will be identified. The majority of people infected with the coronavirus will have mild to moderate symptoms. Some people will not display any symptoms at all. There will be a small percentage that is at higher risk for hospitalization.

I have already been in contact with several organizations in Ringwood that I felt posed significant exposure potential and those public events have been postponed.

I place the highest value on our residents; therefore, out of an abundance of caution, and in consultation with our Health Officials, I am enacting the following measures effective Saturday, March 14, 2020 for the next 30 days:

1. All municipal sponsored community events will be postponed.
2. All recreation and sports programs, including practices, will be postponed.
3. All senior programs, trips and meetings will be postponed.
4. All non-essential Board and committee meetings will be canceled.
5. The Ringwood Public Library will be closed to the public and any exceptions will be announced. The building, however, will be staffed to assist residents via phone and e-mail at this point.

Borough Hall will be open to assist residents, however, it would be helpful if you are able to conduct your business by e-mail or telephone and limit the number of trips to Borough Hall.

In addition, we have been in constant contact with both Dr. Nick Bernice, the Superintendent of the Ringwood schools as well as Hugh Beattie, the Superintendent of Lakeland High School and they will address the policies for their respective schools.

Although this was a tough decision, I believe that, based upon consultation with our professionals, limiting potential exposure is in the best interest of the community and I would encourage all community groups and organizations to temporarily postpone gatherings or functions as well.

Thank you.

Scott Heck
Borough Manager