

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Craig A. Stough 4/30/2020

### "City of Sylvania COVID-19 Update"

Our Sylvania community continues to be safe during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you to all for your conscientious actions in addressing the need for social distancing, helping those in need in our neighborhoods, and keeping us all safe!

There have been virus cases in Sylvania, particularly at our senior living and care facilities. Our first responders and health care workers have been in the frontline of helping those infected, and we heartily thank them for all they do!

Governor DeWine has announced a gradual reopening of businesses and institutions around Ohio, and we are working on plans to safely do that in Sylvania. Here are the latest updates as we look ahead:

The Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce has formed a special committee to help Sylvania area businesses reopen, and will identify businesses following Ohio Safety Guidelines with a sticker on the door. We have been supporting our Sylvania businesses with carryout and curbside delivery while they have had to work under limited schedules and access, and I encourage all of us to continue supporting them as they reopen and return to a more normal schedule.

The City of Sylvania has continued to provide essential police, fire, water, sewer, trash and recycling services while platooning our employees to reduce the chance of spreading the virus. We are now studying how to reopen at full strength.

Sylvania City Council meetings are now live streamed on YouTube for the public to watch. City Councilmembers are able to join the meetings via Zoom.

We are cooperating with Sylvania Township in the formation of a Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) to benefit both communities. The City's public hearing about the JEDD will be on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and is open to the public, or comments can be submitted electronically in advance.

City revenues are lower due to the many business shutdowns. We are monitoring our financial situation and working on our plans, but no reduction in services is being planned. We continue to coordinate with Lucas County and the State of Ohio to maintain all services.

There are some cancellations of activities due to the pandemic I need to report. First, at the request of our Veterans organizations, we will be having a Memorial Day Service, held outside as always. It will need to be smaller and briefer than in the past. Unfortunately, we will be unable to have a Memorial Day Parade this year.

Independence Day fireworks are under consideration, with a decision about holding them as scheduled, delaying them or cancelling them to be made in the next month. Like Memorial Day, I feel the need to recognize the day, if possible, in a ceremony held outside.

Centennial Terrace concerts/swimming and SAJRD sports activities have been delayed for the start of summer, with planning underway for reopening and restarting the season when safe.

The LPGA announced the Marathon Golf Tournament at Sylvania Highland Meadows Golf Club will be delayed and held if possible two weeks later July 20<sup>th</sup> through July 26<sup>th</sup>, and will be the second tournament of the LPGA Season with a \$2,000,000.00 prize purse.

Sylvania Safety City for our kindergarten age children is cancelled for this year. Our Sylvania Police Officers are planning on visiting their classrooms this fall to teach many of the Safety City lessons to our young students entering school.

Best wishes to all here in Sylvania! Be careful and safe as we begin to reopen our community. Continue to practice social distancing and be aware of protecting the health of all of us. Look out for and help those in need. And most of all, continue to be healthy and safe as we continue our journey through this COVID-19 pandemic.

