Posted March 18, 2020

This day after St. Patrick's Day has many wondering if the luck of the Irish passed us by this year. It is certainly a different environment from that which we are used to and one that will challenge us all in the accomplishment of those things that previously just seemed so "normal or routine". But we will get through this in appropriate time and with successful outcomes for it is a time in which we as a community, not just Placentia but communities all over, will demonstrate their defined character, their willingness to help others in need, and to show care, concern and compassion in a situation that many if not most have not experienced.

At last nights City Council meeting the normal business of the city and its needs were meet but true emphasis was on what are we doing relative to COVID-19. For the citizens of Placentia that may have watched the meeting there was was a lot of information distributed and discussed. For those unable to do so I encourage you to please visit the City website at <u>www.placentia.org/Coronavirus</u> for additional information. We are working to minimize the disruption of services to the community and remain fully operational with the exceptions of following directives and guidance delivered to us from the OC Health Care Agency, the State office of Emergency Services and the Governor's office as well as the federal government. Any disruptions are done with the community's safety in mind. The city staff and its elected officials have worked daily on this matter for some time now but has moved into a concentrated focus since late last week. What was a situation that had daily changes or updates is now changing and shifting almost hourly. Please understand again that your city officials are doing all things possible to provide information to its residents and business community to allow us to stem the tide of this virus and protect one another.

Lastly when I speak of our business community their mode of operation has been significantly changed. I would ask that when possible please continue to take advantage of their services. While you may not currently be able to sit at that favorite table in your favorite Placentia eatery know that many are continuing to serve food and provide it in a take out fashion to enjoy at home. Call ahead to confirm business hours but please support our local business community.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to the City for information, we are committed to continue to share the latest information as best we can and of course you can email me directly and I will respond back as soon as possible at <u>wsmith@placentia.org</u>.

Thank you all, keep your spirits up and take care.

Ward Smith, Mayor City of Placentia

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The City of Placentia is actively monitoring the situation involving the infectious disease outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).