

New Brighton

COVID-19 SPECIAL EDITION | APRIL 2020

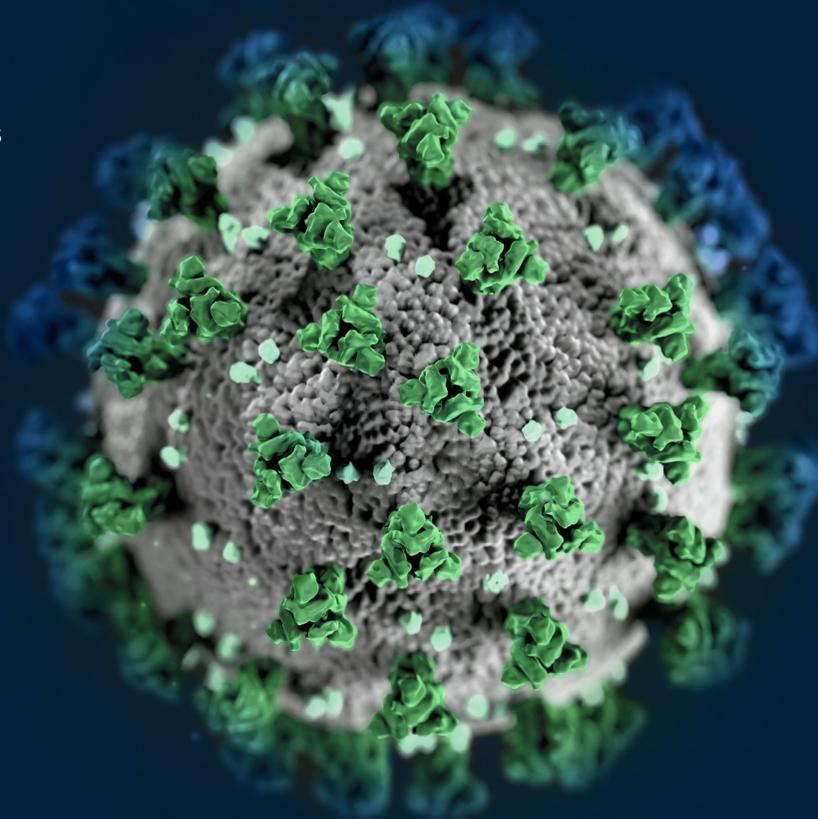
HOW NEW BRIGHTON IS WORKING TO STOP THE SPREAD

All City Facilities
Closed to the
Public until
May 1

Access City
Services
Online or by
Phone

Letter from the
Mayor: I'm so
Proud of New
Brighton

New Community
Resource Group
is Assisting
those in Need



Respond to the
2020 Census
Today



New City Manager of New Brighton: Devin Massopust

The City Council has selected Devin Massopust as the new City Manager for the City of New Brighton. Devin Massopust has served as the Acting City Manager of New Brighton since November 2019 and prior to that, as the Assistant City Manager for almost three years.



"I'm so humbled and grateful that the City Council chose me for this important leadership position – it is truly an honor," Devin Massopust said after the announcement. "We have a great staff here with a supportive and thoughtful Council and it is a privilege to be able to continue working alongside them. I love the community and people of New Brighton and I'm excited to hit the ground running in continuing to make the City of New Brighton the great city that it is."

Prior to his current employment, he served as a Project Coordinator for the Dakota County Physical Development Division for eleven months, a City Management Fellow for the City of Edina, MN for ten months and a Management Analyst for the City of Delano, MN for two years. He holds a Master of Public Administration from Hamline University, and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from St. John's University.

Respond to the Census by Mail, by Phone, or Online

Most of you should have received a letter in the mail with an invitation to respond to the 2020 Census. If you have an Internet connection, you can go online and submit your response. It only takes a couple of minutes! Another option is to respond by phone, or, if the Census Bureau doesn't hear from you, it will mail you a paper questionnaire. However, if you don't respond at all, census takers will likely come and knock on your door in an effort to get you counted. These operations aren't planned to start

until later in the spring/summer, but especially during times like these, it's better if you can respond to the census by other means.

Except for counting the population, census data is also used to guide approximately \$589 billion federal spending, including more than \$15 billion distributed to New Brighton and other communities in Minnesota. For every missed person, the state is at risk of losing \$28,000 in funding for the next ten years.

Mayor
Val Johnson

Council Members
Graeme Allen
Mary Burg
Emily Dunsworth
Paul Jacobsen

City Manager
Devin Massopust

CONTACT US

City Hall: 651-638-2100
Community Center: 651-638-2130
Public Safety Center: 651-288-4100
Maintenance Facility: 651-638-2111
Brightwood Hills Golf Course: 651-638-2150
Official Publication of the City of New Brighton

www.newbrightonmn.gov



All City Facilities are Closed to the Public until at least May 1, 2020

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

New Brighton Proud

Dear New Brighton Residents, I have never been so proud to say that I am a resident of New Brighton, Minnesota. That pride comes from how our community has reacted to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

As Mayor, I am close to the pulse of the hourly decisions that are made to address COVID-19. To keep you informed I want to share with you some of those decisions.

From the onset, it became immediately obvious to me – as it often does – that our staff are prepared for times such as these. Every decision has been made in a calm, thoughtful, and purposeful manner with the health and well-being of our community at the forefront of these thought processes. There is no time for second guessing and hesitation.

Decisions are being quickly implemented and action taken by the entire team. I can assure you with great confidence, we are in very good hands.

Our initial decisions were very broad. We took action to protect citizens by closing our public facilities to achieve the need for physical distancing. In fact, we were the first city in Minnesota that I know of to close our facilities. We knew we needed to act fast and we did. Our new City Manager, Devin Massopust, didn't hesitate to make this decision.

Our next focus was to protect our employees. Our employees are the most important link in the equation of providing essential city services. We

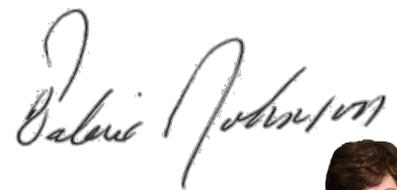
need our Police and Fire personnel to be healthy and available to report for duty. We need our Public Works employees to be available to repair a water main break and provide safe and reliable drinking water. Many everyday services are still essential and by having people work from home, practice physical distancing, issuing necessary PPE and staggering shifts to limit contact with others, we have secured and protected our workforce and ultimately the services we need to provide.

Quickly, we moved to a proactive approach of checking on our citizens. This action came directly from the playbook of our own Public Safety Department and EMS specialists. In times of emergency, it is not only our responsibility to be ready when needed, but to aggressively and purposefully be proactive in assisting our citizens. The New Brighton Community Resource Group was established. People have been deployed from our Parks, Administration, Finance and Public Safety areas to call thousands of our citizens to discover where we can help. We may be offering a friendly voice to someone who has been isolated and lonely, or we may find that someone is out of food or medicine and we can react accordingly to provide aid. This service is open to everyone. If you need us and we don't call you, please call us. The number for the Community Resource Group is 651-638-2177.

My pride also comes from you, the citizens of New Brighton. Hundreds, if not thousands of our residents work in the healthcare industry. Their preparations and skills will save countless lives. Other citizens are working with conviction to keep our grocery stores, pharmacies and essential needs available. Parents are coordinating with educators to provide stability, learning and love to our youth. We are checking on our neighbors. We are stepping up. People are remaining calm and friendly even in this uncertain world. Most importantly, we are respecting each other by staying at home unless absolutely necessary, practicing physical distancing and working together to conquer this virus.

On behalf of myself, your City Council and the employees of the City of New Brighton, we stand ready to take care of our community. As you take care of others, please take care of yourself too. I am proud to be a resident of New Brighton. And I hope you are too.

Wishing your health,
Val



VALERIE JOHNSON
Mayor of New Brighton



How to Access City Services

BUILDING INSPECTIONS

Homes: City staff is getting creative on how we can continue to perform a majority of residential inspections remotely using a video app. Call 651-638 2050 for more information.

Business/Development/Multi-Family: The major New Brighton projects (Irondale, Sunnyside, BelAir, Dominion Family Apartments & Pulte townhomes, Zahl, and STOR storage) continue to move forward, and we are completing all required inspections. Just as we are using safety protocol measures, contractors at these sites have also implemented rules on job sites to address the COVID-19 threat.

PLANNING AND ZONING

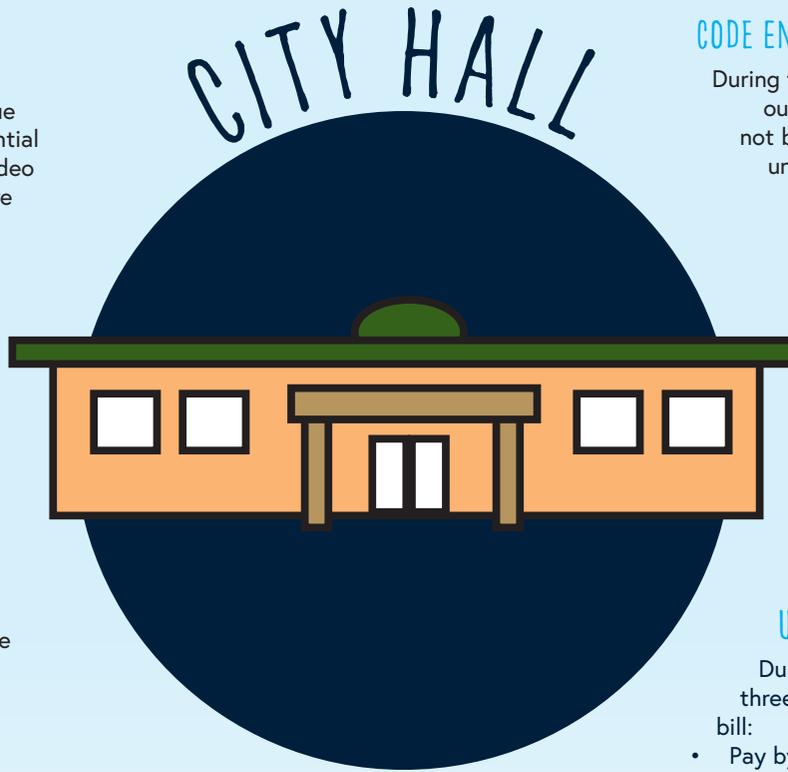
Work on our active land use applications continues despite the shutdown. Communication was recently sent out to all residential license holders for our multi-family complexes alerting them to Executive Order 20-14 which effectively prohibits eviction proceedings during the COVID-19 public health crisis.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

The Public Safety Center walk-in counter is temporarily unavailable. If you have a police, fire, or medical emergency, call 911. To file a Police Report, call Dispatch at 651-767-0640 and a Police Officer will call you back. To Request a Copy of a Police Report: call 651-288-4100 or email your request to records@newbrightonmn.gov.

PROPERTY/EVIDENCE PICKUP

To pick up property/evidence, call Sgt. Moore 651-288-4126.



LICENSE BUREAU/PASSPORT OFFICE

The License Bureau and the Passport Office will remain closed until at least May 1, 2020. You can renew your tabs by mail or online at dps.mn.gov.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

During the public health emergency, our code enforcement staff will not be entering multi-family units unless there is a life, health, or safety issue. If this happens, they will wear proper PPE when investigating the concern. At this time, staff is taking and following up on a number of nuisance calls or submissions to the website. For a vast majority of those, staff has been able to follow up simply via a drive-by and visual inspection. No physical contact needed.

UTILITY BILLING

During the closure, you have three options to pay your utility bill:

- Pay by Phone (available 24/7, no additional fees): 855-667-0983
- Pay online at newbrightonmn.gov (no additional fees)
- Online Bill Pay through your bank

No late fees will be charged on utility bills while the City state of emergency is in effect. Call 651-638-2101 if you have any questions.



VEHICLE RELEASE

Go to Freeway Towing – 299 5th Ave SW, New Brighton or call 651-633-5525.

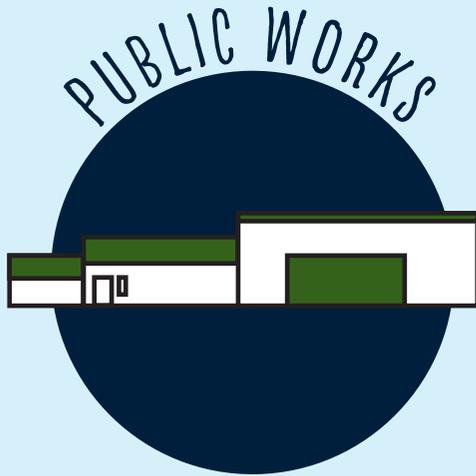
PERMIT TO PURCHASE

Visit newbrightonmn.gov to download an application or call 651-288-4100.

FINGERPRINTING

Not available during closure.

during the COVID-19 Closure



SNOW REMOVAL

Our snow removal equipment will stand at the ready until the end of April if we should need it.

WATER SUPPLY

New Brighton Public Works has taken steps to provide an uninterrupted supply of safe drinking water to our residents. Our water treatment plant operators are isolated from our general maintenance crew to minimize contact for their own health, and in order to assure that they remain

STREET RECONSTRUCTION

In an effort to continue to maintain quality streets and infrastructure, the City of New Brighton is under contract to finish the 2019 street reconstruction project. The Contractor involved in construction activities will be required to follow strict protocols ensuring proper social distancing and cleanliness of all work surfaces. The Contractor and City employees will not be allowed to enter any household or have direct contact with general public. City

Project 19-1, 2019 Street Rehabilitation is anticipated to resume in the next couple of weeks. Due to the rapidly changing conditions an exact start date is unknown at this time. The 2020 Street Reconstruction project is ready to conduct a Public Hearing to authorize preparation of plans and specifications when these activities are allowed to resume in the City Council chambers. It is undetermined if this project will be constructed in 2020.

STORM AND SANITARY SEWER

Maintenance crews continue to clean sanitary sewer lines that are known to be problematic. Sanitary sewer lines throughout the community will continue to be jetted during the Pandemic to ensure that we maintain a free flowing system throughout the City. The moderate temperatures and slow snow melt over

the past month have helped clear away ice from catch basins. Crews are currently performing our Spring sweeping, which will help us reduce the possibility of plugged catch basins during spring rains. If local drainage problems occur we have pumps available for deployment to reduce flooding potential.

available to run the water treatment plant. Please note that we have redundancy at every level and other resources to draw on. We have taken delivery of a three-month supply of water treatment chemicals/ testing equipment to ensure we can maintain a steady and reliable supply.

Our maintenance crews will continue to respond to and repair watermain breaks to maintain all water distribution functions including firefighting and domestic use. In the end a safe and reliable water supply is not a concern that residents need to have during this uncertain time.

COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center will remain closed to the public until at least May 1, 2020. If you have an annual membership, we will add an additional month to your membership to make up for your lost time in the gym. If you have a month-to-month membership, we will be processing April at no charge. We are also working on some ways to offer remote fitness classes online. Follow New Brighton Parks and Recreation on Facebook for more information.



EAGLES NEST

The Eagles Nest will remain closed to the public until at least May 1, 2020.

CALL 651-638-2100 IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT OTHER SERVICES NOT LISTED HERE



City of New Brighton Creates Community Resource Group

Concerned about potential gaps in service to those in the community who are often considered the most vulnerable, the City of New Brighton has created a Community Resource Group. The purpose of this group is to connect with residents who may need assistance in identifying or contacting existing services within the community for food, shelter, internet connection, and mental health resources.

“New Brighton staff and residents are a community that cares for each other,” said Valerie Johnson, the Mayor of New Brighton. “This just takes that caring and expands its reach.” The idea for the Community Resource Group was born out of the idea that staff wanted to be proactive in reaching out and

helping the community. In order to do that, they identified several at risk populations: seniors, families that had received scholarships, those with young children. They used the existing database of customers from the Parks and Recreation Department to start making calls to those families and residents.

“The goal is for us to be a friendly voice asking how they are feeling and what help can we provide, or if they have neighbors they are worried about” explained Johnson. “This helps our Public Safety Department identify pockets of illness, areas of concern for residents, and it allows us to connect those residents to the right people who can help them. Just this week, we

encountered five families that did not have transportation to the food shelf to pick up food, diapers, and essentials. We have the ability to assist in that. It is the right thing to do.”

The City of New Brighton has created a hotline for residents in need to call. Callers can call the hotline, leave a message with their name, phone number and a brief message describing the needed services and they will receive a call back from a staff member.

“Even if you do not need anything, but you are concerned about your neighbor and want us to check on them, please don’t hesitate to call. Let us connect with them, so you can stay safe and healthy.”

The Community Resource Group Hotline is 651-638-2177

Trusted COVID-19 Sources

There are a lot of rumors spreading about COVID-19. If you need help to distinguish between rumors and facts, turn to any of the following agencies.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov
800-232-4636

Minnesota Department of Health

www.health.state.mn.us
651-201-5000

City of New Brighton

www.newbrightonmn.gov
651-638-2100



Support Your Community during the COVID-19 Outbreak

Here are some ways you can help the community during the coronavirus outbreak:

- Order takeout from local restaurants and coffee shops
- Buy gift cards from businesses that are temporarily closed
- Shop online at local businesses
- Support the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf by making an online donation at <https://www.moundsvIEWSchools.org/foodshelf>
- Check on your neighbors





803 Old Hwy 8 NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

PRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Twin Cities, MN
Permit No.
3655

*****ECRWSS**

Postal Customer
New Brighton, MN 55112

CALENDAR

April 9, Neighborhood Meeting

- Canceled.

Commission Meetings

- All April meetings have been canceled.

City Council Meetings

- All City Council Meetings will be conducted electronically until further notice. You can watch the meetings on the City website or tune into CTV Channel 8023 (CenturyLink) or Channel 16 (Comcast).

May 16, Clean-Up Day

- City of New Brighton Public Works Building (700 5th Street NW). Call City Hall or visit the City website to find out if this event is happening as planned.

May 25, Memorial Day

- All City offices closed, including the Community Center and the Eagles Nest.

FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

for Daily Updates about COVID-19

FACEBOOK

City of New Brighton

facebook.com/cityofnewbrighton

Public Safety

facebook.com/NBDPS

Parks and Recreation

facebook.com/newbrightonparks

Eagles Nest

facebook.com/eaglesnestplayground



TWITTER

City of New Brighton

twitter.com/newbrightonmn

NEXTDOOR

City of New Brighton

nextdoor.com/pages/city-of-new-brighton

www.newbrightonmn.gov