

CITY OF EDGERTON
CITY HALL, 12 ALBION STREET

SPECIAL COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order; Roll Call.
2. Confirmation of Appropriate Meeting Notice on Friday, June 5, 2020.
3. Discuss and consider 2020 opening City of Edgerton swimming pool.
4. Adjourn.

Copies To: Mayor City Attorney
 All Alderpersons Department Heads
 City Administrator
 Newspapers

NOTICE: If a person with a disability requires that the meeting be accessible to materials at the meeting be in an accessible format. Please call the City Administrator's office at least 5 hours prior to the meeting to request adequate accommodations. Telephone: 884-3341.

Notice: Some members of the Council may attend by telephone for this meeting.

Memo

To: Common Council
From: Staff
Date: 6/5/2020
Re: COVID 19 Opening Policies

Rock County Phase Guidelines: Rock County will determine if there will a Phase change early next week.

Pool: If pools are open, the County plan recommends pools restrict the number of patrons to 25% of capacity for Phase 1 and 50% of capacity for Phase 2 as long as we also implement physical distancing, protective measures, and best business practices. If the Council elects to open the pool, staff recommends the earliest opening date of June 14. The pool was originally scheduled to open May 31, 2020.

Staff has evaluated recommendations from the CDC, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Rock County Health Department and other available sources regarding pool operation during the COVID 19 pandemic. While all individuals will come to their own conclusions as to the safety of any activity, staff believes we can implement most of the operational modifications recommended by health agencies. Chlorinated water has been shown to kill the virus and does not pose a health issue of transmission through the pool water.

Pool capacity: Maximum pool capacity is 692 patrons. 25% capacity is 173 patrons. Below are pool statistics for 2015-2019 (not including 2016). The statistics indicate that at 25% of capacity on an average day, we would have to restrict admission to a small degree and on a peak load day, we would have to severely limit access. Assuming the County reaches thresholds needed to move to the next Phase of the guidelines, capacity would increase.

2015-2019 (not 2016)	June	July	August
Afternoon patron average	183	192	137
Evening patron average	41	50	44
	Afternoon highest 545	Afternoon highest 475	Afternoon highest 300

Protective measures and best practices: If the pool opens, staff is recommending the following measures: additional signage about the virus, best practices, and risk warnings; request patrons wear masks while not in the pool; staff will receive training on practices to prevent the virus such as not coming to work when sick; use of disposable gloves when sanitizing frequently, PPE for rescues; and having a staff position dedicated to social distancing enforcement (not a life guard on duty or in a chair during surveillance of the water).

Swim lessons: Staff recommends we do not have swim lessons this year as social distancing is too difficult until we reach Phase 3 of the guidelines. (Estimated loss of "profit" \$3,145)

Swim team: Staff recommends we do not have swim team until we reach Phase 3. (Estimated loss of “profit” \$875)

Lap Swim: CDC recommends that there is one lap swimmer per lane and that the swimmer is in the middle of the lane.

Aerobics: CDC recommends that each person bring his/her own equipment or that the shared equipment be disinfected between users. Social distancing would be practiced during the exercise time as well.

Concessions: Staff recommends we serve only prepackaged food at the concession stand this year. This will likely reduce concession revenue. It is very difficult to estimate how these changes will impact sales. (Average annual revenue from concessions \$20,764.)

Entrance fees: If the City limits capacity as recommended by the County guidelines, staff recommends the City offer only daily passes. Given the unknowns of this situation, offering season passes with limited access may prove problematic. (Average annual daily pass revenue \$38,030; average annual season pass revenue \$21,658 .)

Financial impacts: Many of the proposed modified operational policies are apt to increase operational costs to some degree. Pool revenue comes from daily passes (43%), annual passes (24%), swim team (2%), swim lessons (8%) and concessions (23%) with an average annual revenue of \$89,220. The pool operates at an annual average **operational loss** of \$53,812 and, when including capital costs, a total annual average loss of \$70,489. The 2020 budget anticipated a \$58,700 operating “loss”. If the City enforces the capacity limits established by the County plan or if people chose not to go to the pool simply for concern about the virus, revenues will be greatly reduced. The loss of revenue is a significant risk to the city’s budget.

The pool is the most significant city operated recreational service and provides important activities for families in Edgerton. If the Council elects to open the pool, we will have to closely monitor expenses and revenues, and hours of operation. We may have to cancel evening swim hours or close the pool early in the season to limit budget exposure. Staff would have to have latitude to adjust operations as needed.

Possible actions the Council could take are:

- Do not open the pool.
- Open the pool and follow County guidelines regarding capacity.
- Open the pool and do not enforce capacity recommendations and implement as many COVID best practices as possible.
- Cancel evening swim hours as a costs saving measure. The Director would like to offer evening swim at least initially for families who cannot use the pool during the day.
- Increase daily admission fees. (Currently \$4 for day swim and \$2 for night swim. Fees were last increased in 2016.). If fees are increased the Director recommends even dollar amounts to eliminate change.
- Limit swim “time blocks” so more people can use the pool in any one day.

City Liability: City Insurance agent, Mike Zagrodnik’s, response to the question of the City’s liability for facilitating events or activities.

"I have one municipality that is requiring sports teams, farmers market organizers, other events to sign an agreement to follow CDC guidelines.

If someone were to contract COVID and want to claim it was at a City permitted event and that ergo the City is liable we will defend the City. The burden of proof is on the claimant, your liability is limited in general to no more than \$50,000 by statute, and as far as parks and rec facilities are concerned there is "recreational immunity" as an additional defense. Some Villages and Cities are posting notices that while open you use these facilities "at your own risk"

So I guess our advice is to take reasonable precautions following available state and federal recommended procedures as much as is practical and proceed with opening up to the extent you are comfortable realizing there are no 'silver bullets'."