**City of Elk River** Phone (208) 826-3209

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MAYORS UPDATE

March 2020

* Coronavirus & City Hall - As of now, City Hall will be open. We are taking all necessary precautions. We will be looking at Council meetings being streamed. Don’t forget there has always been the ability to submit written comments before a meeting via our drop box, postal mail and email. When coming to City Hall, distance will be maintained and you might be asked to wear a facemask. Doors, chairs, desks, tables and even ink pens are being sanitized frequently. Remember, we have a **drop box and online payment for paying your city bill.** Log onto the City’s website, www.cityelkriver.org , and click on “Water/Sewer/Garbage Payments”. If a resident needs assistance of any nature, **please feel free to call us,** Mayor Dave

(509-981-1850) or Christina (208-826-3209) at City Hall. We will have various resources available to help you.

* With our schools being closed, the school district has plans to continue the lunch program. They are planning on bringing lunches to be handed out of a vehicle in front of City Hall. Should this plan run into difficulty, the lunch program will carry on locally.
* On a very positive note, our city lot on Bobcat Lane has been sold for $34,000. This follows the sale of the City’s rental house for $67,000. This will further enhance our emergency and equipment fund. Our City’s finances are strong going into this health crisis. This completes the planned selling of city property.
* On Wednesday, we had a presentation on our Wastewater Facilities Plan by Ryan Rhyder with Mountain Waterworks. Rumors have been circulating about huge water/sewer rate increases and budget busting projects. These rumors are not true. We are simply positioning the City for **future** DEQ requirements such as the lining of our ponds. We need to be prepared. These plans are necessary to secure outside funding. Down the road, any necessary sewer increase to secure funding **may** be offset elsewhere. As of now, there is no increase.

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* As for garbage, Clearwater County would like to eliminate driving their old equipment to our compactor, back to Orofino, then to Asotin. I have been meeting with Clearwater County Solid Waste, Latah Sanitation and now this week, Clearwater County Commissioners. I’ve also met with people to adapt our compactor’s dump containers to fit Latah’s equipment in the event that we go that direction. I am striving for cost neutral or cost savings coupled with a better service bang for the buck than that what we presently have. The garbage service to your house will be unchanged.
* Randy and Hawk have the equipment serviced, chains removed and are ready to attack the irritating potholes. They will also be attacking snow piles to speed up melting. (Just saw a robin!! That’s awesome!)
* Diana Olson, Kami Nibler and DeEtta Mitchell are spearheading a Safety Awareness Program to install 911 number signs that are blue reflective address markers on every home. Great project! Please find the enclosed form with this letter.
* The Fire Department Auction, scheduled for April 25th has been postponed until September 12th, 2020.
* Please, if you are not feeling well stay home. If you need anything call, we are all in this together!

Thanks for listening!

Mayor Dave