



# Village of Grantsburg

Special Board of Trustees Meeting  
Thursday, November 19, 2020

The Board of Trustees for the Village of Grantsburg will meet, via zoom, on Thursday, November 19, 2020, at 6:00 pm. The public is welcome to monitor the meeting by smartphone, computer or tablet online at [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join). Meeting ID : 876 7819 1262. Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87678191262>. You can also dial in using your phone at 1-312-626-6799. The Board will consider the following items and take action as needed:

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. Roll Call**

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**II. RESOLUTION #20-7 EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

**III. LOCK VILLAGE OFFICE/POLICE OFFICES – Meet customers by appointment only**

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Prepared by: Sheila Meyer, Clerk/Treasurer

Posted November 18, 2020. Village website [www.grantsburgwi.com](http://www.grantsburgwi.com); Village Office 316 S. Brad Street; Community Center 315 S. Robert Street; US Post Office 201 N. Pine Street.

**RESOLUTION #20-07**  
**EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19 was detected, and COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the world, including to the United States and the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the federal government, state governments, and local governments are working together to contain the further spread of the disease and treat existing cases; and

WHEREAS, the positive COVID-19 cases and COVID-19 related deaths continues to increase rapidly in Burnett County; and

WHEREAS, the Burnett County COVID-19 Response Team has made the decision to close the Burnett County Government facilities beginning on November 23, 2020 and remaining in effect until January 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board (the "Board") has determined that it is necessary to make all possible resources and means available to the Village in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents from the threat posed by the continued spread of COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 323.11 the Board finds and declares that an emergency exists within the Village by reason of an imminent threat of disaster impairing medical care, health, and other critical systems of the Village due to the spread of COVID-19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the period of emergency prescribed by this Resolution, the Board may order, by motion, ordinance or resolution, whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the Village; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk/Treasurer of the Village is hereby authorized and directed by the Board to coordinate and administer the Village's emergency management response and to carry out the orders of the Board related thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the period of emergency, the Village Trustees are hereby authorized to attend meetings of the Board remotely, and the Board shall take all actions necessary to effectuate the same in compliance with all other applicable laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, based upon the information available to the Board and the ongoing threat posed by the spread of COVID-19, the period of emergency shall continue for \_\_\_\_\_ days from the effective date of this Resolution unless sooner terminated or extended by further resolution of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all actions heretofore taken by the Board and other appropriate public officers and agents of the Village with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael E. Longhenry, Village President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila Meyer, Clerk/Treasurer



# **Burnett County**

## **COVID-19 Response Team**

### **Approved for Immediate Release**

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November 16, 2020

### **Burnett County Government Facility Operations**

Due to the rapid increase of COVID-19 cases within Burnett County, and the burden this pandemic continues to place on essential services, Burnett County has made the difficult decision to close our facilities to the general public, beginning on November 23, 2020. All access to Burnett County facilities shall occur via appointment only. The closure will remain in effect until January 11, 2021.

Burnett County takes great pride in transparency and accessibility and therefore we encourage you to call ahead, so as to limit disruption for sought services. We recognize that this may place additional stress on those seeking services, and appreciate your willingness to work with us during these unprecedented times.

COVID-19 may impact everyone differently, but how we approach it should not. Please do your part to keep our Community safe and healthy.

Following these simple and respectful ideas:

- Stay home when you are ill
- Wear a mask when you go into a public building such as a grocery store, restaurant, pharmacy, or service station
- Maintain six feet of distance between others as much as possible
- Wash your hands often
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough/ sneeze.
- Avoid touching your face

Burnett County Public Health and the Burnett County COVID-19 Response Team are continuing to work for you, our businesses, schools and our local partners to make sure our community remains safe and healthy.

For more information on COVID-19 visit:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

You can also follow Burnett County Public Health and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services on Facebook.



# Emergency Powers

## Municipal Emergency Powers During COVID-19

The situation relating to the COVID-19 outbreak is rapidly evolving. Governor Evers has issued a State of Emergency due to this public health emergency. League members are facing difficult questions about what powers municipalities and their governing bodies have to respond to the situation.

The Wisconsin Statutes address emergency management and local emergency plans, however, these provisions do not provide comprehensive guidance for adhering to social distancing advisories resulting from a global pandemic such as COVID-19. The League attorneys have received several questions, particularly questions regarding how municipalities can conduct essential business, comply with Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law, and simultaneously practice social distancing, as many public health agencies are advising. Governmental bodies are concerned about holding meetings where large members of the public may be in attendance. Moreover, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, at the Governor's direction, has now issued an order prohibiting gatherings of 10 or more people throughout the state. There is also a concern about vulnerable governmental body members being required to convene physically to conduct essential business, particularly business required to address the current public health emergency. Some governmental bodies may have the capabilities to convene electronically and live broadcast their meetings, but there are numerous governmental bodies that will not have such capabilities.

Local governments also have the power to declare emergencies. Wisconsin Stat. § 323.11 provides that the governing body of any local unit of government may declare, by ordinance or resolution, an emergency existing within the local unit of government whenever conditions arise by reason of, among other things, a disaster or an imminent threat of a disaster, that impairs, among other things, health or police protection, or other critical systems of the local unit of government. The period of the emergency shall be limited by the ordinance or resolution to the time during which the emergency conditions exist or are likely to exist. Section 323.02(6) defines "disaster" as a severe or prolonged, natural or human-caused, occurrence that threatens or negatively impacts, among other things, health. The article (found [here](#)) summarizes local governments' emergency powers and may provide helpful information for municipalities. March 16, 2020