

## **Mayor Jim Nass asks residents to heed guidelines from CDC, local government**

PITTSBORO — The town of Pittsboro fully endorses and is a part of Chatham County's declared state of emergency as the Coronavirus spreads in North Carolina.

As of March 17, the Chatham County Health Department has identified three individuals in Chatham County who have tested positive for the virus which has spread across the globe.

In response, Chatham County declared a state of emergency and the town of Pittsboro is covered by that declaration. This declaration authorizes the Town Manager to take appropriate protective action, including implementing prohibitions, restrictions, evacuations, and curfews in order to maintain public order or to afford adequate protection for lives, safety or property as needed.

The Town of Pittsboro urges all citizens to take the Coronavirus pandemic very seriously and follow the guidelines from the CDC, the Governor's office, the Chatham County Health Department and the Town of Pittsboro Government.

Officials are especially concerned about our elderly and at-risk population and their families and caregivers and ask that all residents work together to reduce the spread of the virus.

The Town has closed Town Hall to visitors, but those needing to do business with the Town are asked to do so by phone, email or use of the drive-thru window at Town Hall.

The Pittsboro Board of Commissioner have adopted a temporary policy to cease the disconnection of water services for non-payment and efforts to reconnect some who are already disconnected are underway. This policy will be revisited at a later date.

The town is also exploring ways to hold its regular Pittsboro Board of Commissioner meetings electronically to ensure that interested citizens can listen and participate in the proceedings.

Citizen concerns can be submitted to the Pittsboro Board of Commissioners by email or regular mail.

During these difficult times, our local small businesses will be affected, especially restaurants and we urge residents to utilize the takeout and delivery options available and to consider buying gift certificates to be used when things return to normal.

The Mayor, the Board of Commissioners and town staff all understand that this is an extraordinary time that requires patience and perseverance and ask that residents consider not only that safety and security of themselves, but for their fellow community members as well.

"These are difficult times, but this is a special town with a true spirit of community and together we will support each other and weather this storm," Pittsboro Mayor Jim Nass said. "Our priority is doing everything we can to keep everyone safe and healthy."

