



Contact: **For Immediate Release**
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CITY OF OLEAN COVID-19 UPDATE

March 13, 2020—Olean—Since Thursday, March 5, 2019, William J. Aiello, Mayor of the City of Olean, has participated in the daily calls conference calls with Governor Cuomo’s office and will continue to do so until the calls are no longer necessary. In addition the City has created a contingency plan if the City staff is exposed to the virus and has to quarantine. It has been determined that the City will be able to maintain essential services.

In addition to participating in the Governor’s conference call, Mayor Aiello has been in communication with Dr. Watkins, the Public Health Director for the Cattaraugus County, and Catherine Mackay, the Director of Cattaraugus County Department of Aging. Together they are working to minimize the possible spread of the virus in the City of Olean. The City will take their guidance on closure of our facilities such as the John J. Ash Senior Center.

The City of Olean will notify residents of any changes in scheduling at our facilities via press releases, social media, radio and the City’s website www.cityofolean.org.

“I cannot stress the importance of good hygiene such as keeping hands clean and away from the face, foregoing handshaking, covering coughs and sneezes, and disinfecting surfaces,” Mayor Aiello said. “It is the best defense we have at this point against this virus and is very effective.”

“I believe knowledge is power and I ask local residents to be sure to go to the websites of the Centers for Disease Control (www.cdc.gov) and the New York State website (www.ny.gov) for the most up to the date information on virus, how to minimize the spread and for the latest on New York State guidelines,” Mayor Aiello added.

“I also ask Olean residents to be calm and to face the threat of this virus wisely. If you feel you have been exposed or have symptoms of COVID-19, please limit your exposure to other people, stay home from work, and call your physician before going to the emergency room or doctor’s office,” Mayor Aiello said. “It is important that we all work together to protect both our health care workers and our population that is vulnerable to the more severe effects of the COVID-19 virus.”

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