

## Village Services Impacted by Coronavirus

### Village Hall Availability

The Village Hall continues to be closed to the public through May 30th; however, staff members are working rotating schedules in order to comply with the Governor's Stay-at-Home order, and to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread. The Village will prioritize service requests and asks its residents to be patient as some requests may be deferred or delayed as a result.

### Face Masks

Pursuant to the Governor's order, beginning May 1st, individuals will be required to wear a face-covering or a mask when in a public place where they can't maintain a six-foot social distance. Face-coverings will be required in public indoor spaces, such as stores. This new requirement applies to all individuals over the age of two who are able to medically tolerate a face-covering or a mask. Information on how to wear and care for cloth face coverings, including DIY instructions for creating them from common household items, can be found on CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.

The Lindenhurst Police Department is coordinating a reusable cloth face-mask drive for our Senior community. Donations of cloth masks can be dropped-off at the Lindenhurst Butera Market Customer Service

Desk: 1500 E Grand Avenue. These reusable masks will be available to seniors on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information on this program, please contact Officer Rapey at (847) 356-5400.

### Village Board Meetings and Feedback

In response to the Governor's executive order, the Village of Lindenhurst will conduct its public meetings via the video conferencing platform Zoom. This service will allow anyone to access our Village Board meetings via their telephone, cell phone, or computer. Information regarding access to the Village Board meetings will be included on the agenda published on the Village website before any public meeting. If you're unable to attend a meeting, you are welcome to comment on public meeting agenda items, or any other topic, via [mail@lindenhurstil.org](mailto:mail@lindenhurstil.org).

### Garbage Service

GROOT garbage service has instituted collections changes, as well. To protect the health and welfare of its employees and the community, Groot will only remove refuse that is placed within a sealed garbage cart, a can with handles, or bagged. Until further notice, loose uncontained items will not be collected. This temporary measure means that bulky items, construction material, large appliances, etc. will not be picked-up at this time. Recyclables

from sick households should be bagged and placed in the garbage- not the recycling cart. Also, Village Hall textile and shoe recycling has been temporarily suspended.

### **Waivers of Fees and Charges**

The Village of Lindenhurst's primary concern remains to be the livelihoods of each and every one of its residents during this trying time. As we work through the COVID-19 pandemic together, the Village will be addressing the following charges to help people through this period:

- Water/Sewer Late Fee Grace Period for Bills Issued on March 1st, April 1st, May 1st, and June 1st. This would allow for a grace period for two bills associated with each billing cycle.
- Extension of the moratorium for water shut-offs through July 30th, to allow for bills to be paid which we issued on June 1st.
- The Village was scheduled to increase water rates 3% effective May 1, 2020. Instead, the Village will defer this 3% water/sewer rate increase to July 1st, in accordance with the grace period suggested above. Increasing rates is not something the Village takes lightly. This rate increase is the first since the Lake Michigan Water rates were established in 2017. The last 2 years, the Village has absorbed the rising expenses of wholesale water, contractual costs, and increased maintenance to our aging water system.
- The Senior Discount Program will experience changes, as well. It was planned to reduce the discount for seniors already enrolled in the discount program from 15% to 10% beginning May 1st, making it comparable to area communities with similar programs. The Village has decided not to decrease the Senior Discount percentage at this time. Additionally, instead of April 30th as a cut-off for new applications to the Senior Discount Program, no new residents

will be added to the program after July 1st.

- Extension of the due date for liquor and business license renewals to June 30th. This extension provides a two month deferment of this cost for our local businesses.

As always, the Village is available to set up payment arrangements for residents who need assistance with their utility bill payment. Please call (847) 356-8252 to speak with someone about this possibility.

The Village encourages residents to make utility payments via its new convenient online/mobile phone payment service at <https://www.invoicecloud.com/lindenhurstil>, or by calling (855) 922-1076. Residents are also welcome to submit payments in the drop box located at the front of Village Hall. Building Permit Applications and other Village-related correspondence can also be left in this drop box, which is emptied daily.

### **Stay at Home Order Extended**

Remember: The best thing you can do – for yourself, your loved ones, and your community, is to stay home.

Staying home doesn't mean you can't enjoy your favorite restaurants. Order takeout or delivery from our local establishments.

As long as you're maintaining a physical distance of at least 6-feet, it's okay to go to the grocery store, pharmacy, bank, gas station; go for a walk, run or bike ride. You should not travel for non-essential reasons, or gather in groups. A reminder that Lindenhurst Parks are closed; which includes the tennis/basketball courts and skate park.

As this situation is ever-changing, the Village will continue to distribute pertinent information as it becomes available.