

SwiftReach for August 14, 2020 FINAL

PLEASE STAND BY FOR THE AUGUST 14TH
MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR.

**GOOD EVENING. THIS IS YOUR MAYOR GREG
KURTZ.**

WHEN I WAS THINKING ABOUT WHAT TO SAY TO
RESIDENTS TONIGHT, IT CAME DOWN TO A SIMPLE
FACT.

THIS HEALTH CRISIS HAS PRESENTED ALL OF US
WITH UNEXPECTED AND SOMETIMES DIFFICULT
CHOICES.

HOW MANY OF YOU HAD TO MAKE A CHOICE ABOUT
TAKING A PLANNED VACATION OR ATTENDING A
WEDDING, PARTY OR OTHER CELEBRATION?

I KNOW MY FAMILY DID AND IT WASN'T ALWAYS
EASY.

AS MAYOR, I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR DECIDING HOW
TO OPERATE UNDER THE EMERGENCY COVID
CONDITIONS. I ALSO MUST STAY FOCUSED ON THE
CITY'S FINANCIAL SITUATION. IT IS NOT AN
EITHER-OR CHOICE" FOR ME.

MY GOAL EVERY DAY IS TO PROTECT OUR RESIDENTS AND GET THE MOST VALUE OUT OF EVERY TAX DOLLAR.

THAT IS WHY I AM PLEASED THAT CITY COUNCIL PASSED TWO ORDINANCES ON TUESDAY THAT WILL GIVE THE CITY THE FINANCIAL FLEXIBILITY TO PURSUE LONG-TERM STABILITY DESPITE THE CURRENT CHALLENGES.

THE MEASURES WILL ALLOW THE CITY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EXCEPTIONALLY LOW, LONG-TERM INTEREST RATES TO PAY OFF DEBT. THE SAVINGS WILL BE DIRECTED BACK INTO OUR COMMUNITY AND THE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS RESIDENTS HAVE COME TO EXPECT.

I WILL CLOSE TONIGHT WITH A MESSAGE TO ALL THE SCHOOL-AGED INDEPENDENCE RESIDENTS.

THE REC CENTER STAFF AND COMMUNITY SERVICES TEAM TOLD ME THAT EVERYONE WHO ENJOYED THE POOL, PARTICIPATED IN SUMMER PROGRAMS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AT ELMWOOD PARK ADAPTED TO THE SOCIAL DISTANCING, MASK AND HAND-WASHING REQUIREMENTS QUICKLY.

THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING YOURSELF, YOUR

FAMILY, YOUR FRIENDS AND OUR STAFF.

YOU ARE ALL SUPER STARS.

UNTIL NEXT WEEK, BE KIND, WEAR A MASK

AND GOD BLESS.