FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

City of Cambridge Operational Changes Due to COVID-19

Release Date: March 17, 2020

Mayor Tom Orr met with City of Cambridge Elected Officials and Department Heads to discuss operational changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. “We recognize the seriousness of the virus and are taking precautions to keep our City offices up and running while still protecting our staff and residents,” Mayor Orr stated. Due to the information put forth by Governor DeWine and Dr. Acton of the Ohio Department of Health, the City will be taking steps to minimize person-to-person contact while still carrying on the duties and government services provided by the City of Cambridge. Mayor Orr requests—when at all possible—call the phone number provided below to conduct business with our respective departments before engaging in person-to-person contact.

Here are the changes in operations for each department along with the phone number associated with each respective department:

**Police Department** - Emergency: 9-1-1 Non-Emergency: (740) 439-4431

The following has been put in place to minimize public contact:

1. Calls for service that can be handled over the phone will be completed by a police officer.

2. Any calls that are necessary to respond to, an officer will request the complainant/victim to exit their residence unless it is required for the purpose of investigation or life safety issues exist.
3. Lobby calls will be taken through the window.

4. Officers will no longer respond to private property accidents unless there is an injury.

5. There will be no visitors in the building until further notice.

6. All Ride-A-Long’s, Intern programs, Citizen’s Police Academy, and Tours of the Facility are suspended until further notice.

**Fire Department** - **Emergency:** 9-1-1 **Non-Emergency:** (740) 432-3232

The following course of action has been put in place due to the COVID-19 virus:

1. All First Responder calls involving virus or flu-like symptoms will be suspended until further notice. The Fire Department is not a transport agency, so First Responder actions in the above-named cases will not have a response at this time.

2. The following departmental services will be suspended until further notice:
   a. Fire Inspections
   b. Smoke Detector installations or Battery replacements
   c. Any tours of the fire department.

3. Visitors are discouraged unless there is an emergency or vital fire department business.

**Utilities Department** - (740) 432-5453

The Utilities Office has made the following changes until further notice:

1. Residents are encouraged to use the Night Deposit Box located to the left of the front door at City Hall to drop off their payments at any time.

2. The Utilities Office is processing payments but are encouraging residents to pay with checks or credit/debit card.

3. Utilities Office Manager, Debbie McKee, is attempting to arrange the waiving of fees for online payment, but more information will be forthcoming on that. Please call the office number listed above for any questions.

**Treasurer’s Department** - (740) 439-2355

The Treasurer’s Office has made the following changes until further notice:

1. Residents are encouraged to use the Night Deposit Box located to the left of the front door at City Hall to drop off their payments at any time.
2. Treasurer Mike Sikora has placed a drop box just outside of the Treasurer’s Office for a more convenient way to drop off taxes during the day. Please call the listed number above for any further questions.

Parks Department - (740) 432-3287

The Parks Department has made the following changes until further notice:

1. City Park Armory is cancelling all scheduled events and reservations through April 10th. This includes public and privately scheduled activities. This cancellation date may be extended pending further instructions from community and health officials.

2. Those who use the Armory daily for walking/jogging will still be permitted access with a maximum of 10 persons at a time.

3. Basketball and all other activities are cancelled until further notice.

Service Departments

All Service-related Departments are following the same changes listed below however, contact any department regarding issues at the number listed.

1. All person-to-person contact is to be limited so all citizens, vendors, and salespeople are encouraged to contact each respective department regarding their needs or requests for service until further notice.

Cemetery - (740) 432-3210

Engineering - (740) 432-3601

Sewer Department - (740) 432-3891

Street Department - (740) 432-7748

Water Plant - (740) 439-2130

The following City Offices remain open and will also exercise the request to minimize any person-to-person contact:

Auditor’s Office - (740) 432-5039

Code Enforcement - (740) 439-2822

Community Development - (740) 439-5491
Mayor Orr reminds everyone that this situation is ever-changing due to Federal and State restrictions and to please call ahead if at all possible. The City of Cambridge is here to serve our citizens and will do everything possible to assist in receiving the services we provide. Please review any daily media updates for changes in our operations as well as our City website at www.cambridgeoh.org. Mayor Orr states, “We will survive this and continue our service to our great residents because WE ARE CAMBRIDGE.”

News Release Approved by Thomas Orr, Mayor for the City of Cambridge.