

Debra Thompson

From: Jim Floyd <jfloyd@hammerandwikan.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 8:55 AM
To: Assembly
Subject: Consequences

I want to start off by saying that I have been trying to keep ahead of the covid-19 pandemic as much as possible. I had to work to make sure the community didn't run out of food. I changed our work model to be able to deliver and offer curbside. I ordered and mandated gloves, hourly cleaning and cleaning of the check-stands and entrances etc.. I had plexi-shields installed put up and donated one to Rexall because I consider them an essential service. We donated all of our M95 masks to the hospital and even ordered surgical face masks and donated them. We donated gallons of hand sanitizer to the public health clinic. We donated a lot of the supplies for the hand cleaning stations, along with the Chamber.

The first week of April I ordered masks for retail and for all my employees. I ordered masks from Marina to help keep her business afloat. Before that time the priority was the health services so we gave everything we had to them. I have not received all the masks that I ordered almost 4 weeks ago. That is the crutch of doing business in Petersburg. Before you even put the mandate in I was taking steps to protect our community.

You put a mandate in affect without making sure that it could be implemented by your time. There is no place in town to go buy them currently I have checked, we sell bandanas they are sold out, Rexall drugs had them for sale, they are out. Marina is working as fast as she can. We don't have masks because we donated them.

I personally can't sew and I don't have material anyway. I am sure that there are a lot of people out there that can't afford them or have the skill to make them. I bet some nice people made and donated them to the Borough Assembly. We did have a few donated to the grocery store workers, unfortunately not enough but no worries because I thought ahead and ordered them.

I have a lot of respect for the medical field, my wife was a RN. I keep hearing the burden that this is putting on the medical personal. The two positive cases were swabbed then self-quarantined. The 60 plus people that have been swabbed are people that were legitimately sick and would have been patients anyway. The hospital isn't doing drug testing and most non-essential appointments have been postponed. The hospital gets to dictate who comes into their building. They have to do additional cleaning and wear extra PPE. There have been generous businesses that have helped provide some of those items.

~~The grocery and hardware employees don't get to screen the public before they enter and are exposed to everything,~~ including peoples attitudes. My frustration is that you passed a mandate without making sure there were adequate resources available to implement it. I would like to invite each assembly member one at a time for an 8 hour day wearing a mask, gloves, and wipes and engage the public. The frustration comes from two things, the many complaints and lectures I am getting about how the employees aren't wearing masks even before it was a mandate and on the first day because they didn't have it on correctly or didn't fit right. I guarantee that if you put a stop light in town several people would run through it until they got used to it. Humans don't adapt to change as quickly as we would like.

My concern is that you are listening to the Medical professionals solely and not the troops on the ground. I don't make business decisions without checking thoroughly. I make changes quickly but am still at the mercy of the system.



Jim E Floyd General Manager
Hammer & Wikan INC
P.O. Box 249
Petersburg, AK 99833
Cell (360) 771-0703
Office (907) 772-4811
Fax (907) 772-3642



jim@hammerandwikan.com