

Hiawatha imposes citywide mask mandate

(KNZA)--The Hiawatha City Commission Monday evening unanimously approved an ordinance requiring the wearing of masks or other face coverings in public spaces within the city.

Denise Wolney, administrator of Hiawatha's Maple Heights Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, appeared before the Commission to request again that the Commission approve a citywide mask mandate.

With an increase in COVID-19 cases in the community, Mayor Bill Collins said he thought it was time the city step up to the plate. Commissioners also voiced support for the mask mandate.

It requires the wearing of masks in public spaces where six feet social distancing can not be maintained.

There are several exemptions—including for children age five years or under and persons with a medical condition.

Any person or business violating the ordinance is subject to a fine of \$25 for a first violation, \$50 for a second violation and \$100 for a third or subsequent violation.

No court costs will be assessed.

The ordinance will take effect Friday after its publication in the Hiawatha World and will remain in place until rescinded by the Commission.

The Brown County Commission on Monday approved a countywide mask mandate until December 7th, when it will be revisited.

Many Signals Communications