OFFICE OF THE
Board of Selectmen
Town of Dunstable
Town Hall, 511 Main Street
Dunstable, MA 01827
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Tuesday, March 24, 2020

To all residents of the Town of Dunstable from the Board of Selectmen:

Given the unfolding situation with COVID-19, the Board of Selectmen met in an emergency meeting on Monday, March 16, 2020 and declared a local state of emergency. This notice is updated is being provided based on the Governor's guidance issued yesterday, March 23, 2020.

Accordingly, Dunstable Town Hall will be closed to public access until Tuesday, April 7, 2020. This date may be revisited as the COVID-19 Situation continues to develop.

In addition, the only public meetings that will be allowed until April 7, 2020 are the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health on an as needed basis.

Dunstable Town officials and Emergency Management Team will continue to meet and to implement the Town's response to the situation concerning COVID-19. They are responding using the most recent and frequently updated guidance issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Board of Health (BOH). To date, there have been no presumptive cases of COVID -19 reported in Town.

As we continue to monitor the situation we are planning to shutter non-essential town services should the Governor issue a shelter-in-place order. **At this time we have closed public playgrounds, your cooperation in refraining from using them is required at this time.** Town Hall is closed until April 7, 2020; town staff are working remotely and can be reached via email if needed. Contact information for each department can be found on the town website at www.dunstable-ma.gov. It is expected that Annual Town Meeting and Elections will be delayed; new dates are under consideration in the meantime. However, per State guidelines, nomination papers for local office are still due by March 31, 2020. Nomination papers may be delivered to Town Hall and deposited through the new mail slot in the main entrance door. We appreciate your patience during this time.

Dunstable Fire, Police, and Highway Departments also remain operational and prepared to address issues that may arise regarding the COVID-19 threat. The Dunstable Police Department is available to conduct welfare checks and address imminent needs for local residents, please contact them at 978-649-7445 if needed.

Our public health nurses are on the front line of this situation as they monitor the State's communicable disease surveillance system – MAVEN for our community. There are 0 individual(s) in town who have a laboratory confirmed positive test for COVID-19.

Residents are reminded of the following preventative measures recommended by the state that they should take:

- Practice social distancing - There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. Another way to prevent the illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person to person:
    1. Between people who are in close contact with one another (within 6')
    2. Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person sneezes or coughs.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover your mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Stay at home if you are sick
- Keep children off public playgrounds and away from congregating with other groups of children

This is advice is especially true for older adults and those with health issues are urged to avoid large crowds and events. Individuals who live in households with vulnerable people, like elderly parents, should also consider avoiding crowds.

Additional information regarding closures or other changes will be released as it becomes available.

For more information about COVID – 19 from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, please click here: https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19 and the Centers for Disease Control, please click here: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html