

WAYLAND TOWN MODERATOR
NOTICE OF INTENT TO DECLARE RECESS AND CONTINUANCE
OF
APRIL 5, 2020 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

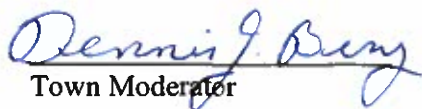
This Notice of Intent to Declare Recess and Continue the WAYLAND Annual Town Meeting is being issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Town Moderator by the provisions of G.L. c. 39, §10A. I hereby provide notice to the Town of WAYLAND that I have determined that it is in the public's interest, due to the public health and safety risks posed by the novel coronavirus COVID-19, to consider the recess and continuance of the April 5, 2020 Annual Town Meeting.

I issue this Notice of Intent after careful and considerable deliberation about the implications of the rapid spread of the disease, present lack of containment, and risk to the most vulnerable populations inherent in public gatherings, and in the interest of providing necessary advance notice to all individuals participating in the Town Meeting process of this possible recess and continuance. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak. Various professional sports leagues, universities, school districts, cultural institutions and events, and more, have been cancelled, closed, or temporarily suspended normal operations. Similarly, operations of various public and private entities have been significantly restricted in response to the continued spread of the virus. Based upon the recommendations from the Governor, among others, that gatherings over 25 people be avoided, and the declaration of a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth, I consulted with town officials, including administration, health and public safety, members of the Board of Health, and the Select Board and reviewed guidance from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A significant consideration in this decision includes the important role of Town Meeting as the legislative body of the Town, my obligation to ensure that all who wish to participate are able, particularly, vulnerable members of our community, and the needs of all participants to be aware of these evolving circumstances.

Being respectful of the health, safety and wellbeing of all of the voters of the Town, and acknowledging the authority vested in the Town Moderator pursuant to G.L. c.39, §10A, I will continue to monitor the situation involving COVID-19 to determine whether it will impact the ability of voters to attend the April 5, 2020 Annual Town Meeting and whether they will be deprived of the opportunity to participate in such Meeting. If circumstances do so require, a recess and continuation would avoid forcing voters to choose between participating in the Town Meeting and managing their health in a manner most appropriate for them.

This Notice is intended to provide as much advance warning as possible, and allow the Town the greatest period of time to evaluate the situation. It is my intent and expectation that should the situation require, I will issue a formal Declaration of Recess and Continuance on or about April 2, 2020. Such formal Declaration, if issued, will be deemed to be issued and take effect on April 5, 2020, the scheduled date of the Annual Town Meeting, and shall provide formal notice of the date, time, and place at which the recessed and continued Annual Town Meeting shall occur.

Please contact the Town Administrator's office with any further questions at (508) 358-7701.


Town Moderator

March 16, 2020 at 8:20 a.m./p.m.