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March 17, 2020

Hi Everyone:

On March 10, 2020, Governor Charlie Baker [declared a State of Emergency](#) in Massachusetts. This action is being taken out of an abundance of caution to protect public health and reduce the risk of an individual's exposure to COVID19.

In compliance with the executive order, the Town is doing the following, effective immediately:

- **The Town Hall is closed to the public until further notice.** Staff are still expected to work their office hours and will respond to email, voicemail messages, and calls during set office hours. Please address questions to each department via email addresses found here: <https://www.hinsdalemass.com/directory>.
- **All meetings, programs, and events are suspended** until at least Monday, April 6, 2020, at which time the Select Board will lift or extend the suspension based on the recommendations of the Governor's Office.
- **Exceptions to the meeting suspension** – Select Board may hold business meetings without public comment or attendance. The Select Board may also meet virtually or via conference call to address on-going and routine business, under the State of Emergency guidelines posted on www.Mass.gov.
 - Meetings will still be advertised on the website at least two days in advance (m-f).
 - In consultation with the Select Board Chair or Town Administrator, a committee chair may choose to hold a specific meeting(s) they believe is essential to the functioning of the Town, and that 25 or fewer people are in attendance. Check with your particular committee chair if you have questions about specific meetings.
 - Minutes of any meeting(s) during this period will be kept and posted accordingly.
 - Emergency meetings are allowed without two-day notice, but State Open Meeting Laws still apply.
- **The Transfer Station** – The Transfer Station is remaining open on the regular schedule, but the Select Board has suspended the bag-tag requirement until April 6, 2020.
- **The Hinsdale Police and Emergency Services remain open and operational 24/7.**
 - **Dial 911 for Emergency Service**
 - Call 413-655-0201 for non-emergency service

The Town staff is meeting regularly to share information and respond to any concerns that may arise. We are connected with our State partners to stay informed about this rapidly changing process. We are taking steps to keep the community informed, and we will continue this effort going forward.

Most sincerely,

Bob Graves

Town Administrator

town.administrator@hinsdalema.gov

For more information about Coronavirus, please visit these web sites found via the links below and are accessible from the Town's homepage www.HinsdaleMass.com.

The Center for Disease Control - [click here](#) - updated daily

Mass.gov [click here](#) - updated daily

Memorandum From the Hinsdale Board of Health - [click here](#)

Massachusetts Public Health Fact Sheet - [click here](#)



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