

## **Town of Hamilton Declares a State of Emergency**

3/23/20

Message from Joseph Domelowicz (Town Manager)

Good evening:

This message is from Town Manager Joseph Domelowicz who has asked that we inform residents that the Town of Hamilton has declared a state of emergency in response to COVID-19 (also known as the novel coronavirus). At this time, there are no known positive or presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 in Hamilton.

The town has declared a local state of emergency and has activated its Emergency Management Team to closely monitor the situation and provide any necessary updates. By declaring this local Public Health Emergency the town will be able to deploy the resources and personnel necessary to meet the community's needs throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The declaration will additionally authorize town officials to issue additional directives to the public as the situation develops. It also creates a formal mechanism for the town to be reimbursed by the federal government for its emergency response.

Furthermore, we wanted to let you know that the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for April 4 and the Annual Town Election scheduled for April 9 have been postponed until further notice. The new dates will be announced at a later time.

All non-essential Board and Committee meetings continue to be postponed, and all essential meetings will be coordinated through the Town Manager's Office.

All municipal buildings will remain closed to the public until further notice, though staff will continue to work in Hamilton. Residents should plan to conduct their business with the town either by email or over the phone. Visit [hamiltonma.gov](http://hamiltonma.gov) for a full staff directory or call Town Hall at 978-468-5572 with questions.

The Town's Council on Aging is already reaching out to all 60+ year old residents in the community to check in and provide updates on services offered by the Council on Aging and Board of Health during this time.

We encourage residents get the most up to date information on COVID-19 in Massachusetts by dialing 211 on your phone or visiting [MA 211.org](http://MA211.org).

As a reminder, all town playgrounds are closed but families can use the fields, just do not engage in physical sports or activities that require physical or shared contact.

If you are sick, please do not enter the Public Safety Building. If you need assistance, call the station at 978-468-1212 and we can either help you over the phone or speak to you in the parking lot.

Thank you.