



P.O. Box 429  
577 Bay Road  
Hamilton, MA 01936

Phone (978) 468-5572  
Fax (978) 468-2682  
Website <http://www.hamiltonma.gov>

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## Join us for a Candlelight Appreciation for our Public Safety officers, Dec. 16, from 4 to 9 p.m.

(Hamilton, MA – Dec. 7, 2020) – The Hamilton Board of Selectmen and Town Manager Joseph Domelowicz join Police Chief Russell Stevens and Fire Chief Raymond Brunet to invite the residents of Hamilton to a Candlelight Appreciation for our Public Safety Officers.

Amid the on-going pandemic, our public safety officers have made innumerable sacrifices to see that the Hamilton community remains as safe as possible. When most of the state was locked down from March to June, Hamilton Police, Fire and Emergency Communications Officers remained at their posts to protect the town's residents, frequently risking exposure to themselves and their loved ones to make sure that our town had the emergency services it needed.

“For several months, we have been thinking about how we can appropriately recognize these local heroes for their hard work and sacrifice on our behalf,” said Selectmen Chairman Shawn Farrell. “I know I speak for the entire Board of Selectmen when I say that we are all so incredibly grateful for the sacrifices these men and women have made on behalf of the community. We just want to do something to show them that the community appreciates the work they have done and to thank them for it.”

“Obviously, it is difficult to find a way to publicly thank public safety for all they have done and for all they have risked over the last nine months, especially when we're still dealing with the pandemic and we need to take precautions, with social distancing, etc.,” added Town Manager Domelowicz. “We think this candlelight appreciation event is the right way to do that and still adhere to safe pandemic protocols.”

On Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020, the Board of Selectmen will join the Town Manager and Public Safety Chiefs in lighting candles in front of the Public Safety Building on Bay Road. The public is then invited to attend a Drive-thru Candle Lighting, where residents can briefly exit their cars to light a candle, and then depart, making room for the next car of residents.

“We are hoping to get 500 candles lit, to show the town's public safety workers that we appreciate all they have done for us,” said Domelowicz.

The candle-lighting will be available from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Photos will be posted to the town website and social media accounts following the event.