



TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

11 Lincoln Street
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360
(508)747-1620
FAX (508) 830-4062

PLYMOUTH TOWN MODERATOR

THIRD DECLARATION OF RECESS AND CONTINUANCE OF ANNUAL AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETINGS

This Third Declaration of Recess and Continuance of the Plymouth Annual and Special Town Meetings is issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Town Moderator by the provisions of G.L. c. 39, §10A. By prior Declaration I had recessed and continued the April 4, 2020 Annual and Special Town Meetings until May 30, 2020. However, based upon the continuing public health and safety emergency currently enveloping the Commonwealth and this community, I hereby provide notice to the Town of Plymouth that I have determined it is in the public's interest, due to the ongoing public health and safety risks posed by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), to further recess and continue the Annual and Special Town Meetings until **June 15, 2020** at 6:00 PM at Plymouth North High School.

I issue this Declaration after ongoing careful and considerable deliberation about the implications of the rapid spread of the disease, present lack of containment, and risk to vulnerable populations inherent in public gatherings at this time. Based upon the orders and recommendations issued by the Governor, among others, restricting large gatherings and various public functions, the declaration of a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth, and the recent order of the Governor extending the closure of certain workplaces and prohibiting gatherings of more than ten people until May 18, 2020, I consulted with public safety officials, the Board of Health, and members of the Board of Selectmen 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, and my obligation to ensure that all who wish to participate are able, particularly vulnerable members of our community.

Being respectful of the health, safety and wellbeing of all of the voters of the Town, therefore, I have determined in accordance with G.L. c.39, §10A that the ongoing threat posed by COVID-19 to public health and safety will mean that some voters will be unable to attend the recessed and continued Annual and Special Town Meetings and will therefore be deprived of the opportunity to participate in such meetings. A delay at this time will avoid forcing voters to choose between participating in the Town Meetings and managing their safety and health in a manner most appropriate for them.

To provide as much advance notice as possible, and in order to allow the Town the greatest period of time to evaluate the situation, this formal Declaration will be deemed to be issued and take effect on May 30, 2020, the scheduled date of the recessed and continued Annual and Special Town Meetings.

Please contact the Town Moderator's office with any further questions at (508) 746-1464 or fax at (508) 746-9205 or e-mail at FST@plymouthlaw.com.

F. Steven Trifletti
Town Moderator

April 28, 2020 at 4:37p.m.