



Town of Arlington

John D. Leone, Moderator

51 Irving St., Arlington, Massachusetts 02476

Telephone: (781)-648-2345

(781)-641-3546

Facsimile: (781)-648-2544

JLeone@town.arlington.ma.us

April 27, 2020

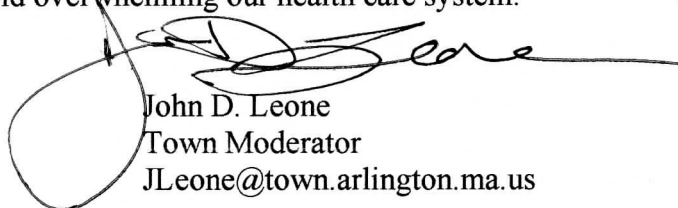
Declaration of Recess and Continuation of the April 27, 2020 Town Meeting

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 39, § 10A, as recently amended by Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020, I hereby provide notice to the Town of Arlington 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 that I am issuing this Declaration of Recess and Continuation of The Town of Arlington's Annual Town Meeting for a period of up to 30 days, with the continuation date to be May 27, 2020, 8:00 p.m. at Town of Arlington Town Hall.

As required by the provisions of M.G.L. c. 39, § 10A, I have consulted with Members of the Select Board, our public safety officials and the Director of Health and Human Services, Christine Bongiorno. This action is being taken after careful and considerable deliberation about the implications of the rapid spread that the disease presents, the lack of containment, and the risk to the population inherent in public gatherings at this time, and is further based upon the orders and recommendations issued by the Governor, including the Executive Orders dated March 23, 2020 and March 30, 2020, prohibiting gatherings and various public functions of ten or more individuals. The decision was also based on the ongoing declaration of a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in the United States. I have also 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 members of our community who wish to participate are able to do. Being respectful of the health, safety, and wellbeing of the Town Meeting Representatives, as all of the citizens, of the Town of Arlington, I have determined in accord with M.G.L. c. 39, § 10A that the health risks associated with COVID-19 will mean that some will be unable to attend the April 27, 2020 Annual Town Meeting and that they will therefore be deprived of the opportunity to participate in such meeting. A continuation will avoid forcing our citizens to choose between participating in the Town Meeting and managing their health and safety in a manner most appropriate for them.

We all understand that this action and decision will have a tremendous impact on all members of our community. But, by taking this necessary precaution we can all do our part to slow the spread of the virus, reduce the number of people infected, and avoid overwhelming our health care system.



John D. Leone
Town Moderator
JLeone@town.arlington.ma.us