Declaration of Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergency

The Town of Killingly’s emergency team is monitoring the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) on our community and remains in close communications with local and state public health, and safety officials. At this time, most normal Town government operations will continue. The health of our residents, students, staff and families is our top priority. To be proactive, I have declared a Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergency. This situation is ever changing, and we want to stay ahead of the curve and be able to adjust as new needs arise. Based on the Governor’s Executive orders the following actions have been taken:

- The machine vote for the Killingly Memorial School Replacement Classroom project which was scheduled for March 17, 2020 has been postponed. A new date will be scheduled by the Town Council.

- Killingly Public Schools has canceled school for the two-week period of March 16, 2020 through March 27, 2020. School office staff will be available during this period. Killingly Public Schools will be providing grab and go lunches each day of the closure at KMS from 11am to 1:30pm. The lunch will include breakfast items for the following morning. Meals will be available for all children ages 18 and under.

- Several recreation programs have been cancelled. Please visit our website at www.killinglyct.gov for an updated list.

For updated information on COVID-19 call 211, or visit the State of Connecticut’s website at https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus

Please note that we are implementing the following protocols in response to COVID-19 out of caution:

For our Killingly Community:

- Please do not panic. Our of an abundance of caution, Killingly has declared a Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergency. This is a state of increased readiness and is the first step in the standard National emergency procedures. We recognize the majority of people will be okay, but we are taking action to protect our most vulnerable citizens who are at higher risk. These include those age 60 or older, and/or those with chronic conditions or weakened immune systems. If you fall into one of these categories, you are strongly encouraged not to attend meetings or events with large numbers of people. This reduces your risk of exposure. Check before you leave for an event since many are
cancelling. For an updated list of all Town event cancellations please visit our website at www.killinglyct.gov and click on “Recent Cancellations”

- We are working to increase our cleaning procedures for all municipal facilities including raising the frequency and intensity of disinfection. Common touchpoints such as doorknobs and handles shall receive special attention.

- Please reconsider attending large gatherings. This situation is constantly evolving. Right now, the guidance from the State of Connecticut stipulates that you are to avoid gatherings of 100 people or more, but this number is ever changing. If you are planning to attend an event where you will be in close proximity to many other people, please consider skipping it.

There are many things you can do as an individual and a family to plan and prepare for the spread of this illness in our community. You can find more information on this matter at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/index.html

In conjunction with Northeast District Department of Health (www.NDDH.org) we are recommending the following controls to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases in our workplaces, homes, and schools:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

- Avoid close contact with sick people.

- You should stay home when you are sick.

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a lined trash can.

- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

- Obtain a flu vaccine.

We will continue to provide updates on this evolving situation. Again, for more information on COVID-19 please visit the State of Connecticut’s website at https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus or call 211.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. We will be in touch as things change or we need your help in helping others.

Mary T. Calorio, Town Manager

March 16, 2020