

TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Select Board 40 Main Street Goshen, MA 01032

Angela Otis, Chair

Wayne Glaser, Vice-Chair

Kristine Bissell, Clerk

For Immediate Release

Re: COVID-19 Response, Town of Goshen, MA
For more Information, contact Dawn Scaparotti, Interim Town Administrator
413-268-8236 x301

Effective 1:00 pm March 14, 2020 the Town of Goshen entered into a local State of Emergency. The Select Board made this decision in order to best prepare and protect Town residents after consultations with the Board of Health and the Emergency Planning Committee.

In an effort to protect the health of town officials and employees, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and to continue essential town government operations, all Goshen municipal buildings will be closed to the general public effective 5 pm March 14, 2020. The town municipal buildings include the Town Office, Town Hall, Police Station, Fire Station, Highway Garage, Library and Historical Museum. All Town employees will continue to work at their offices.

What does this mean?

- All Municipal Town buildings will always be locked.
- Most boards and committees will not meet. Those that need to meet will continue under the new temporary state open meeting law guidelines.
- There will be no Council on Aging events or programs such as exercise class, luncheons, knitting group or foot care clinic.
- The Hilltown Food Pantry, a satellite of the Northampton Survival Center, which operates out of the town office lower level, will remain open with strict safety protocols overseen by the Board of Health.

Phone: (413)268-8236, ext. 301 Fax: (413)268-8237

Email: selectboard@goshen-ma.us



TOWN OF GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Select Board 40 Main Street Goshen, MA 01032

Angela Otis, Chair

Wayne Glaser, Vice-Chair

Kristine Bissell, Clerk

- Employees will not be meeting with the public, but will continue to communicate with residents and vendors by phone, email and regular mail.
- There will be no outside programs or events held at the town municipal buildings.
- The Transfer Station will remain open. Residents will be asked to move along quickly.

We understand that this temporary municipal building closing may make things more difficult and slow down some projects; however, the Select Board feels it is a necessary precaution under the rapidly changing environment as a result of COVID-19. The Select Board, Board of Health and the Emergency Planning Committee are monitoring the situation closely. We will communicate any additional information as soon as it becomes available and will reassess in early April.

On the Town website (<u>www.goshen-ma.us</u>), there is a red alert bar with COVID-19 information, which will be updated as new material becomes available.

Specific department level questions should be directed to the relevant departments whose contact information is on the Town website.

General questions should be directed to: Selectboard@Goshen-ma.us or 413-268-8236 ext 301.

Phone: (413)268-8236, ext. 301 Fax: (413)268-8237

Email: selectboard@goshen-ma.us