

**TOWN MODERATOR OF THE TOWN OF WALPOLE**  
**SECOND DECLARATION OF RECESS AND CONTINUANCE**  
**OF THE MAY 4, 2020 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

This Second Declaration of Recess and Continuance is being issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Town Moderator by the provisions of G.L. c. 39, § 10A, as most recently amended by Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020. I hereby provide notice to the Town of Walpole that I have determined that it is in the public's interest, due to the continued public health and safety risks posed by the novel coronavirus COVID-19, to further recess and continue the May 4, 2020 Annual Town Meeting from June 3, 2020 until June 20, 2020, with such meeting to be held at Walpole High School.

I have issued this Second Declaration after careful and considerable deliberation about the implications of the rapid spread of the disease, continued diagnoses of Massachusetts residents, continued high numbers of reported deaths, and continued risks to most vulnerable populations inherent in public gatherings at this time. As of the date of this Second Declaration, in Massachusetts and throughout the United States, professional sports leagues, universities, school districts, cultural institutions and events, and more, have been cancelled, closed, or temporarily suspended normal operations. Similarly, various public and private entities have closed operations in response to the continued spread of the virus. Based, in part, upon the continued application of the Executive Order from the Governor dated March 23, 2020, and the order dated March 30, 2020, prohibiting gatherings of ten or more individuals, as well as the designation of essential and non-essential businesses and the issuance of the Stay-at-Home Advisory, and the continued declaration of a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States, I consulted with public safety officials, the Board of Health, and 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 of Walpole, therefore, I have determined in accord with G.L. c. 39, §10A that the rapidly evolving situation involving COVID-19 will mean that some voters will be unable to attend the June 3, 2020 continued session of the May 4, 2020 Annual Town Meeting, and that they will therefore be deprived of the opportunity to participate in such meeting. A delay at this time will avoid forcing voters to choose between participating in the Town Meeting and managing their health and safety in a manner most appropriate for them.

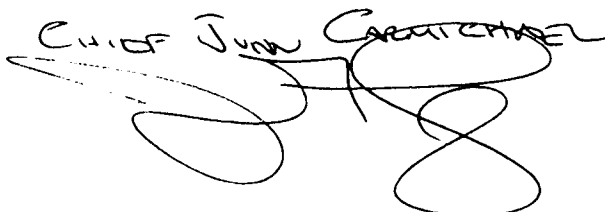
To provide as much advance notice as possible, and in order to allow the Town the greatest period of time to evaluate the situation, this formal Declaration, will be deemed to be issued and take effect on June 3, 2020, the date of the continued Annual Town Meeting established under the original Declaration.

Please contact the Town Administrator's office with any further questions at (508) 660-7304.



Dan Bruce, Town Moderator

May 12, 2020 at 3:05 p.m.



A True Copy Attest



Town Clerk