

**NORTON TOWN MODERATOR
SECOND DECLARATION OF RECESS AND CONTINUANCE
OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

This Second Declaration of Recess and Continuance of the Norton Special Town Meeting is issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Town Moderator by the provisions of G.L. c. 39, § 10A. The meeting was originally scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 2020, and was planned to be held outdoors in order to best protect the attendees from the risk of transmission of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Predictions of inclement weather, including thunder and lightning storms, as well as rain, at or around the time planned for the meeting were determined to be a further threat to the health and safety of voters. I therefore issued a Declaration of Recess and Continuation until Saturday, September 26, 2020.

Based upon the orders and guidance issued by the Governor and the Commonwealth's Department of Public Health, among others, restricting large gatherings and various public functions, the declaration of a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth, and after consulting with appropriate Town officials, it has been determined that where the Fall Annual Town Meeting is already scheduled for October 17, 2020, it would be most protective of the public health and safety to gather the voters of the Town once on October 17, 2020, rather than on two separate dates. A significant consideration in this decision includes the ongoing challenges to address the spread of COVID-19 and my obligation to ensure that all members who wish to participate are able, particularly vulnerable members of our community.

Being respectful of the health, safety and wellbeing of the voters of the Town, the Town staff needed to run a Town Meeting, and the ability to meet in the near future 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 scheduled September 26, 2020 Town Meeting and will therefore be deprived of the opportunity to participate in such meetings.

As such, I hereby provide notice to the voters of the Town of Norton that, after consultation with local public safety officials, the Town Manager, and the members of the Select Board, I have determined it is in the public's interest, due to the ongoing risks to the public health posed by COVID-19, to further recess and continue the August 29, 2020 Special Town Meeting until **October 17, 2020 at 1:05 p.m. at the Norton High School Football Field at 66 West Main Street in said Norton.**

This Declaration takes effect immediately upon its execution.

Please contact the Town Manager with any further questions at **(508) 285-0210** or **myunits@nortonmaus.com**.



Walter Eykel,
Town Moderator

September 25, 2020 at 8:50 a.m.