Town of Southwick Board of Health and Select Board COVID-19 Update for June 5, 2020

As of Friday, June 5, 2020, there have been 54 positive cases of COVID-19 in the Town of Southwick. The Southwick Board of Health would like to stress that this is not a complete profile of the status of COVID-19 in the Town of Southwick. This number reflects those individuals who have received positive test results and *not* those awaiting results, untested symptomatic individuals, and those who might currently be asymptomatic. Additional information on case numbers can be found at https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-cases-quarantine-and-monitoring.

In anticipation of Governor Baker announcing the start date for Phase II of the MA Reopening Plan, the State has issued sector-specific protocols that can be found at https://www.mass.gov/resource/reopening-sector-specific-protocols-and-best-practices. Some of the businesses addressed in these protocols include restaurants, retail businesses, golf courses, recreational camps, campgrounds, and pools. While these businesses are expected to open in Phase II, not all businesses will be allowed to open at the onset of Phase II, so please check the State website periodically for the most up-to-date information.

In preparation for allowing restaurants to provide outdoor dining service during Phase II of the State's Reopening Plan, all currently licensed restaurants wishing to do so must contact the Southwick Select Board to determine if special permitting and inspections are required. Workplace safety standards and checklists for restaurants can be found at https://www.mass.gov/info-details/safety-standards-and-checklist-restaurants.

The Annual Town Election will take place on Tuesday, June 9. While the election will take place in Town Hall, the polling location will be in the Senior Center instead of the auditorium. Please park in the back of Town Hall and use the entrance near the garage door. For those residents that applied for early voting "by mail", all ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office by 7:59 pm on June 9. You can drop the completed ballot sealed and signed, using the brown envelope provided, in the green mailbox outside the town hall if you wish not to use regular mail. The Southwick Town Hall - while still closed to the public - continues to provide services over the phone, online, and curbside by appointment.

As of June 1, the Southwick Public Library has begun curbside pickup. Currently, the Library is only able to lend out Southwick items, as they are not receiving inter-library loan deliveries. To order, please call the Library at 413-569-1221 or fill out a Google form on their website (www.southwickma.org/southwick-public-library) or Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Southwick-Public-Library-353414831610/).

Residents are urged to continue to follow all public health precautions for reducing the spread of COVID-19: stay home unless absolutely necessary; if you must go out in public, practicing social distancing and proper hygiene etiquette; wear face coverings when inside retail stores and when social distancing cannot be maintained; and if you are experiencing signs of illness - fever, cough, shortness of breath – call your primary care provider for advice.

The Southwick Board of Health and Select Board continue to post case numbers and updated information regarding COVID-19 every Friday at southwickma.org. For additional up-to-date information please visit mass.gov/2019coronavirus and cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov. For non-emergency information and assistance, please call 2-1-1 or visit mass211.org.