

# **TOWN OF SOUTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS**

## ***DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY***

WHEREAS, the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) has been declared a Pandemic Public Health Emergency by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a highly contagious, and in some cases, a fatal respiratory disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of Massachusetts declared a State of Emergency to respond to COVID-19 and has determined that immediate public action is needed to prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage to public health, safety, or general welfare of the people of the Commonwealth and/or property which may otherwise result from the above described emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency concerning the novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, there is one positive case of COVID-19 afflicting a resident of the Town of Southborough; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Governor of Massachusetts issued COVID-19 Order No. 13 to assure continued operation of essential services, the closing of certain workplaces and prohibition of gatherings of more than ten (10) people; and

WHEREAS, the Southborough Board of Selectmen and its Board of Health have determined that immediate public action is needed in order to prevent or minimize the spread of COVID-19 by and among the people of Southborough as it can be expected to greatly impact the health and welfare of residents and employees of the Town of Southborough; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of the residents of Southborough; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health, in the Town of Southborough, Massachusetts, upon advice from the Town Administrator and other advisors, have determined that the situation poses a present, reasonable and imminent danger to public health, safety, and general welfare of the residents or their property so that it has become necessary for the Town Administrator with the authorization of the Board of Selectmen, with such assistance and staff as he deems necessary, to utilize and coordinate the services, equipment, supplies and facilities of existing departments, offices, and agencies or the community, both locally, regionally, statewide and nationally, and if necessary, including the taking of ordinary and extraordinary actions for the purposes of emergency management and emergency functions to protect the public; and

WHEREAS, declaring a state of emergency will facilitate and expedite the use of resources to protect persons from the impacts of COVID-19, including but not limited to emergency expenditure pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 31 and limitations on operating hours and access to public buildings.

NOW THEREFORE, we, the Town of Southborough, Board of Selectmen and Board of Health, pursuant to our respective powers under Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 (the “Civil Defense Act”), Chapter 111 of the Massachusetts General Laws and the regulations promulgated thereunder and all other applicable laws and regulations, issue this Declaration of Emergency in the Town of Southborough, and further, pursuant to Section 13 of the Civil Defense Act, hereby appoint the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and Director of Health of the Town of Southborough as the “Local Civil Defense Organization”.

This declaration of emergency in the Town of Southborough is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until further notice is given by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Health and Director of Health that the Emergency no longer exists.

Nothing herein is intended to impede or interfere with the achievement of any and all goal set forth in the President’s Declaration of National Emergency, the Governor’s Declaration of State Emergency including the most recent gubernatorial order COVID-19 Order No. 13.

Dated: March 24, 2020 at 8:23 P.M.

## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

By:

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Mary Lou Woodford, Chairperson,

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Daniel P. O'Rourke, Vice Chairman,

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Nancy A. Sacco, Clerk

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

By:

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Brian E. Shea, Chairman

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Martin F. Healey, Vice Chairman

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Daniel L. Kolenda, Selectman

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Lisa M. Braccio, Selectman

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Sam Stivers, Selectman