



**Declaration and Continuance
Town of Wareham
Annual and Special Town Meeting
Originally Scheduled for
Monday, April 26, 2021**

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, § 10A I, Claire L. Smith, do hereby declare this day of May 4, 2021 that the continued Town of Wareham Annual Town Meeting and Special Town meeting originally scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021 and recessed until Saturday, May 8, 2021 be further recessed and continued. In consultation with the Board of Selectmen, Public Safety Officials, and the Board of Health, I have determined that a continued public safety emergency due to Covid concerns may prevent voters from attending the meeting on Saturday, May 8, 2021.

The nature of the emergency is the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID- 19"). In making this Declaration, I note that on March 10, 2020, Governor Charles D. Baker declared a state of emergency in the Commonwealth and has limited gatherings throughout Massachusetts and the State is still suggesting safe Covid protocols.

Town Meetings are not limited by attendance but the serious threat of Covid within our community still remains with gatherings of large numbers. For this reason, in consultation with the Selectmen, Public Safety Officials, and Board of Health, and in reviewing guidance from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention I have determined that it is in the best interest of the voters to hold our meeting outside rather than indoors. Delaying the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town meeting is in the best interest of the Town and its citizens, so that we might have availability of an outside venue.

M.G.L. Ch. 39, §10A mandates that the moderator "shall announce the declaration of recess and continuance as far in advance of the town meeting being continued as possible." It also requires that a town meeting shall only be recessed for no more than thirty days, but may be further recessed.

I therefore declare that the continued date and time of the Annual and Special Town Meeting shall be recessed from May 8, 2021 to Saturday June 5, 2021 at 11:00 AM and a further continuance be so declared, to convene on Saturday **June 12, 2021** at 11:00 AM. The meeting is to be held at the John William Decas School, 760 Main Street, Wareham, MA 02571

Claire L. Smith
Town Moderator

Posted by *Michelle Brunette*
Wareham Town Clerk

Date: *May 4, 2021*