

First Selectman's Report

April 21, 2020

COVID-19 Update:

As of Monday, April 20th, the Town of Morris has 5 confirmed cases. While things are looking up in the State as far as some of the statistics, we continue to urge residents and businesses to continue with proper social distancing, wearing of a face mask when within 6' of others and keep washing your hands! If you have a business where people wait in the parking lot for your products, please ensure that vehicles have one full parking space between each other and they remain in their vehicles.

Our Activities Director, Kristen Davila and assistant Ross Stencil continue their outreach to our Senior population with the delivery of food, goody bags with activities to do and hand sanitizer and wellness calls to make sure everyone is doing ok during this pandemic. If anyone needs a grocery or medicine delivery, please contact the Senior Center at 860-567-7437.

Our Morris Public Library is offering online services and activities. Please check the Library web page for updates.

The Morris Fire Company has been active with the fire truck parades and hosting a very successful blood drive last Saturday. The parades have been a huge success with so many residents coming out to cheer it on and ringing their bells.

The recent storm that ripped through Town caused a number of trees to fall and resulted in power outages around Town. The hardest hit area was Isaiah Smith Lane with 5 broken poles and power out for an extended period of time. We were in constant contact with Eversource liaison Steve Silver to ensure the area would get power back on as soon as possible. Eversource, local tree companies and our Highway Department did a great job responding to the storm damage.

Social distancing continues at our Transfer Station as well with some parking spaces coned off to keep safe distances between vehicles. Starting Wednesday, the 22nd, brush and leaves will be accepted on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, but not on Sundays. The Transfer Station remains closed on Saturdays from 11- Noon and no fee based items accepted at this time. The Swap Shop remains closed.

The Highway Department continues work on the East Shore Road drainage, cleaning up storm damage, and preparing for spring work on our dirt roads.

After months of work, the new Union Contract has been completed and approved by the Union and the Town. It will be posted on the Town Website in the coming days.

The Food Pantry in Town Hall remains open Monday – Thursday 8:30 – 4:30 and on Fridays 8:30 – 12. Call ahead at 860-567-7430 and Laurel will gather items for you and have them waiting for when you arrive. Donations continue to roll into our Food Pantry from so many wonderfully generous residents, businesses and area communities and organizations. Thank you so much!

The Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance and the Planning and Zoning Commission continue to meet and conduct Town business using ZOOM. Check the Town website for meeting times and dates.

The Board of Finance, according to Governor's orders, will approve the budget and set the mil rate for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 without a vote by the taxpayers. There will be an opportunity for public comment on the proposed budget once it is completed and before it is approved.

We continue to remain in constant contact with the Governor's Office, Health Officials and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security with weekly and biweekly online conferences.

Be well, stay well.