



Borough of Hightstown

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October 1, 2020

Dear residents and business owners,

As we have completed our sixth month of being in a worldwide pandemic, I would like to take this opportunity to again thank all of you for being diligent in the task of attempting to contain the spread of this virus. We have learned through watching how other regions have “opened up” and taken a more lacking stance with social distancing, that requiring masks to be worn and performing social distancing on a grand scale, is one of the best ways to help quell the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

I for one, did not think that this pandemic would last this long. I am glad that we have been able to reopen restaurants and other businesses at least in a limited capacity. The State is now allowing larger groups of people to gather for both private and public events. Being able to ease restrictions in a slow controlled pace, has allowed the state to continue a forward trajectory to being fully open again. The Borough’s website : www.hightstownborough.com has links to many sites concerning Covid-19 and NJ Executive Orders.

You will see that the Borough is now allowing its council and committees to hold meetings on a hybrid format. When these meetings are advertised, there will be instructions on how to participate if you see fit to do so. You may have noticed that we reopened the parks in town. Please remember that social distancing and masks are still required. If you feel the need to use any equipment at the park, please be aware that the Borough does not sanitize any equipment or seating in the parks. I am sorry that so many activities and events that the Borough sanctions every year had to be cancelled. I am hoping that by spring of next year, the State will be open enough to allow for some of these events to resume. I am sure that since we had so much time to enjoy with just our close family members, everyone’s house repair projects and gardens look awesome!

In regards to daily operations at the Borough, the Borough Administrative offices are still closed to the public. The staff continues to work remotely part of the week; however, there is staff in the office each business day. If you have business to attend to with the Borough, please call or email your request and someone will get back to you as soon as possible; these lines of communication are being monitored by the staff as they work remotely. Public works is working again at close to full capacity. If you need to contact the Borough, you can access a list of contact information on the Borough’s website: www.hightstownborough.com. The website also contains important community and service information for your convenience.

I express a big “thank You!” to all the first responders in Hightstown. Our Police, Fire and EMS departments have been on call since day one offering what I think is the finest level of service any town could ask for. Your dedication to this town’s safety is above reproach. THANK YOU!

So, what are the next steps that we can do to help the process? We first and foremost need to continue adhering to CDC and Department of Health guidelines. Please check yourselves daily to determine if you may be exhibiting symptoms of Covid-19 (ie: temperature over 100.4 degrees, loss of taste or smell, persistent dry cough). If you have had contact with someone who has this virus, please get tested, the sooner you know if you have the virus, the sooner treatments can begin. Continue to social distance and please wear masks when this is not possible, or whenever/wherever it is recommended.

Thank you for being patient through these past several months. As we work together to accomplish the goal of exterminating this virus, we all grow stronger. “Hightstown Strong”.

Jim Sidelinger, Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management