



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: John C. Curran, Town Manager

CC: Sue Aker, Cathy O'Dea

SUBJECT: Town Manager's Report March 1, 2020

DATE: February 28, 2020

CPC Meeting

On Thursday night the Howe School Project and the Peggy Hannon Rizza Complex went in front of the CPC. Both projects were well received by the committee. The Howe School discussion mainly focused on the new addition, the restoration of the front of the building, and storage of historical artifacts in the basement. In regards to PHR the committee asked about ADA accessibility, size of fields, and our level of outreach to the user groups. On Tuesday March 2nd the working group will be meeting with [Pop Warner](#) and softball to continue to iron out the snack shack. The architects will be back before the CPC to discuss the budget for both projects on March 12th.

Coronavirus Update

On Friday this office, The Billerica Public Schools, Board of Health, and The Police Department, and Members of the Town's Emergency Management Team met to review communication and preparedness protocols due the evolving situation created by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Currently the risk to the community and Massachusetts remains low, but the Town wanted to be prepared for any future situations.

The group reviewed reinforcing [existing](#) safety protocols for First Responders for respiratory viruses as well as cleaning protocols in Town and school building to prevent the spread of viruses. The Town will also take advantage of municipal service outlets, such as Schools, Recreation and Council on Aging to disseminate educational material to promote good public [health](#).

The Billerica Board of Health is continuing to monitor this situation very carefully and will make sure that the most up to date information will be available to residents. Refer to the [MDPH website](#) for the most up to date Massachusetts cases or contact the Billerica Board of Health at 978-671-0931 or visit the Public Health Nurse webpage of our [website](#).

Some of the additional educational resources are attached below.

- [2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).
- The Town is guided by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and the [Massachusetts Department of Public Health \(MDPH\)](#) on actions to take in the event we are at risk for the virus.
- While there are [15 total confirmed COVID-19 cases in the United States](#) and [1 confirmed case in Massachusetts](#), there have been no cases in Billerica.

Boat Launch

Tuesday of this week this office received a letter from the Office of Fishing and Boating Access. The Town was notified that John Sheppard has retired and that Acting Director Mr. Douglas Cameron would like to continue to work with the Town to find a location for a boat launch along the Concord River. The State does not want to terminate the land management agreement nor do they want to continue to pursue the boat launch at 250 Boston Road due to the concerns of multiple Department Heads and the majority of the Board. This office looks forward to having a better working relationship with Mr. Cameron and finding a suitable location away from the water intake.

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Boston Road Project Mill and Repave

The Town met with Mass DOT District 4 about the milling and repaving of Boston Road from 129 to the Chelmsford Line. The Town is looking into the possibility of replacing a waterline from Floyd Street to Bridge Street. This would require a warrant article to use Water Retained Earnings to replace the waterline. The Town inquired about the sidewalk gap program to make connections along Boston Road.