

To Town Meeting Members, Town Officials, Resident Voters, and other interested persons,

Once again it is time for Town Meeting to convene. Recognizing the continued difficulty of conducting a traditional Town Meeting in the Covid-19 pandemic, other options were explored. These included how to safely conduct an indoor meeting at the school or other facility, holding an outdoor meeting (similar to June but very different weather), holding a “drive-in” meeting, and holding a “Virtual” meeting via remote communications technology. All of these choices have merit but each also had difficulties nevertheless a choice needed to be made. At the request of the Moderator and with the approval by vote of the Board of Selectmen on October 28, 2020 the decision was made to conduct the meeting by remote virtual technology. The Remote Virtual meeting is felt to be the safest and most responsible option at this point in the pandemic. As a backup plan in the event that the Town Meeting does not vote to agree to conduct the meeting virtually that evening, the Board of Selectmen has voted to hold a “drive-In” meeting on Saturday, November 21, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Holbrook Middle High School Parking lot at 245 S Franklin Street. It is realized that some technical challenges will need to be met and that the flow of the meeting may not be as smooth as desired but with your patience, help, and understanding I expect that this will be an extremely successful session.

The Remote Virtual meeting will be held at 7:15 PM on November 18, 2020 by means of the Zoom Webinar internet video conferencing system. Members and Participants can join by computer or other device but must create a free Zoom account and register for the meeting in advance. This is needed to verify eligible Town Meeting Members, to enable them to securely vote, and to identify non-voting participants such as town officials and residents.

Elected Town Meeting Members and non-voting Town Officials may begin registration by visiting <https://forms.gle/RkngtJRbVUgmzKZD6>, or sending an email to selectmen@holbrookmassachusetts.us. Please include your name, address, precinct number, phone number, and the email address that your Zoom account is (or will be) related to. The Town Administrator’s office will verify eligibility and respond via email with instructions, registration links, and how-to documentation. Several live practice sessions are planned. Information for these will be provided at a later date.

If you are not a Town Meeting member you may view the meeting live on Holbrook Community Access and Media cable channels Comcast channel 9 and Verizon channel 39 and on the web at www.hacmtv.org

Registered voters residing in the town wishing to participate in a remote town meeting conducted pursuant to this section shall submit a request to participate to the town clerk not less than 48 hours in advance of the town meeting. Upon receipt of the request and verification of the requester’s voter registration status, the clerk shall provide to the requester instructions for participating in the remote town meeting.

If you are a person with a disability who requires special accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting you are entitled, at no-cost to you, the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Town Administrator/Americans with Disability Act coordinator at 781-767-4312.

Jim Curran – Town Moderator