

To all citizens and persons within the Township of Bridgewater in the County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, and to all departments, divisions, bureaus, and sections thereof.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the powers delegated to the Township of Bridgewater pursuant to Chapter 251 of the laws of 1942, as amended and supplemented, N.J.S.A. App. A:9-30 et seq., N.J.S.A. 40:48-1(6) et seq., N.J.S.A. 2C:33-1 et seq., whichever law or laws apply, and by the ordinances adopted by the Township of Bridgewater, and to ensure the protection of the health and safety of the residents thereof and for the protection of the resource of said municipality, a local emergency was declared by the undersigned on March 16, 2020 (“prior declaration”); and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. App. A:9-33.1(1) defines “emergency” as “any unusual incident resulting from natural or unnatural causes which endangers the health, safety or resources of the residents of one or more municipalities of the State, and which is or may become too large in scope or unusual in type to be handled in its entirety by regular municipal operating services;”

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. App. A:9-40.5 permits the municipal emergency management coordinator, pursuant to the aforementioned authority, to promulgate such orders, rules, and regulations as are necessary to meet the various problems which have or may be presented by such an emergency; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the undersigned that a state of emergency still exists within the boundaries of the Township of Bridgewater pursuant to the authority and under the provisions of N.J.S.A. App. A:9-30 et seq., with said authority and provisions incorporated herein by reference (including our prior declaration) and to be effective within the entirety of the aforementioned municipality; and

WHEREAS, it has further been determined that it is necessary to amend our prior declaration as contemplated by the powers to amend same reserved therein;

THEREFORE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH the aforementioned laws and such other statutes, regulations, ordinances, and other sources of law as may be relevant and applicable, including our prior declaration, it is hereby promulgated and declared that the following amendments to our declaration of local emergency of March 16, 2020 shall be effective as ordered herein:

- 1) The Bridgewater Township Department of Finance shall waive the Township’s online payment fee for e-check payment of property taxes by Bridgewater Township property owners until December 31, 2020. This waiver applies to fees assessed by the Township only. This provision amends the extension of the waiver of this fee authorized in our prior declaration.
- 2) All programs sponsored by the Bridgewater Township Division of Recreation shall be cancelled through May 15, 2020. This provision amends the cancellation of programming authorized in our prior declaration. Any resident who has registered for a program affected by this cancellation and submits a request for a refund to the Division of Recreation shall have their participation fee refunded thereby.

- 3) The Bridgewater Township Senior Citizens Center shall be closed until May 15, 2020.
- 4) In compliance with the order of the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Municipal Court of the Township of Bridgewater shall conduct no sessions until May 11, 2020, but the administrative offices thereof shall remain in operation pursuant to the terms of this order.
- 5) Consistent with Executive Order No. 130 (Murphy), and pending action of the Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, the statutory grace period for the payment of property taxes pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-64 et seq. shall be extended until June 1, 2020; and

IN FURTHER ACCORDANCE THEREWITH, these restrictions shall take effect at 5:00 PM EST on April 29, 2020 and shall remain in effect, in whole or in part, until such time as this state of emergency is rescinded pursuant to N.J.S.A. App. A:9-30 et seq.; and

IN FURTHER ACCORDANCE THEREWITH, the restrictions and mandates of our prior declaration shall remain in effect inasmuch as they do not conflict with the amendments contained herein and until such time as they are amended or lifted by a subsequent order or declaration; and

IN FURTHER ACCORDANCE THEREWITH, the Township of Bridgewater hereby reserves the right to amend the foregoing by further declaration consistent with N.J.S.A. App. A:9-30 et seq.



Matthew C. Moench
Mayor



Sgt. James Edwards
O.E.M. Coordinator

Date: 4/29/20
Time: 1:45m