A Message from the First Selectman
April 28, 2020
An Update for Residents of the Town of Plainfield

As a result of the unprecedented occurrence of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the state I wanted to give you all another update on the Town of Plainfield and our actions in response to this situation. As of last night there are 17 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Plainfield and 164 in Windham County. There very well may be cases in Plainfield, but they just haven’t presented themselves yet. The more testing that is done will result in more positive COVID-19 cases being documented.

This weekend Governor Lamont issued his Executive Order # 7-EE. These Executive Orders allow the State of Connecticut to operate under its Declaration of Emergency and manage our response to this COVID-19 pandemic. A complete list of these Executive Orders is available on the State of Connecticut web site, or just search “CT Executive Orders”. If you have any questions on these orders you may call us at the Town Hall.

The Plainfield Town Hall is fully operational for your needs but remains closed to the public. Most functions of our offices can be accomplished by phone or email. We encourage all residents to access our Town Departments via phone call or email. All Town departments and contacts are listed on our web page. Payments and some documents can be mailed in or handled on line in some instances. If you do need an in-person appointment, please call that office and make arrangements with the staff for that.

Our Highway Department and WPCA are working an alternating work week schedule to further protect their employees from becoming infected and affecting the entire department. Our police department, fire departments and ambulance are still operating at full staffing and are always ready and available to respond to your emergency calls.

This weekend the Governor has announced a program to provide essential businesses with under 50 employees surgical masks to help protect their employees and their customers from the COVID-19 virus.

Eligible business must apply at the link shown below and delivery will be coordinated by the Town of Plainfield to your business.
Frequently Asked Questions:

What are eligible, essential small businesses?

Eligible, essential small businesses must have 50 employees or less with a need for surgical masks.

The list of essential businesses is available here:

Should all eligible, essential small businesses request masks?

Eligible, essential small businesses and employees that have limited contact with the public are strongly urged to create their own facemasks following CDC guidelines. We must ensure the limited supply of surgical masks is available to eligible, essential businesses that need them the most.

How many times can surgical masks be used?

The CDC recommends the preservation of necessary PPE by instituting extended use policies. Additionally, FEMA, recommends preservation methods to reduce, reuse and repurpose PPE. Both FEMA and CDC guidelines can be found here.

Is there a limit to the number of Surgical Masks that can be requested?

Eligible, essential small businesses must limit their total request to 2 surgical masks per employee. The maximum request should not exceed 100 masks.

How do eligible, essential small businesses make a request?

Eligible, essential small businesses can make a request on the CBIA-CONNSTEP Portal at the following link: https://www.ctovidresponse.org/ct-smb-surgical-mask-requests. At this time, only surgical masks are available to eligible, essential small businesses.
Are healthcare workers and first responders receiving PPE?

Yes, healthcare workers and first responders continue to receive priority distributions of varying types of PPE as they are made available. First responders should continue to make resource requests through the local Emergency Management Director.

How often will this distribution to small businesses be occurring?

At this time, this is a one-time distribution of masks to eligible, essential small businesses in Connecticut.

Will every requestor receive masks?

Supplies are limited at this time; therefore, it is possible that not all requestors will receive the masks they request.

We are aware that many of you are out of work as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and are having a difficult time providing for your family. One of our greatest assets in Plainfield is Project PIN, located in Moosup. All throughout this community emergency Tim Kettle and his staff of volunteers have been providing meals to those in need in town. This increased demand has placed a strain on his usual supply sources. If you are able to they need donations of food as well as monetary assistance that will allow them to continue to make bulk purchases. Please consider helping out our in town food blank during these unique times.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in the rapidly changing situation. We will continue to bring these updates as needed. You may always call my office with a specific concern, 860-230-3001.

Kevin Cunningham
First Selectman