



TOWN OF BECKET
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
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TOWN HALL – (413) 623-8934 Ext. 113
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November 23, 2020

Dear Community,

As usual, winter comes to Becket a little earlier than it does in some other communities. As we move forward into the winter months, please use caution while travelling.

COVID-19 cases are on the rise nationally, in the state, and locally. Cases are increasing in the county and after nearly a three month hiatus, the health department reports several cases within the Becket community. Currently, Town Hall is open to the public from 10:00am-2:00pm on Tuesday and Thursday. If the Town moves into one of the higher risk categories assigned by the State, we will close Town Hall to the public but our staff will continue daily operations in the Town Hall. To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, the best practice is to continue to conduct business online or over the phone when possible.

Although we are weary of COVID-19 restrictions, now is not the time to become lax in our efforts. Simple measures such as wearing a mask, washing your hands, not gathering in large groups, and practicing physical distancing will help to keep everyone safe.

We have seen recent stories that the FDA and other regulatory agencies will soon approve the COVID-19 vaccines. This is great news, but please bear in mind that there are still several months before vaccines will be publicly available.

On 11/17/2020 we had a structure fire at Jacob's Pillow that leveled an important building to their operation. I can speak for many that our thoughts are with them during this difficult time. The Town hopes to work with Jacob's Pillow as they determine their course for rebuilding.

I want to thank the Becket Volunteer Fire Department, Police, and Ambulance Departments for their support and hard work during this emergency. Additionally, the mutual aid system worked flawlessly as our first responders were aided by the Otis Fire and Rescue Squad, and the Monterey, Hinsdale, Lee, Chester and Dalton Fire Departments. We are all grateful for their generous efforts. Thank you.

Finally and perhaps one of the most anticipated news is the beginning of construction of the Town's broadband network. This will commence by the end of the month. As always, more information can be found at becketbroadband.org.

Sincerely,
William J. Caldwell