

UNION TOWN OFFICE
COVID-19 UPDATES TO CITIZENS

www.union.maine.gov

207-785-3658

REGISTRATIONS: First, let us update everyone on registrations. You can do almost all your transactions online. Automobiles, trailers, etc. do not have to be registered until 30 days after the Governor rescinds the emergency declaration; however, we advise you to do it online now to avoid the crowds when we do open. Call us if you have questions.

Boats are now needing registrations as of Friday, May 1 (I know, but talk to the Governor), again online, or call us and we can make it happen.

TAXES: Property taxes are still due on Friday, May 15; however, the BOS has suspended interest until June 15. If you can pay, you should now as it helps us all out in the long run.

ELECTIONS: Unless you are lucky enough to live in a cave, you know that elections have been delayed until Tuesday, July 14. We have no idea how we are going to keep people safe at the polls or even if we can get poll workers. Very little guidance from Augusta which is incredibly frustrating.

Regardless of the process, we urge you to request an absentee ballot when they become available; otherwise lines could be extremely long as we attempt to adhere to the distancing laws.

TOWN MEETING: We have tentatively rescheduled this until Monday, July 20. With conflicting laws now, we are unable to have more than 50 people together, regardless of the size of the area. So, with the 10 people we need to attend, Selectmen and workers, it leaves room for 40. NOT an option.

Again, nothing from Augusta and it seems that the 500 municipalities are totally forgotten, until they want our money.

We will be considering an all-paper ballot on Tuesday, July 14, with reduced article numbers. We are awaiting the executive order to allow some flexibility in the many laws, so we can accomplish this.

TOWN OFFICE OPENING: As you may know, the Town Office has been closed to the public for several weeks, and under the Governor's decree we believe we will be allowed to open Monday, June 1 – maybe sooner but we shall see.

Things will be different for the foreseeable future. We will limit the number of people in the office at one time. We may have reduced hours so we can sanitize the office.

Due to the social distancing rules, everyone will be required to wear a mask and sanitize before entering. I realize there are some who will refuse to do that, and we will make other arrangements to get your business done, but we will not allow entrance for those refusing to comply at this time.

There will be no public restrooms available. The map room and other offices will be closed to the public until restrictions are lifted.

For the immediate future, business will change. Things we have always done will be accomplished another way. Remember, most transactions can now be done online and there is no need to come into the office.

Change is hard. It is hard for us. We miss the day-to day interactions and the chats we have with the public. Someday that will come back, but this is not the day.

Please call us, email us with questions, concerns, etc. Remember, most of the restrictions are not put in place by us, but by the Governor's decrees.