

In response to the State of Emergency and concerns about COVID-19 and its implications on election administration, the Governor signed a law, Chapter 45 of the Acts of 2020, authorizing the Town Council to vote to **postpone** the local election which was scheduled for April 7, 2020. At its meeting on March 23, 2020, the Town Council voted to postpone the election to a date unknown and all elected and appointed officials will remain in their current positions until the election is held. Councilor Cathcart seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Councilor Scanlon-yes, Vice-President Pare-yes, Councilor Lennox-yes, Councilor Prescott-yes, Councilor Gregory-yes, Councilor Simmons-yes, Councilor Cathcart-yes, Councilor Boyce-yes, President Lapointe-yes. The motion passed 9-0.

At its April 13, 2020 meeting the Town Council voted to reschedule the town election from April 7, 2020 to June 30, 2020. Councilor Simmons seconded the motion. Roll Call vote: Councilor Simmons-yes, Councilor Gregory-yes, Councilor Prescott-yes, Councilor Scanlon-yes, Vice-President Pare-yes, Councilor Lennox-yes, President Lapointe-yes. The motion passed 7-0.

A copy of the act ([view here](#)), the vote of the Town Council, and a sample ballot must be placed on the official municipal website.

The law requires the Town to post **public notice** of the postponed election and rescheduled election date on its website and to broadly **publicize** the postponement and rescheduling. North Attleborough is posting this notice on the website and will provide additional notice to voters through the Sun Chronicle.

The law establishes a **new voter registration deadline** of 8:00 p.m. on the 10<sup>th</sup> day before the rescheduled election. The rescheduled election date is **June 30, 2020**, therefore, the 10th day before the rescheduled election is **Friday, June 19, 2020**.

The law authorizes the Town to **reuse election materials**. The Town will be using the official and absentee ballots used for the April 7, 2020 election. As required by the law a sample of the ballot may be viewed [here](#).

In light of widespread practice of **social distancing**, the law provides for two alternatives to voting in person:

\* First, the law allows any person taking precaution related to COVID-19 to vote by **absentee ballot**. All applications for an absentee ballot must be received by the Elections Office before noon on **Monday June 29, 2020**, the last business day before the election. Any person may apply for an absentee ballot by sending a signed request to the Town Clerk's office or filling out the absentee ballot application available [here](#).

\* Second, the law provides for **early voting by mail**. All applications for early voting ballots must be received before noon on **Monday June 29, 2020**, the last business day before the election. Any person may obtain an early voting ballot by sending a signed request to the Elections office or by filling out and returning the early voting application available [here](#). Your early voting ballot must be received by the Elections Office at the Town Hall before the polls close at 8:00 PM on election day.

The law does **NOT** make any other changes to elections or the election process. It does **NOT**, for example, change the number of signatures or the submission deadline for candidates for office.