Agenda Item IV.8



Town of Bristol Town Administrator 1 South Street P.O. Box 249

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Bristol, VT 05443

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Department of Public Works Employees
FROM:	Valerie Capels, Town Administrator
DATE:	April 20, 2020
RE:	COVID-19 Phased Restart Protective Measures

After more than a month of sheltering in place, social/physical distancing, and restricted work details, Governor Scott has begun to allow for a phased restart of certain activities.

Effective today, those who exclusively or largely work outdoors (such as civil engineering, site work, exterior construction, skilled trades, **public works**, energy and utility work, mining, forestry, environmental monitoring, landscaping, painting, tree work, parks maintenance, delivery work, etc.) **may resume operations with a maximum of two (2) total workers per location/job**.

All employees must follow the following Vermont Department of Health and CDC guidelines:

- Do not come to work or a job site if you are sick or symptomatic (with fever, cough, and/or shortness of breath).
- All employees must observe strict social/physical distancing of six feet (6') while on the job.
- Employees must wear non-medical cloth face coverings (bandana, scarf, or non-medical mask, etc.) over their nose and mouth when in the presence of others.
- Employees must have easy and frequent access to soap and water or hand sanitizer during duration of work, and handwashing or hand sanitization **is required** before entering and leaving job sites.
- All common spaces and equipment, including bathrooms, frequently touched surfaces and doors, tools and equipment, and vehicles must be cleaned and disinfected at the beginning, middle and end of each shift and prior to transfer from one person to another.

• Although the guideline is that no more than two people occupy one vehicle when conducting work, employees should travel to work sites in separate vehicles when possible.

At the Town Garage:

- Vehicles must be cleaned daily using disinfectant (wipes or Lysol) on steering wheels, seat belts, door handles inside and out. Dispose of wipes in the trash, never flushed.
- Use cell phones and Town radios for communication to limit face to face contact.
- Only Eric will use the computer and phone in the office and check messages.
- Work details, to the extent possible, are not to be undertaken where there is direct interaction with the public.

The Selectboard understands that these have been trying times for everyone and that some employees' situations have been especially challenging. The Town will continue to support all employees, including those who are dealing with vulnerable households or who have other restrictions affecting their ability to return to work. Eric will coordinate with everyone and schedule activities accordingly. We are all in this together.