

***Storm Update Tuesday, January 27, 2015 4:30 P.M.***

Good Afternoon:

As you know, we have been working non-stop since the first flakes fell yesterday to stay ahead of this monster storm. We expect that when final accumulations are calculated, that this will be a top five all-time snowfall in Hanover. I have just concluded a meeting in the EOC with our team. We participated in a statewide MEMA conference call. An update from the National Weather Service included an estimate of approximately 6" of snow yet to come in Hanover. Intermittent snow will continue until approximately 5AM tomorrow.

Our town crews and contract plows are nearing the end of a 36-hour effort. In consultation with the EOC team, we will instruct all plowing crews to stand down at 8PM tonight, consistent with the planned end of the snow. This will allow for a few hours of critically important rest. During that period, we will still have a couple of town crews and contracted 10-wheelers working Main Roads. All crews will return at 3AM tomorrow and will remain in operation until the job is complete. We also have contracted graders here and will have two at work for most of tomorrow. I have made several passes throughout the town and surveyed the snow removal work. It has been a constant and arduous effort, as just as things subsided this afternoon, the heavy snow picked up again.

The shelter remains open and will continue to operate until 8PM. We have fed our public safety personnel and snow teams and will offer another meal this evening from 5-8PM until ceasing shelter operations. Our CERT volunteers have provided a valuable service; I will ask you to recognize their efforts at a future meeting.

Superintendent Matt Ferron has already canceled school for tomorrow, following suit with many South Shore communities. The regional Town Managers/Administrators have been in constant contact as well; most will be closed tomorrow. Accordingly, and due to independent consultation with our Department Heads and Chiefs, Town Hall in Hanover will be closed. This will allow for our maintenance crews to concentrate on complete cleanup and prep work at our schools and town buildings in anticipation of the resumption of regular activities on Thursday. Additional snow is expected on Friday.

We have worked throughout this storm to keep the public informed and have posted widely on social media and our website. We have been in constant contact with media outlets and have provided information to a wide variety of media sources, including a 3AM interview on Fox 25.

I will keep you informed throughout. Thank you for your confidence, your patience, and your support.

TBGC

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