October 18, 2019

Eversource is currently working to restore services to the estimated 275 Kingston homes and businesses that are still without power.

With winter storms just around the corner, I want to reassure all residents and business owners that the Town of Kingston has a comprehensive emergency response plan in place. This plan, which was overhauled in 2018, is the result of a collaborative effort from members of Kingston's Fire, Police, and Highway Departments, staff from the Council on Aging, and the Town Administrator. Additional input from Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the American Red Cross has resulted in a series of protocols that will help residents stay safe in the event of an emergency.

Kingston's emergency response plan outlines a series of standard operating procedures that allow a team of professionals to make decisions such as how to support residents who shelter in place, how, when, and where to open warming centers and emergency shelters, and what areas of town are to be prioritized based on the needs of vulnerable residents, all of which is rooted in best practices. Furthermore, we are constantly working to build stronger relationships with our partners at the American Red Cross, National Guard, and Eversource, to ensure that we can provide all residents with the best services possible.

While I am not certain what weather events or emergencies the future will bring, I am confident that the team and the plan we have in place will ensure that the diverse needs of Kingston's residents will be met.

Any residents with questions about Kingston's Emergency Response Plan are encouraged to contact Kingston's Fire Chief, Mark Douglass, at 781-585-0531.

Sincerely,

Joshua Warren, Chairman