EXECUTIVE ORDER #2

CLOSURE OF TOWN AND SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS, TENNIS AND BASKETBALL COURTS, THE DOG PARK AND THE CHESHIRE HIGH SCHOOL GROUNDS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Town Manager Sean M. Kimball declared a local state of emergency due to the unprecedented public health threat of the COVID-19 pandemic, and activated the municipal Emergency Operations Plan, and

WHEREAS, this emergency plan empowers the Town Manager to protect our residents as much as possible from this public health threat, and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus spreads easily from person-to-person and may result in serious illness or death, and

WHEREAS, there are multiple confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Cheshire, and

WHEREAS, the ongoing gatherings of groups of more than five using Town and School tennis and basketball courts, the Dog Park, and the Cheshire High School turf field without maintaining a safe social distance could accelerate the spread of the virus, endangering the health of residents and by extension the community, and

WHEREAS, Town and School playgrounds present an opportunity for equipment surfaces to be contaminated by the virus, accelerating the spread of the virus to other playground users touching the equipment,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Town Manager Sean M. Kimball, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter of the Town of Cheshire, the Cheshire Emergency Management Plan, and the State of Connecticut, and in consultation with the Cheshire Town Council and the Cheshire Recreation Director do hereby close Town and School tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, the Dog Park, and the Cheshire High School grounds including the Turf Field complex effective 7:00 a.m. Friday, March 27, 2020, until rescinded by the Town Manager.

Town open space trails, the Farmington Greenway Linear Trail, and expansive park areas will remain open to the public to enjoy unless and until there are gatherings of groups in close proximity at those locations.

Dated at Cheshire, Connecticut, this 26th day of March 2020.

Sean M. Kimball
Town Manager