We are beginning to see some increasing numbers regarding the daily number of total positive cases here in town. Our “curve” has been running flatter than the rest of Morris County and certainly flatter than New Jersey as a whole. I would like to think that that is the result of the attentiveness we have given to this crisis as a community from the beginning. Even our “flatter” curve has a peak, however, and we seem to be headed towards one at this time.

Our new positive cases from yesterday and today bring our total to 54 with 17 “RECOVERED”. It is great to see the number of recovered cases increasing at the same rate of new ones. Recovered cases continue to make up about 1/3 of our total cases.

The Center for Disease Control is now recommending that all people wear some sort of protective face covering when out in public. Please keep in mind that it is possible to transmit the virus even if you do not have symptoms. The face covering is effective in helping you lessen your chance of spreading the virus to others. The CDC now recommends the following and I ask that you follow these recommendations when you are out in public which should be for essential purposes only:

**Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others**

- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities.
  - Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Do NOT use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker.
- Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.
- A link to instructions on how to make homemade masks is located on our Borough website.

The last few days have been as difficult and stressful as any during this crisis. That being said, I am thrilled by the amount of community involvement there has been in response to these challenging days. The “Clap Out” last night was great to see…and hear. There are so many wonderful stories I have heard of neighbors helping each other. The amount of love shown to our first responders and healthcare workers has been overwhelming…and deserved. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK LINCOLN PARK!!**

I and every department in town, along with our first responders, remain in constant contact with our state and county partners to keep us up to date with the best ways to continue to serve you. We will release additional information as it is provided. The State of New Jersey has set up a comprehensive website covering many questions you may have regarding COVID-19, as well as a telephone hotline. For more information, please visit www.covid19.nj.gov or call 211. Our Borough website www.bolp.org also has a tremendous amount of information for you as well. Please remember to consult your personal doctor if you exhibit any symptoms of illness.

I will continue to provide accurate and up-to-date information as quickly as possible.