

# ACTION TAKEN

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA

**Fuller Meadow School  
Nathan Media Center  
143 South Main Street, Middleton, MA 01949  
Tuesday, January 14, 2020  
7:00 PM**

*This meeting is being recorded*

1. 7:00 PM Warrant: #2014 & 2015 Approved 5-0  
Minutes: Open Session: December 17, 2019 Approved 5-0  
Town Administrator updates and reports
  - The Governor recently signed legislation closing out the State's FY19 budget. The supplemental appropriation included additional c. 90 funds. C. 90 is distributed to cities and towns to fund road repairs and improvements. The supplemental c. 90 appropriation will give Middleton about \$30,800; our base [FY20] distribution was \$308,000. We thank the Governor and our local delegation for supporting these additional funds.
  - The Master Planning process for the municipal complex at 105 South Main Street is continuing and crystalizing. The Master Development Planning Committee and HKT Architects meet again tomorrow night. The Committee will review preliminary floor plans, review site layout, and discuss phasing of the project. The meeting is tomorrow night at 7PM, here at the Fuller Meadow School, but has been moved to the Cafeteria.
  - MassDOT informed us last week of upcoming work Route 114. The existing water main at the bridge over the Ipswich River is leaking and needs to be replaced. In the past couple of days the leak has gotten substantially worse. This project will result in lane restrictions during the day – traffic will be reduced to one lane on South Main Street. Work is expected to begin this Thursday and we are expecting about a three week disruption. In addition to the traffic disruptions, the work is likely to result in some discoloration of water.
  - Also from MassDOT, all highway exits in Massachusetts will be renumbered. Exit numbers will become mile-based rather than sequential. Work is scheduled to begin later this year and continue through 2021. MassDOT is holding public information meetings in advance of the numbering project. The first is January 23 at 6:30PM at Lowell City Hall. There will be additional public information meetings; we will share those when the dates become available.
  - We have talked generally about changes in the trash and recycling market that are driving up our operating costs. There was an article in Sunday's *Boston Globe* about the increasing cost of recycling and the burden it is placing on municipal budgets around the State. In Middleton, we expect the cost of trash to rise in FY22 after our existing contract with Covanta expires. The changing market for recyclables is also leading to increasing costs as we pay almost as much for recycling as we do for trash. There are a number of options, but none of them is particularly easy. Ultimately, we have to reduce the amount of solid waste that we dispose of. Increased composting will help as will techniques such as collecting textiles separately from trash and recycling them. Other options range from increasing fees to a pay as you throw bag system to entirely eliminating the Town's solid waste program. I am putting together a working group consisting of Paul Goodwin and Ken Gibbons at DPW, Mass DEP's solid waste people, Tanya, me, and others to explore options and strategies. No doubt this will be discussed at our Saturday budget meeting on February 1 and the Board can expect to hear a lot about in the coming months.
  
2. 7:15 PM Public Comment Period None

3. 7:25 PM Vote to accept and authorize the Fire Chief to expend funds in the amount of \$5,440 from a Department of Fire Services grant to fund hoods and gloves **Approved 5-0**
4. 7:30 PM Vote to accept and authorize the Town Administrator to expend funds in the amount of \$30,000 from a Massachusetts Office on Disabilities ADA Improvement Grant **Approved 5-0**
5. 7:35 PM Review and vote to adopt revised Complete Streets Policy **Approved 5-0**
6. 7:45 PM Vote to declare surplus the Council on Aging's 2007 Aero Bus with estimated value of \$4,000 and authorize the Town Administrator to dispose of in accordance with statutes and local policy **Approved 5-0**
7. 7:50 PM Review and approve a donation to the Middleton Council On Aging in the amount of \$1,000 from Middleton Family Medical Medicine **Approved 5-0**
8. 7:55 PM Review and approve the following donations to the Middleton Food Pantry:
  - \$500 from Bostik
  - \$500 from United Civil
  - \$2,000 from New England Biolabs, Inc. **Approved 5-0**
9. 8:00 PM Vote to appoint Paul Goodwin as Superintendent of Public Works and to appoint Ken Gibbons as Deputy Superintendent of Public Works **Approved 4-0**
10. 8:05 PM New Business: Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed **None**
11. 8:10 PM Executive Session under GL c. 30A, s. 21(a)(2) for negotiations with non-union personnel with respect to the Town Administrator

Upcoming Meetings: January 28, 2020  
February 1, 2020, Joint Operating Budget meeting with Finance Committee  
February 11 & 25, 2020

*The Board reserves the right to consider items on the agenda out of order. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*

**Board of Selectmen "Actions Taken" are provided for informational purposes only. They are not a substitute for minutes.**