

ACTIONS TAKEN

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 7, 2020
7:00 PM

NOTE: Due to the state of emergency in Massachusetts due to the COVID-19 outbreak, this meeting will be held via ZOOM, an internet based meeting space. It is the intent that the virtual meeting space will be made accessible to the public; however, if this is not possible despite best efforts, the full and complete transcript of the meeting will be posted on the municipal website as soon as practicable upon the conclusion of the proceedings. To join the meeting, go to <https://zoom.us/j/448348456?pwd=MEd4K0RHNEhMV0lFZjluRERWRk8yUT09>

Meeting ID: 448 348 456

Password: 961973

One tap mobile +13126266799,,448348456# US (Chicago) +19292056099,,448348456# US (New York)

1. 7:00 PM Warrant: #2021 Approved 5-0

Minutes: Open Session: March 24, 2020 Approved 5-0

Executive Session: none

Town Administrator updates and reports

- Coronavirus has consumed a lot of our time, but there are other things going on. A couple of Public Works notes to start with:
 - In keeping with social distancing practices associated with COVID-19, the DPW is limiting the number of vehicles entering the transfer station at any one time. Please leave yourself extra time as it will take a bit longer to go through.
 - The brush collection has been rescheduled to April 18, 2020, 8AM to 4PM at the Transfer station. Any vehicle with a transfer station sticker may enter and drop off brush.
 - Street sweeping is beginning this week and catch basin cleaning will start next week.
 - The contractor who prepares our ballfields has been doing his work at Fuller Meadow, Howe Manning, and Rubchinuk Park so we can have a Little League season if we can get past the virus
 - Our paving of Devonshire and Ryer roads is scheduled to begin in early May, subject to decent weather
- The coronavirus has consumed many of us since it broke in March. We will talk about elements of it throughout the meeting, but I wanted to mention a couple of things now:
 - As of today, Middleton has seen 16 confirmed cases of coronavirus/COVID-19;
 - I want to thank all the department heads, employees, and volunteers who have been on the front line of our actions to deal with COVID-19. I won't name names out of fearing of omitting some, but you know who you are and know how much I appreciate your commitment;
 - We will be revising the COVID-19 information on the website to make it a little neater and easier to navigate. The new setup will have a button on the home page that will bring you to the COVID page. If anyone has ideas or other information they would like to see please email me at andrew.sheehan@middletonma.gov;
- We have heard about some scams around COVID-19 testing, fundraising, and other things related to the pandemic. We implore our residents to be careful when solicitors reach out. Testing for COVID-19 should only be through a trusted health care provider and personal and financial information should not be shared with anyone but a trusted care provider.

- On the brighter side, there is a great deal of charitable work going on to help deal with the pandemic and the recovery. For those who wish to donate, potential opportunities include:
 - The Middleton Food Pantry is continuing to serve the residents who are most in need. Monetary donations, rather than food donations, are especially welcome at this time. These can be directed to the Council on Aging, 38 Maple Street, Middleton, with a note in the memo line that it is for the food pantry. Donations can also be put in the drop box at Memorial Hall;
 - The Essex County Community Foundation provides assistance to nonprofits in the region. Donations can be made through their website at eccf.org;
 - And yesterday, Governor Baker's wife, Lauren Baker, unveiled the Massachusetts COVID19 Relief Fund. The website is macovid19relieffund.org. Funds raised through this effort will be distributed statewide.
- This year the decennial Federal Census takes place. We had planned to have our local Census Bureau rep, Phil D'Agati, in to talk about it. We will schedule that after things start getting back to normal or have him in through ZOOM. In addition to the federal census, the Clerk's Office is doing the annual Town Census. This is a requirement of Massachusetts law. The first local census mailing went out around New Year's and the Town Clerk will soon be sending out a second mailing.
- I want to thank the residents and our employees for the inconvenience being endured and the sacrifices being made. The commitment of the community and unity of purpose is shining through during this time. This shows great strength of purpose and confirms to me that our strength will lead us through this. Thank you.

2. 7:15 PM Public Comment Period **none**
3. 7:25 PM Review and sign Bond Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$3,745,000 for acquisition and master planning of 105 South Main Street **Approved 5-0**
4. 7:30 PM Discuss and review Annual Town Meeting warrant; review revised Town Meeting and Budget calendar; and vote to set Wednesday, June 10, 2020 as the new date, contingent on the lifting of the stay at home order **Approved 5-0**
5. 7:50 PM Discuss and vote to postpone the Annual Town Election to Saturday, June 20, 2020 with proposed hours of 10AM-4PM, contingent on the lifting of the stay at home order **Approved 5-0**
6. 7:55 PM Discussion and vote to adopt the provisions of House Bill 4612 changing the due date for 4th quarter property taxes from May 1 to June 1 and other taxpayer relief. Note, this legislation is currently being debated **Approved 5-0**
7. 8:05 PM Discussion of hearings and meetings by public bodies during the stay at home order **Discussion**
8. 8:15 PM Discussion of personnel policies, charter and bylaw amendments **Discussion**
9. 8:30 PM New Business: Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed

Upcoming Meetings:

- April 21: Regular BOS meeting
- May 5: Regular BOS meeting
- May 7: Joint Budget Hearing/Warrant Reading
- May 12: Regular BOS meeting
- June 2: Regular BOS meeting
- June 10: Annual Town Meeting
- June 16: Regular BOS meeting

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.