

ACTIONS TAKEN

MIDDLETON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2020

7:00 PM

This meeting is being recorded

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 Town's website as soon as practicable upon the conclusion of the proceedings. To join the meeting, go to

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84955022228?pwd=cmdOdmpuOUVyVUIzNjluMXBLUUVJUT09>

Meeting ID: 849 5502 2228

Password: 454869

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1. 7:00 PM Warrant: #2023 **Approved 5-0**
Minutes: Open Session: April 21, 2020 **Approved 5-0**
Town Administrator updates and reports
 - We will talk about Town Meeting later in the meeting. The most important thing Town Meeting does is approve spending. The Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee are meeting this Thursday, May 7 at 7PM, via Zoom to review the operating budget, capital budget, and review the warrant. Residents can participate on Zoom and the meeting will be recorded and rebroadcast on the website and cable. The Zoom meeting information is available on the agenda; go to the calendar on the website and click on the May 7 Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee Joint Meeting. You can then simply click the link to the Zoom meeting and you won't have to type in the whole thing.
 - The DPW is continuing with street sweeping and catch basin cleaning. Paving is scheduled to take place this week on Ryer Lane and Devonshire Road. [off Kenney Road]
 - The coronavirus continues to cast a shadow over all we do. A couple of things to report now:
 - Last week the Governor announced that the stay at home order will remain in place until at least May 18; that is a two week extension of the original order. The Governor's reentry plan is expected to be released on May 18
 - We are starting to develop a reentry plan for municipal operations. Some of our reentry plan will be driven by the Governor's reentry guidelines. But we want to be ready to move when the time comes.
 - As of today, Middleton has had 55 at-large cases with another 70 cases at the Jail. Middleton has had 5 COVID-related deaths;
 - The Coronavirus is affecting community events:
 - The Memorial Day Parade has been cancelled

- Chief Will's Day has been cancelled
 - I have heard from colleagues in the area that similar events are being cancelled, including July 4th activities and Fiesta in Gloucester
 - One positive from the virus is a significant drop in crime. This is not unique to Middleton, as there have been reports of a general decline in criminal activity. Much of this can be attributed to the dramatic decrease in traffic as people work from home. Traffic nationwide is down about 50%. Fewer cars equals fewer traffic stops and fewer arrests. An interesting data point: since the stay at home order was issued about 7 weeks ago Middleton PD has only taken two individuals into custody;
 - At the last meeting the Board accepted a gift to the Council on Aging from Falck Renewables. I asked that the amount of the donation not be mentioned as it was not quite finalized. It has been finalized and delivered. Falck Renewables donated \$40,000 to be used for meals on wheels and related costs during the COVID-19 crisis. This is a remarkably generous gift and we are deeply grateful to Jaimie Lundy at Falck who coordinated with Jillian Smith. Jillian has already followed up with a thank you and I will do so on behalf of the Board.
2. 7:15 PM Public Comment Period *None*
 3. 7:25 PM Continue review and discussion of the June 10, 2020 Annual Town Meeting, including form and publication of warrant, notification, venue, and quorum *Review and Discussion*
 4. 7:40 PM Discussion and vote on revised Oakdale Cemetery rules *Approved 5-0*
 5. 7:50 PM Discuss and vote to appoint an Alternate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term through June 30, 2010 *Rich Bennevento Approved 5-0*
 6. 7:55 PM Vote to accept the following donations from:
 - Essex County Community Foundation \$1,000 for the ~~COVID-19 Response Fund~~ *Middleton Food Pantry*
 - Marion & Gerald Bojas in the amount of \$500 for the Middleton Food Pantry
 - Susan Muzichuk in the amount of \$500 for the Middleton Food Pantry*Approved 5-0*
 7. 8:00 PM New Business: Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed

Upcoming Meetings: May 7: Joint Budget Hearing/Warrant Reading
 May 19: 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.