

# ACTIONS TAKEN

## MIDDLETON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

### MEETING AGENDA

**TUESDAY, MAY 19, 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/84613448083?pwd=ZGFOM3dhNnltcjM0RlhlQmMvcDdrZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 1344 8083

Password: 405890

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,84613448083#,,1#,405890# US (New York)

1. 7:00 PM Warrant: #2024 **Approved 4-0**  
Minutes: Open Session: May 5, 2020 **Approved 4-0**  
Town Administrator updates and reports
  - A couple of updates on property and motor vehicle excise tax bills:
    - On April 7 the Board adopted the grace period for real estate tax bills. Real estate tax bills are now due June 1 instead of May 1. The Board's vote included an additional grace period: late fees/penalties are waived as long as payment is made by June 30.
    - At that time, we decided to delay mailing the bills for the next round of Motor Vehicle Excise bills. The largest batch of excise bills had already been billed and paid. The next batch of excise bills and demands are going out this week.
  - Board members and residents may have seen a notice last week about the Town's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan (MVP). The Plan identifies environmental threats and vulnerabilities related to climate change. Residents can review the draft plan online and offer comments until May 25. We had hoped to hold a public forum to discuss the draft Plan but COVID-19 got in the way of that. This plan was paid for with a State grant. The State has made grant funds available to municipalities for implementation projects. Kristin Kent and Katrina O'Leary are working on a plan to explore a riverwalk along the Ipswich River from Peabody Street to Maple Street. It is an ambitious and exciting idea. The grant will fund development of a feasibility study and conceptual plan; implementation will come much later.
  - Public Works is busy, as is usual at this time of year. Ryer and Devonshire were paved in the past two weeks. Old Essex was paved last week. Turf management is consuming much of the attention of the staff, as the grass is growing fast with the recent weather.
  - Speaking of grass, DPW has arranged for our contractor to mow the former golf course. The first mowing should happen later this week or next week. 4-5 cuttings are planned this year. We have enough funds to mow it about 8 times and are trying to stretch that out over this year and next.
  - As always happens in May, we are under a Level 3 water ban. We do this in concert with our partners in water, the Town of Danvers.
  - I mentioned last meeting that our usual Memorial Day activities are cancelled as a result of COVID-19. VSO Gary Bent, his son, and some Massachusetts National Guardsmen put up almost

900 flags today at the cemetery, along the streets, and other places. We thank Gary and his crew for their constant efforts to show our respect to service men and women.

- Finally the reopening plan the Governor unveiled yesterday foresees reopening beaches and swimming areas. In Middleton, this would only apply to Thunder Bridge Beach. The Health Department does not support reopening. We did not know the reopening plan would include beaches and therefore did not include it on the agenda. Is the Board willing to discuss this as an item not anticipated at the time of posting?

2. 7:15 PM Public Comment Period **None**
3. 7:25 PM Applications under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 138, Section 15A: Amendment-Alteration of Premises for the All Alcohol Beverages Restaurant Liquor Licenses for Serenitee Catering Corp. d/b/a Maggie's Farm, by Atty. Jill Mann, located at:
  - A. 119 South Main Street
  - B. 189 South Main Street**Not Approved 2-2**
4. 7:45 PM Discussion of COVID-19 State of Emergency, stay at home order, and Town of Middleton re-entry planning **Discussion**
5. 7:55 PM Town Clerk Ilene Twiss to discuss Annual Town Election on June 20, 2020, including last day to register, early voting, and absentee voting **Discussion**
6. 8:05 PM Continue review and discussion of the June 10, 2020 Annual Town Meeting, including whether to keep the date **Discussion**
7. 8:15 PM Vote to accept donations for the Middleton Food Pantry **Approved 4-0**
8. 8:20 PM Discussion of summer meeting schedule: normal dates are June 2, 16, and 30; July 14 and 28; and August 11 and 25; normal schedule resumes on September 8 **Discussion**
9. 8:30 PM New Business: Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed **Motion not to open Thunder Bridge Beach until further notice Approved 4-0**

Upcoming Meetings: June 2: Regular BOS meeting  
June 10: Annual Town Meeting  
June 16: Regular BOS meeting  
June 30: 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.*