



Town of Burlington

BURLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 14, 2020 – VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

1. **Call Meeting to Order** - Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. Present was First Selectman Ted Shafer, Selectmen Salsedo, Chard, and Zabel. Selectman Byrne joined the meeting at 7.25PM. Guests: Gerry Mullen- BOF Chair, Duncan Forsyth-Town Attorney, Allison Tharau-Tax Collector & Recording Clerk.
2. **Review/Accept Minutes** –
March 10, 2020 Regular Meeting-**Motion** made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes from March 10, 2020. (Chard/Zabel)
March 24, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes-**Motion** made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes from March 24, 2020. (Zabel/Chard)
March 31, 2020 Special Meeting-**Motion** made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Special Meeting Minutes from March 31, 2020. (Salsedo/Zabel)
April 1, 2020 Special Joint BOS & BOF Meeting-**Motion** made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Special Meeting Minutes from April 1, 2020. (Chard/Salsedo)
April 7, 2020 Special Meeting-**Motion** made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Special Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2020. (Salsedo/Zabel)
3. **Citizen Comment**- None
4. **Appointments to Boards and Commissions**-During the COVID -19 crisis, generally appointment process will be put on hold unless a situation arises that needs attention.
5. **Executive Order 7S-Tax Collection-Resolution**- Allison Tharau, Tax Collector, gave an overview of the Executive Order and made a recommendation to the Board that the Town offer the Deferment Program to all residents. The Deferment Program will allow deferred payment deadline until 90 days from tax due date to any bills coming due between April 1 to July 1st (including July 1st bills).

Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously:
“RESOLVED, that the Burlington Board of Selectmen does hereby elect to participate in the Deferment Program for all taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits and residents in the Town of Burlington as described in Section 6(a), as well as eligible landlords as described in Section 6(c), of Executive Order No. 7S issued by Gov. Ned Lamont on April 1, 2020 and any supplemental guidance or documentation issued in conjunction therewith by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.” (Zabel/Chard)
6. **Selectmen’s Reports:**
First Selectman Shafer- Shafer updated the Board regarding COVID-19. He stated that the Burlington Lions Club will be sending a letter to all residents explaining their new “Help your Neighbor Fund” asking for support and distributing funds for those in financial need in town. Information will also be posted on website. Also, a master list of residents looking to volunteer is being compiled.

Parks & Recreation did an Easter Bunny drive-by visiting many streets in town. It was very much appreciated by parents and kids.

The Public Library has been providing many virtual programs for kids providing links and digital material.

Activity at the recycling center on Wednesdays & Saturdays has doubled due to “stay at home” status. Bears are out of hibernation so bird feeders should be brought in. ACO is urging all residents to be “bear aware”. Information will be posted on the website.

Rails to Trails and Session Woods remain open. DEEP has not posted any signs with respect to social distancing and blocked spaces to limit the amount of people on trails. First Selectman Shafer has contacted State on this issue.

Zabel-stated that a few residents were having trouble with Friday bulk trash pick-up and were told to bring to the town recycling center. He received negative comments about the service and questioned whether program is still in effect and since it is a service the town pays for; we should be getting polite customer service.

Chard-No report

Salsedo-No report

Byrne-No report

7. **Old Business:**

JMP-currently reviewing the design for the multi-purpose field for an “option B”. Will report progress at upcoming meetings.

Clear Brook Road- Looking to review research & documents from the Conservation Commission that have not yet been provided to Selectmen.

8. **Budget 2020-21**- Duncan Forsyth, Town Attorney, discussed the budget approval process in light of the Executive Orders that have been promulgated by Gov. Lamont in response to COVID-19 crisis. Executive Order 7I empowers the Board of Selectmen with legal authority to authorize the budget making authority (i.e. Board of Finance) to adopt the 2020-2021 budget and set a mill rate sufficient to meet the Town’s obligations for the upcoming fiscal year. If the Board elects this option, they still have to follow the meeting requirements in advance of the BOF voting upon the final budget. Strongly encourage giving residents the opportunity to review and comment in advance possibly via email. Possible timeline-authorize BOF to adopt-April 28th. Budget hearing May 20th. BOF pass budget-June 2nd.

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed 2020-2021 Town Budget.

9. **Adjourn – Motion** made, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn meeting at 9:45 PM.
(Chard/Byrne)

Secretary

Carl Salsedo