

# ACTION TAKEN

## MIDDLETON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 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*

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81722538345?pwd=ZzFYOTdxU251MVpDNVhPS2V3TjFNZz09>

Meeting ID: 817 2253 8345

Passcode: 189901

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,81722538345#,,,\*189901# US (Washington DC)

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1. 7:00 Warrant: #2117 **Approved 4-0**

Minutes: Open Session: January 21 and 26, 2021 **Approved 4-0**

Town Administrator updates and reports

- Last Saturday the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee met in a joint session to begin discussing the Fiscal Year 2022 budget which starts on July 1. Anyone who did not watch it via Zoom can watch it online. If it is not up yet it will be online in the next day or two. The next joint session is March 6, followed by March 25. I encourage residents to participate in the development of the operating and capital budgets. There is also a video on the website where CFO Sarah Wood discusses the budget, where the funds come from, and where funds are spent. The response to that video has been very positive.
- Several provisions of the recently enacted Partnerships for Growth law will have impacts on Middleton and most every community in the State.
  - This law will require that cities and towns establish by right zoning for multifamily housing. Failure to do so will make the town ineligible for certain grant programs. The DHCD has been tasked with preparing official guidance. Counsel advises that we not rush to action on this and instead to wait until the guidance is issued.
  - Historically, zoning amendments have required 2/3 majorities from the local legislative body, in our case Town Meeting. The law relaxed this to a simple majority for certain types of changes. Most of the changes are related to creating or modifying multifamily districts, allowing accessory dwelling units, open space developments, or smart growth districts.
  - Similarly, the law changed the voting quantum for certain zoning approvals from a 2/3 majority to a simple majority. These include special permits for multifamily zoning, mixed use, and certain parking requirements.
  - We are awaiting guidance from DHCD and will not rush to implement. I wanted to make the Board and the public aware of the changes.

2. 7:15 Public Comment Period

3. 7:20 Discussion of COVID-19 pandemic and vaccinations with Derek Fullerton, Director of Public Health Discussion

4. 7:40 Update and discussion on Special Town Meeting originally scheduled for January 28, 2021 and continued to February 25, 2021 **Update**
5. 7:50 Continued discussion of the May 11, 2021 Annual Town Meeting including the venue for the meeting **Discussion**
6. 8:00 Review and vote to set the FY21 sewer rate for the South Essex Sewer District at \$2.099 per hundred cubic feet **Approved 4-0**
7. 8:05 Vote to appoint the following members to the Rails to Trails Committee with terms as noted:
  - Charles Costigan and Martin Emmick through June 30, 2024
  - Richard Gilman and Rick Kassiotis through June 30, 2023
  - John LeBlanc through June 30, 2022**Approved 3-0-1**
8. 8:10 Vote to accept the following donations and grants:
  - Susan & John Muzichuk, \$500 to the Middleton Food Pantry **Approved 4-0**
9. 8:15 Review of CARES Act reimbursements **Discussion**
10. 8:20 New Business: Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed

Upcoming Meetings:	February 23	Regular BOS meetings
	March 6	Capital Budget Summit
	March 9 & 23	Regular BOS meetings

*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.*