

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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Lynne A. Vanderslice
First Selectwoman

Lori A. Bufano
Second Selectwoman

Joshua S. Cole
Selectman

Deborah A. McFadden
Selectwoman

Ross H. Tartell
Selectman

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Monday April 21, 2020
Via Live Stream

PRESENT: First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice, Lori Bufano Joshua Cole, Deborah McFadden, Ross Tartell, Anne Kelly-Lenz Members of the Public

A. Call to Order

Ms. Vanderslice called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

B. Public Comment

Ms. Bufano read emails received from the public.

C. Consent Agenda

Motion moved by Mr. Cole, seconded by Ms. McFadden and carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen Meeting – April 6, 2020
- Board of Selectmen Special Meeting – April 9, 2020

Refunds

- As per Tax Collector's Memo dated April 16, 2020

D. Discussion and/or Action

1. Coronavirus Update

Ms. Vanderslice updated the board on the subjects listed the below:

- a. Status of Emergency Services
- b. Status of Emergency Housing
- c. Status of Emergency Spending

2. Adoption of Property Tax Relief Plan per Executive Order 7S

Ms. Vanderslice reviewed with the board the requirement to adopt a Property Tax Relief Plan per Executive order 7S, either or both the Deferment Plan or the Low Interest Plan. After discussion and review, motion made by Ms. Bufano to adopt the resolution for the Deferment Plan, as read by the First Selectwoman subject to replacing the word "or" with "and" in this sentence fragment: *Eligible residents, businesses, nonprofits, and taxpayers are those that attest to or document significant economic impact by COVID-19.* Motion seconded by Mr. Tartell and carried 5-0.

3. BoF Request for FY2021 Budget Reduction Scenarios
Ms. Vanderslice shared the scenarios requested by the BoF with the BoS, flat to FY2020, 2%, 5% and 10% less than FY2020. Ms. Vanderslice will present scenarios at the May 4, 2020 meeting. Member or resident suggestions and recommendations for reductions should be sent to the First Selectwoman.
4. Adoption of Dates for Board of Finance Budget Deliberations
Ms. Vanderslice shared the requirement to adopt the dates for Board of Finance budget deliberations. She recommended the dates be set for June 1st, June 2nd and June 3, 2020. Motion moved by Ms. McFadden to approved the dates set forth. Motion seconded by Ms. Bufano and carried 5-0.
5. Bonded Capital Proposals
Ms. Vanderslice reviewed the bonded capital proposals that would have been recommended for referendum at the Annual Town Meeting. Noted that items could be put on the November ballot. She also noted there were indications of further clarification on the Governor's order related to ATM referendums. Recommended putting items on hold until further clarification from the governor.
6. Governor's Reopen Connecticut Committee
Ms. Vanderslice noted the Governor has appointed a Reopen Connecticut Committee. The committee will be focused on what the plan is when we get to the point of when to reopen.

Ms. Bufano gave an update on what has been happening in the hospitals with the Covid19 crisis. She noted they do not see the curve flattening, regular admissions are down, but the COVID admissions at the hospital are severe.

E. Selectmen's Reports

1. First Selectman
No Report.

2. Selectmen

Mr. Cole
No Report.

Ms. McFadden
Ms. McFadden suggested looking into new and creative ways to serve the community during the crisis. Ms. Vanderslice suggested Ms. McFadden and other members bring ideas to a future meeting.

Ms. Bufano
Ms. Bufano noted the crisis has reaffirmed how wonderful residents in Wilton, as well as other towns, are with their support for essential workers, which appreciate everyone's efforts.

Mr. Tartell
Mr. Tartell noted that today was town resident Adrian Offinger's 100th birthday and unique ways for shopping for gifts during this crisis, i.e. through facetime.

F. Public Comment

Ms. Bufano read email received from the public.

G. Adjournment

Having no further business, Ms. Vanderslice asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:22pm.
Motion moved by Mr. Cole, seconded by Ms. McFadden and carried 5-0.

Next Meeting: Special Meeting – April 28, 2020 at 7:00pm
Regular Meeting – May 4, 2020

Respectfully submitted
Jacqueline Rochester

**RESOLUTION RE: TAX DEFERMENT PROGRAM PURSUANT
TO GOVERNOR LAMONT'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS 2020-7S AND 7W**

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the State of Connecticut ("Governor") declared public health and civil preparedness emergencies for the State of Connecticut, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 19a-131 and 28-9, in response to the global pandemic of COVID-19 disease associated with a novel coronavirus that is currently affecting multiple countries and states;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency to combat the coronavirus that is currently infecting the population of the United States;

WHEREAS, the effects of the transmission of COVID-19 has resulted in the spread of infections in Connecticut and throughout the country, as well as shortages of personal protective equipment and other supplies that could jeopardize public safety and civil preparedness;

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, the Governor has issued a series of Executive Orders setting forth the law governing the conduct of state and municipal government during the period of the emergencies;

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 7S, which requires that each municipality, by a vote of its legislative body or Board of Selectmen if its legislative body is a Town Meeting, participate in a tax deferment or low interest rate program;

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 7W, which modified certain dates and timeframes applicable to the tax relief programs under Executive Order 7S; and

WHEREAS, participation in a deferment program is in the best interest of the Town of Wilton.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Wilton as follows:

- 1) For any taxes on real property, personal property or motor vehicles, or any sewer charges or assessments, coming due during the period of April 1, 2020 through and including July 1, 2020 ("Taxes"), the Town of Wilton shall participate in a deferment program and shall offer to eligible residents, businesses, nonprofits, and taxpayers a payment deferment of three (3) months from the time such Taxes first became due and payable.
- 2) Eligible residents, businesses, nonprofits, and taxpayers are those that attest to or document significant economic impact by COVID-19, and/or those that document they are providing relief to tenants significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Town shall follow guidance as issued by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management as to which residents, businesses, nonprofits, and taxpayers shall be considered eligible for the deferment program.