

Board of Selectmen Meeting

**Remote Participation Only**

April 14, 2020

Participating: Chairman Brian Packish, Selectmen Jason Balboni, Gail Barmakian, Gregory Coogan, Michael Santoro. Also participating: Town Administrator Robert Whritenour, Executive Assistant Alice Ryan Butler.

**Meeting called to order at 4:36 p.m.**

**Public Announcements**

Ewell Hopkins, Chairman of the Planning Board reported that the Planning Board was continuing to hold “virtual” meetings. They are aware of deadlines on applications etc.

**Department Head Updates**

Interim Fire Chief Greene said that he is continuing to familiarize himself with the Fire Department and the EMS. All is going well. He thanked Lieutenants Rose and Bradley and Office Administrator Patty Culkins for their help. He will send packets to all of the businesses prior to inspections. He is concerned that permits on fire extinguishers may expire. Being inspected does not mean the business is allowed to open. Chief Greene will meet with the Board of Health and the Town Administrator to determine what can be done prior to being allowed to open before May 4, 2020.

**Old/New Business**

Request for Postponement of Real Estate Taxes due to Coronavirus.

Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are due on May 1, 2020.

***Selectman Barmakian motioned in accordance with Section 10 of Chapter 53 Acts of 2020 to extend the due date of Real Estate and Personal Property Tax bills from May 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020, seconded by Selectman Santoro***

***Chairman Packish Aye  
Selectman Balboni Aye  
Selectman Barmakian Aye  
Selectman Coogan Aye  
Selectman Santoro Aye***

***Selectman Barmakian motioned in accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 53 Acts of 2020 to waive interest and penalties for late payments on any excise tax bill with a due date on or after March 10 when payment is made after its respective due date but before June 30, 2020, seconded by Selectman Santoro***

***Chairman Packish Aye  
Selectman Balboni Aye  
Selectman Barmakian Aye  
Selectman Coogan Aye  
Selectman Santoro Aye***

Discussion on Martha's Vineyard Construction Guidelines – Rules for getting back to work.  
After a lengthy discussion on the Martha's Vineyard Construction Guidelines, it was determined that Governor's guidelines and the Island's guideline were very close in content, when the section on travel on busses and the ferry was eliminated. The Board of Health was asked to review the guidelines again. The consensus was that it is too early to permit construction workers to go back to work. The Board of Health will be the enforcers of the guidelines. No action was taken.

Request to appoint Assistant Town Clerk as Town Clerk until the Election. Town Clerk Laura Johnston.

***Selectman Balboni motioned to appoint Assistant Town Clerk Colleen Morris as Town Clerk Until the election, seconded by Selectman Santoro.***

***Chairman Packish Aye  
Selectman Balboni Aye  
Selectman Barmakian Aye  
Selectman Coogan Aye  
Selectman Santoro Aye***

Request to extend 2019 Shellfishing licenses to June 1, 2020. Shellfish Constable Chuck Fisher.

***Selectman Barmakian motioned to extend 2019 Shellfishing licenses to June 1, 2020, seconded by Selectman Balboni***

***Chairman Packish Aye  
Selectman Balboni Aye  
Selectman Barmakian Aye  
Selectman Coogan Aye  
Selectman Santoro Aye***

Request to discuss future dates for the Beer Fest. Oraibi Voumard.

Did not appear.

**Town Administrator's Report**  
(attached)

## **Selectmen's Update**

Chairman Packish:

- commented on the staff working from home keeping track of their production
- His disappointment in the Steamship Authority's lack of leadership
- How to continue to keep the information regarding the renovation of Town Hall available.
- He is Proud to be from OB

Proud of the First Responders, Fire Department, Police Department etc. and all who are helping in the covid 19 tragedy.

Selectman Balboni has heard positive things about the Fire Department, very pleased with the North Bluff and would encourage a letter to the Steamship authority expressing the town's concerns.

Selectman Coogan is pleased to see people observing the Board of Health regulations.

Selectman Santoro thanked the newspapers for their coverage.

Chairman Packish reported that the Annual and Special Town Meetings could well be postponed again.

## **Adjourn**

***Selectman Santoro motioned to adjourn at 6:38 p.m., seconded by Selectman Balboni.***

***Chairman Packish Aye  
Selectman Balboni Aye  
Selectman Barmakian Aye  
Selectman Coogan Aye  
Selectman Santoro Aye***

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ryan Butler  
Executive Assistant