

Board of Selectmen - Special Meeting  
Tuesday, April 21, 2020  
Remote participation: Zoom Meeting  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/Meeting ID: 801 371 923](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/Meeting%20ID%3A801371923)

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The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. by remote participation via Zoom Meeting: [https://zoom.us/j/ Meeting ID: 801 371 923](https://zoom.us/j/Meeting%20ID%3A801371923) (Meeting ID: 801 371 923). Those present were Chair Kate Reid, Alan Lewis, Barney Arnold, Nathan Brown and Luke Ascolillo.

This meeting was live streamed and recorded <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gwvzvs59zwk>

In accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law Remote Participation 940 CMR 29.10 all votes taken by the Board of Selectmen will take by Roll Call Vote.

**Public Information Session with Board of Selectmen/Board of Health/School Committee re: Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Police Chief John Fisher reported that the town continues to be well prepared to maintain public safety. The Fire Department continues to collect masks and face shields and is distributing them to Emerson Hospital and long-term health facilities.

Fire Chief Bryan Sorrow reported that the region has been successful in not overrunning the health care facilities.

Council on Aging (COA) Outreach and Program Manager Angela Smith reported that the COA will be delivering facemasks to two senior housing complexes this week, have received a grant to bring meals to lower income seniors by the end of next week, and have moved nearly all of their programming online. The New COA Director Joan Ingersoll scheduled to start on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Board of Health Agent Linda Fantasia reported that Carlisle's count of cases confirmed through lab tests is up to six, with four of those people having recovered completely. The Board of Health continues to respond to questions received on the town's Covid-19 response website. MA Department of Public Health now posts town by town data for all cases in Massachusetts.

Carlisle Neighbor Response Team is assisting 14 senior citizens with grocery, pharmacy and trash runs, as well as several other families in need. The team has increased the number of services offered to help residents who work at health care facilities.

Carlisle School Committee (CSC) Chair Christine Lear reported that the Carlisle School Committee will be discussing upcoming plans for the rest of the year at their next meeting to be held on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**FY20-21 Fiscal Recommendations**

Finance Committee hair Victor Liang cautioned that the COVID-19 pandemic will have a multi-year impact as a result of potential unexpected costs, lower tax revenue and lost state aid. The Finance Committee recommends increasing cash reserves and reduce spending over the next two years. Mr. Liang stated that discretionary spending savings are estimated at \$300K and town-wide savings of close to \$1 million if all projections are correct.

For Fiscal Year 2020, the Finance Committee has requested that all town departments limit discretionary spending and place a freeze on new hires. It is also recommended that the Board of Selectmen postpone some Warrant Articles to the fall Town Meeting.

Town Administrator Timothy Goddard confirmed that all town departments have already been notified.

The Finance Committee has begun discussions with both the Carlisle School and Concord-Carlisle High School (CCHS) to determine areas for potential savings.

Cost saving estimates from the Carlisle School are close to \$500K, but the actual number may be significantly less as the school navigates unknown expenses, such as possible summer school for students whose progress has been impacted because of the switch to online learning.

CCHS has also begun looking at cost savings as well.

Nathan Brown explained that some of these potential savings could trigger future budget increases such as the delaying of a capital project will move the expense into a future fiscal year.

For Fiscal Year 2021, the Finance Committee has requested all town departments reduce their proposed budget by 5%

All town departments have been asked to complete the 5% reduction budget exercise. The Finance Committee intends to follow-up with the town departments on impacts of budget cuts before making a final budget recommendation.

The Finance Committee recognizes that the Board of Health needs a backup staff member to support Health Agent Linda Fantasia. Board of Health Treasurer Cathy Galligan has reworked the budget to allow for the second position with no net cost to the town tax base.

Luke Ascolillo questioned the amount of lost revenue the town will incur since permitting is down and the Board of Health will likely overrun their budget.

Finance Director Kimberly Kane stated that most of the revenue coming in at the moment is from real estate and motor vehicle excise tax. Revenue from building permits and recreation programs will go down in July.

Basu Sarkar (East Riding Dr) requested that the Board of Selectmen consider delaying the tax deadline for senior citizens for three months to ease financial hardships.

#### **Liaison Reports**

B. Arnold - Deer Control Committee met last week. The committee is discussion 2020 Deer Hunt Plans and changes to its charter. The committee is making adjustments to the plan in response to feedback from the Board of Selectmen.

Carlisle Cheer Project is hosting the first musical drive-thru event scheduled for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 7 p.m.

On the motion made by Alan Lewis and seconded by Barney Arnold, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** to adjourn.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, N. Brown-Aye, A. Lewis-Aye and K. Reid-Aye

List of documents discussed during the meeting:

- 4-21-2020 BOS Meeting Packet