

Town of Rochester
Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen

Paul Ciaburri, Chairman
Bradford N. Morse, Vice Chairman
Greenwood Hartley III, Clerk



Town Administrator

Suzanne E. Szyndlar
Administrative Assistant
Amanda L. Baptiste

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH, 2020

This meeting is conducted remotely via Zoom Meetings

Chairman Paul Ciaburri, Vice Chairman Bradford Morse, and Clerk Greenwood Hartley III are all present on this remote meeting.

The Board of Selectmen's Open Meeting is opened by Chairman Paul Ciaburri. Town Counsel Bailey then reads a prepared statement, on behalf of Selectmen Ciaburri, informing everyone of the procedure related to holding this meeting remotely and notes that each vote will need to be taken with a full roll call.

Minutes

Motion: A motion is made by Selectman Hartley to approve the Open Session Board of Selectmen minutes of March 16th, 2020 as presented. This motion is seconded by Selectman Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the minutes are approved with a unanimous vote. Roll Call Vote Hartley- Aye, Morse - Aye, Ciaburri- Aye 3:0 motion passes.

Motion: A motion is made by Selectman Hartley to approve the Executive Session Board of Selectmen minutes of March 16th, 2020 as presented. This motion is seconded by Selectman Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the minutes are approved with a unanimous vote. Roll Call Vote Hartley- Aye, Morse - Aye, Ciaburri- Aye 3:0 motion passes.

Selectmen Signature

Formal Vote to Postpone the Annual Town Election-

Motion: Selectman Hartley makes a motion that reads: Pursuant to Section 1 of Chapter 45 of the Acts of 220 and because of the state of emergency declared by the governor pursuant to executive order 591, Declaration of a State of Emergency to respond to COVID-19, the municipal town election scheduled for April 8, 2020 is hereby postponed and the Board of Selectmen move the following:

- to postpone Rochester's Annual Town Election scheduled for April 8, 2020, to a date before the end of June 2020 to be scheduled by the Selectmen with at least 20 days notice.
- A copy of this vote of the board and a sample ballot shall be posted on the official town website no later than 20 days prior to the date of the postponed election.
- The last day to register to vote for such postponed election shall be ten days prior to the date of the election; and the board of registrars shall hold a registration session on that date, at a minimum,

from two to four o'clock in the afternoon and seven to eight o'clock in the evening. The voting list to be used at such postponed election shall include all eligible voters registered as of that date.

- The election materials, including but not limited to absentee and official ballots originally prepared for the April 8, 2020 election, and bearing that date, shall be used for the rescheduled election to the extent practicable; if additional ballots must be printed, they shall be identical in form to those prepared for the April 8, 2020 election.
- Absentee ballots cast in connection with the April 8, 2020 election, whether returned prior to April 8, 2020, or otherwise, and received by the town clerk prior to the close of polls on the date of the postponed election, shall be processed in accord with applicable law. Completed applications to vote by absentee ballot in the postponed election shall be accepted by the Town Clerk as a member of the board of registrars until 12:00 noon on the last business day prior to said election.
- Consistent with the provisions of section 107 of chapter 41 of the general laws, any incumbent elected official whose term would otherwise expire at the April 8, 2020 annual town election shall continue to serve in such position until a successor is elected and qualified.

This motion was then seconded by Selectman Morse. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes unanimously. Roll Call Vote Hartley- Aye, Morse - Aye, Ciaburri- Aye 3:0 motion passes.

Old Business:

COVID-19 Update

- Town Administrator Szyndlar begins the COVID-19 update by informing everyone that as of right now Town buildings are to be closed to the public until April 7th.
- Next, Town Administrator Szyndlar mentions that there have not yet been any confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Town.
- Then, Town Administrator Szyndlar mentions pending bills that would offer assistance to residents if approved. He will update the Board on any pending COVID-19 litigation as it unfolds.
- Town Counsel Bailey states that beginning next week Boards and Committees may have remote meetings going forward and that he will set up the account for access. The Town will invite public participation through Zoom Conferencing App and how to join the meeting will be included on the posted agenda.

Motion: Selectman Hartley makes a motion to allow for Boards and Committees to meet remotely starting next week. Selectman Morse seconds this motion. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes unanimously. Roll Call Vote Hartley- Aye, Morse - Aye, Ciaburri- Aye 3:0 motion passes.

- Selectman Hartley then mentions pending litigation, that if passed, would allow for Towns to push back their Real Estate Tax due date to June 1st. If approved, he mentions that he would like to have another meeting for the Board to be able to pursue this option.

Adjournment

Motion: Selectman Morse makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. With all members of the Board in favor, the meeting is adjourned. Roll Call Vote Hartley- Aye, Morse - Aye, Ciaburri- Aye 3:0 motion passes.


Greenwood Hartley III, Clerk


Amanda L. Baptiste, Administrative Assistant