

BOARD OF WARDEN AND BURGESSES

SPECIAL MEETING

April 22, 2020

Via Teleconference

The Special Meeting of Warden and Burgesses held on April 22, 2020 (via teleconference) was called to order by Warden Sharkey at 6:15pm.

ROLL CALL:

Valerie Pudvah, Clerk read the roll call. PRESENT: Warden Timothy Sharkey, Burgesses Laurie Sorder, James Krueger, Laura Laidley and Heather Glover.

ALSO PRESENT:

Leona Sharkey, Linda Cote, Ken Sullivan, and Louis Demicco III

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion regarding memo from tax collection regarding Executive Order 7S, Section 6 regarding "Deferment Program and/or Low Interest Rate Program" and Executive Order 7W, Section 1 regarding "Clarification of Time Periods."

Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector explained that the Governor signed an Executive Order where the Borough has to choose a deferment program or low interest program for bills that become due during the time period of April 1-July 1, 2020. It was decided to go with the deferment program with a 3 month grace period. All applications have to be made by July 1, 2020 in order to qualify for the deferment program.

Burgess Krueger asked how this applies to landlords. Leona stated that there is another Executive Order (7X) for landlords that states that for the month of April the rent would be deferred for tenants and leases for residential. Leona explained how it would work for a residential or commercial landlord.

Burgess Sorder asked what happens when the 3 month deferment ends. Leona stated that the tax collectors do not like the term "deferment" because it really isn't deferring their payment it really is an extended grace period. If the bill is paid in full in that 3-month grace period no interest will be applied. However, if nothing has been applied to the bill by Oct. 2 2020 a 1 ½ % per month or 6% interest will apply for the 4 months.

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Ken Sullivan, JCDPU noted that his board adopted the deferment plan at their meeting.

The deferment plan that is chosen needs to be signed by the Borough Clerk and sent to OPM by April 25, 2020.

2. Adoption of Resolution for the Deferment Program with Application.

Warden Sharkey read the Resolution-Tax Deferment Program into the minutes.

Warden Sharkey asked for a motion to adopt the Resolution.

Burgess Sorder made motion to adopt the Resolution Deferment Program issued by Governor Lamont.

Seconded the motion by Burgess Heather Glover.

Burgess Krueger -aye

Burgess Sorder -aye

Burgess Glover -aye

Burgess Laidley -aye.

All in favor, motion carries to adopt.

3. Discussion regarding Executive Order 7C(5) regarding the budget process, Executive Order 11(13) regarding no annual Freeman Meeting, and Executive Order 7B, Section 1 regarding Public Forum.

Warden Sharkey noted that he spoke with the borough attorney and he noted that there should be no Public Forum. Anyone is allowed to listen but no public forum.

Warden Sharkey also, spoke with the attorney about the Annual Freeman meeting. Duncan Forsyth noted that there will be no ANNUAL FREEMEN MEETING for this budget. The budget should be adopted, post the draft on the website for 14 days, look at any questions that the public may have, address them. After the 14 days in can be looked at again, and then it can be adopted.

Burgess Sorder questioned the timeline for the budget.

Linda Cote treasurer, noted that the draft budget that the board received is pretty much it, unless anyone saw something on it that needed to be looked at or changed. She will have to redo the front page because of the new figures she just received. Everything looks the same as last year except for the election expenses for next year.

Warden Sharkey suggested May 5th at 6:15pm for a budget workshop.

Burgess Sorder made motion to adjourn, 2nd by Burgess Glover. All in favor, aye. Meeting duly adjourned at 6:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Pudvah Borough Clerk