



TOWN OF FAIRFIELD  
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OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

ELIZABETH P. BROWNE, MMC, MCTC  
TOWN CLERK

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: IN LIGHT OF COVID-19, AND  
PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 7B, THE TOWN IS  
CONDUCTING THIS MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE ONLY.**

The best way to listen is through FairTV

- ✓ FairTV's cable channel (channel 79 for Fairfield Cablevision customers and 6010 for Frontier Cable customers)
- ✓ FairTV's website, <https://fairfieldct.org/fairtv/government>

You can also listen by phone:

- ✓ Call: (701) 801-6166

Please Note:

- ✓ If you call to listen you will not be heard by the board members and there will be no live public comment. The public is encouraged to send their comments before or after the meeting to the following email:  
[rtm@fairfieldct.org](mailto:rtm@fairfieldct.org)

As you would in a public meeting, please include your name and address with your comment. All comments received and verified will be posted to the RTM website with your Name but email address will be excluded

- ✓ Back-up documents relating to the agenda items can be found at <https://fairfieldct.org/rtm/agendas>.

**WARNING TO THE MEMBERS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING  
AND RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD**

A Special Meeting of the Town of Fairfield will be held via phone on Monday, April 13, 2020, at 7:30 PM, for the following purposes:

1. Roll Call - Pledge of Allegiance - Moment of Silence
2. To hear, consider and act upon the following appointment to the Employees' Retirement Board, as recommended by the First Selectwoman:

Eric S. Newman, (D), 85 Eastfield Drive, Term Nov. 2019 – 2024

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3. To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Board of Finance:

“RESOLVED, that the Bond Resolution entitled, ‘A Resolution Amending and Restating the Resolution Entitled, ‘A Resolution Appropriating \$22,000,600 for the Costs Associated with the Renovation and Expansion of Mill Hill Elementary School and Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds to Finance Such Appropriation’ to Increase the Amount of the Appropriation and this Bond Authorization by \$1,274,900 to a Total of \$23,275,500,’ consisting of four pages, be, and hereby is, approved.”

4. To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Board of Finance:

To hear, consider and act upon the following Bond Resolution entitled, “A Resolution Appropriating \$6,245,000 for the costs associated with the construction of the Easton Turnpike Pump Station and Force Main Replacement and authorizing the issuance of bonds to finance such appropriation” consisting of three pages, a copy of which is attached hereto.

5. To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Board of Finance:

To hear, consider and act upon the following Bond Resolution entitled, “Supplemental Resolution” consisting of one page, a copy of which is attached hereto, stipulating that the debt service on the Easton Turnpike Pump Station and Force Main Replacement Bonds as it becomes due shall be paid by the WPCA from its own funds and the obligation of the WPCA shall be set forth in a memorandum of understanding with the Town satisfactory to the First Selectwoman.

6. To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as mandated by Executive Order issued by the Governor of the State of Connecticut:

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, the Governor of the State of Connecticut (“Governor”) issued Executive Order No. 7S (“EO 7S”), paragraph 6 of which requires all municipalities to adopt at least one of two programs, established by EO 7S, to offer support to eligible taxpayers who have been affected by COVID-19: the “Deferment Program” and the “Low Interest Rate Program;” and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to EO 7S the Fairfield RTM, as the legislative body of the Town of Fairfield, is required to notify the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) no later than April 25, 2020, about which program or programs it is electing to offer it’s taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED pursuant to paragraph 6 of Executive Order 7S, and notwithstanding any Fairfield Town Ordinance or Charter

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provision to the contrary, the Fairfield RTM hereupon elects the following tax relief to its eligible taxpayers, as set forth in subparagraph (a) of the executive order:

**Deferment Program.** During the period of March 10, 2020, through and including July 1, 2020, certain eligible taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits, and residents are hereby offered a deferment by ninety (90) days of any taxes on real property, personal property or motor vehicles, or municipal water, sewer and electric rates, charges or assessments for such tax, rate, charge, or assessment from the time that it became due and payable.

The town shall implement eligibility criteria as established by the OPM as to which taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits, and residents shall be considered eligible for the Deferment Program, including but not limited to the following:

Eligible individual taxpayers are defined as those that attest to or document that their household has suffered a reduction in income of at least 20% due to COVID-19 since March 10, 2020, because they have been either (1) furloughed without pay; (2) had their work hours significantly reduced; or (3) became unemployed.

Eligible businesses or non-profits, are defined as those that attest to or document a significant economic impact by COVID-19 such that revenue is expected to decrease at least 30% in the March to June 2020 period versus the March to June 2019 period at the taxed property and/ or those Landlords that document they are providing relief to their tenants by offering commensurate forbearance to their tenants or lessees. Commensurate forbearance, for purposes of this program, means either a) a deferral of 25% of rent (approximating the property tax portion of rent) for the ninety (90) days after its due date; b) a deferral of one month's rent to be paid over the 90 day period, or c) forbearance substantially similar to (a) or (b) as determined by the tax collector. Documentation includes, but is not limited to, proof that some tenants or lessees have received forbearance or that the landlord has actively communicated with tenants or lessees to offer forbearance.

*(In addition to or in the alternative)*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED pursuant to paragraph 6 of Executive Order 7S, and notwithstanding any Fairfield Town Ordinance or Charter provision to the contrary, the Fairfield RTM hereupon elects the following tax relief to its eligible taxpayers, as set forth in subparagraph (b) of the executive order:

**Low Interest Rate Program.** For any tax, or municipal water, sewer, or electricity charge that comes due at any time between March 10, 2020 and July 1, 2020, inclusive, (i) the delinquent portion of the principal of any taxes on real property, personal property or motor vehicles, or municipal water, sewer and electric charges or assessments or part thereof shall be subject to interest at the rate of three (3) per cent per annum for ninety days from the time when it became due and payable until the same is paid, for any such tax, rate, charge, or assessment due and payable from March 10 through and including July 1, 2020, unless such delinquent portion is

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subject to interest and penalties at less than three (3) per cent per annum. Following the ninety days, the portion that remains delinquent shall be subject to interest and penalties as previously established; and (ii) any portion of the principal of any taxes on real property, personal property or motor vehicles, or municipal water, sewer and electric rates, charges or assessments or part thereof that had been delinquent on or prior to March 10, shall be subject to interest at the rate of three (3) per cent per annum for ninety days from this Order, unless such delinquent portion is subject to interest and penalties at less than three (3) per cent per annum. Following the ninety (90) days, the portion that remains delinquent shall be subject to interest and penalties as previously established.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the First Selectwoman notify the OPM of its determination to participate in the **[Deferment and/or Low Interest Rate]** program no later than April 25, 2020.

7. To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution, as authorized by the Governor's Executive Order 7C:

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, the Governor of the State of Connecticut ("Governor") issued Executive Order No. 7B ("EO 7B"), paragraph 1 of which suspends all statutes, charter provisions, ordinances and regulations mandating open meetings in order "...to permit any public agency to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting or requiring in-person, public access to such meetings, and to hold such meetings or proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference or other technology" ("Electronic Meetings"); and,

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order No. 7C ("EO 7C"), paragraph 5 of which extended "all budget deadlines for the preparation of the municipal budget" for the FY 2020-2021 "that falls on any date prior to and including May 15, 2020 are extended by thirty (30) days"; and,

WHEREAS, EO 7C permits the legislative body to "alter or modify the schedules and deadlines pertaining to the preparation and submission of a proposed budget and the deliberation or actions on said budget" by the legislative body including any required public hearing(s), publication, referendum or final budget adoption: and,

WHEREAS, EO 7C postpones all submission dates as set forth in Article XII of the Fairfield Town Charter until such time as the legislative body approves said modified scheduled and deadline consistent with the thirty (30) day extension; and,

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 7I, paragraph 13 ("EO 7I") of which dispenses with any in-person voting requirements (including referenda and town meetings requiring in-person votes) for purposes of adopting 2020-2021 fiscal year municipal budgets and setting the mill rate; in effect conferring final responsibility on the "budget-making authority" of the town to

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adopt a budget and set a mill rate, which roles are allocated by the Charter to the Representative Town Meeting (RTM) and Board of Finance (BOF); and,

WHEREAS, EOs 7C and 7I do not alter or modify the control of line-items that fall squarely within the authority of the Board of Education budget and, thus, the Board of Education should comply with all submission requirements pertaining to budget deadlines adopted by the municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED pursuant to paragraph 5 of Executive Order 7C, and notwithstanding any Charter provision to the contrary, the Fairfield RTM deems it necessary to issue a modified schedule and deadline for the submission, deliberation and final action on the Town Budget for FY 2020-2021, which meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements noticed in accordance with EO 7B ¶1; and, therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, that the BOF shall vote on its budget recommendation no later than May 11, 2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the RTM annual budget meeting for the 2020-2021 budget for the Town of Fairfield shall take place on Monday, June 1, 2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance shall determine the rate of property tax for the next fiscal year without recourse by referendum.

April 8, 2020

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Elizabeth P. Browne  
Town Clerk