



Mayor's Office | Phone: 860.584.6250 | Fax: 860-584-3835

NEWS RELEASE

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COVID-19 PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF BRISTOL EXTENDED TO APRIL

Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu and Tax Collector Ann Bednaz announced today that the City will again be extending the tax deadline for tax bills that become due and payable on January 1, 2021.

"On December 16, 2020 Governor Lamont issued Executive Order 9R to again extend the deadline for taxes due, similar to what he did for the July 1st deadline," said the Mayor. "The effect of this program is the equivalent of an extended grace period. The last day to pay the January 1, 2021 tax installment amount due without interest is now extended from February 1, 2021 to April 1, 2021."

"On April 14, 2020 The City Council adopted a Tax Deferment Program for all City of Bristol Taxpayers that excludes Escrowed real estate taxes," said Ann Bednaz. "Through the Executive Orders issued by Governor Lamont on April 1, 2020, these orders provided relief for taxpayers through a local option tax deferral program," she said.

It is important to note that this does not apply to Escrow Payments," said Councilman David Preleski. "According to the Governor's Executive Order 9R, financial institutions and mortgage servicers that holds property tax payments in escrow on behalf of a borrower shall continue to make payments to the City of Bristol by February 1, 2021."

This program allows the City of Bristol to extend the last day to pay amount due for real property, personal property and motor vehicle supplemental tax bills that become due on January 1, 2021 for three months from the date that they become due and payable without interest or penalty to all taxpayers as defined by the executive order. Payment must be United States postmarked no later than April 1, 2021 or interest reverts back to the original due date of January 1, 2021 per CT State Statute Sec.12-146.

Payments may be made at the Tax Office, online and, for the month of January, taxpayers will also be able to pay current taxes at People's United Bank with no additional fees or service charges.

"Taxpayers who do not have their banks pay their property taxes directly are encouraged to check their July bill for the Second Installment coupon for Real Estate and Personal Property taxes," said Bednaz. "Please use that coupon to send your January payment."

City of Bristol

111 North Main Street

Bristol, CT 06010

www.bristolct.gov

Taxpayers are encouraged to contact the City of Bristol Tax Department at 860-584-6270 or email the staff at taxoffice@bristolct.gov with any questions. "It is important to note that failure to receive a bill for any reason will not invalidate the tax and/or the interest penalty per state law, or avoid the

real estate lien the City is required to file on the land records against all properties on which there is a tax balance due after May 1, 2021," said Councilman David Preleski. "Also of note, UCC Liens will be filed with the Secretary of State on all unpaid Personal Property taxes like business equipment," said Bednaz. All delinquent Motor Vehicle taxes will be reported to DMV; this will hold you up from registering a new vehicle and renewing a registration."

In order to be in compliance with the CT General Statutes, owners of Motor Vehicles which were registered between the dates of October 2, 2019 and July 31, 2020, are also notified that they are liable for a tax on such motor vehicles on the City's Supplemental 2019 Motor Vehicle Grand List. These bills will be mailed out December 30, 2020. This tax is due and payable as of January 1, 2021; delinquent after April 1, 2021.

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