

TOWN OF BOLTON TAX PAYMENT POLICY

1. METHOD OF PAYMENT: Check, cash, or money order. Coins in excess of 1 dollar are not accepted. Currently dated checks are to be made payable to the Town of Bolton. Payments mailed from foreign countries may either be paid by check or International Money Order but must be payable in US dollars and drawn on a US bank. Checks not meeting these requirements will be immediately returned to the sender, and penalties applied if applicable. Checks returned by the bank, for any reason, will cause the payment to be cancelled, any receipt issued for that payment to be void, and penalties applied where applicable. Receipts will be mailed only if postage is supplied.

2. TAXES and SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS: The tax bill covers taxes and special assessments, if any, for the town's operational year, July 1 – June 30.

3. INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS and DELINQUENT DATES: Taxes are payable by multi-installment payments and on due dates which are voted by the taxpayers at town meeting. Consult the tax bill for due dates for each year. If the due date falls on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, payment is due by 4 p.m. on the next business day. Federal postmarks of the due date are accepted as on time. Unpaid taxes incur a 1% penalty each month, and late notices are sent monthly. Any taxes unpaid as of the final installment due date incur an immediate 8% penalty and 1% interest, and are turned over to the Delinquent Tax Collector for collection.

4. PROPERTY OWNERSHIP: Taxes are levied on both real and personal property. By law, the tax is the responsibility of “the last owner or possessor thereof on April 1 each year” (V.S.A. § 3651).

5. PROPERTY OWNER’S RESPONSIBILITY: The owner, as of April 1, remains liable for the year’s taxes regardless of subsequent conveyances (*Fulton v. Aldrich*, 76 Vt. 310, 1904). Tax bills are mailed to the last owner or possessor thereof on April 1 each year, at the address on file with the Assessor’s Office. The Assessor’s Office must be notified in writing of any address changes. Tax bills must be mailed at least 30 days prior to the date that the first installment payment is due. Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the taxpayer of responsibility to pay the taxes when the taxes become due and payable, nor does it relieve the taxpayer of paying any additions of penalties and/or interest.

6. TRANSFER OF PROPERTY: If all or a part of the taxed property is sold, it is the seller's responsibility to forward the tax bill/tax information to the new owner, and the new owner's responsibility to take note as to when the tax installments are due and amounts payable.

7: MULTI-PAYMENTS: Once taxes become delinquent, multi-payments arrangements may be made at the discretion of the Delinquent Tax Collector. The Delinquent Tax Collector may require a written agreement signed by the delinquent taxpayer. In the event that a payment is missed the Delinquent Tax Collector can proceed with other collection actions, including sale of the property. Payment arrangements which do not pay the bill in full before the due date of the next year's tax bill may not be accepted.

8. PARTIAL PAYMENTS: Partial payments will be applied first to the interest portion, then to the penalty amount. Any remainder will go toward the principal amount of the tax.

9. NOTICE TO LIEN HOLDERS: Early notice to lien holders and mortgagees regarding delinquent taxes is a courtesy rather than an obligation, so it is at the discretion of the Delinquent Tax Collector. The law mandates such notice only at the time of an impending tax sale.

10. ESCROW ACCOUNT: The Town of Bolton does not routinely mail tax bills to banks or mortgage companies for escrow accounts. The responsibility for forwarding tax information lies with the property owner.

Amended by the Bolton Select Board this 16th day of November 2015.

Ron Lafreniere, Chair

Gene Armstrong

Josh Arneson

Jen Dudley-Gaillard

Sharon Murray

Received for record the 17th day of November 2015

Attest: Amy Grover, Town Clerk

Adopted by the Bolton Board of Selectmen this 5th day of January, 1994.

Donald Carr, Board Member

Gerard A. Mullen, Chairman

M. Peter Siegel, Board Member

Richard P. Streeter, Board Member

Denis Turpin, Board Member

Received for record the 6th day of January, 1994.

Attest: Deborah LaRiviere Town Clerk