

SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETING
July 9, 2018

Present:	Allison Hope Julia Andrews Grant Thomas	Nanette Rogers Greg Barrows
Guests:	Donna Goodheart	Hally Yandow

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m.

CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

FY'2018 PROPERTY TAX RATE

Greg provided a breakdown of the tax rates and explained the different components. The Town and Highway tax rates are based on the budgets approved by the voters, less anticipated revenue and a portion of the surplus from FY'17. This information is put in the computer which then calculates the tax rates based on the Grand List.

Greg provided two scenarios for the Board's consideration. The first scenario uses \$60,000 from the FY'17 surplus to reduce the amount to be raised by taxes. In this scenario, the Town tax rate is calculated to be \$0.3396 and the Highway tax rate \$0.3332. This scenario is the one that was presented to the voters at Town Meeting.

The second scenario omits using the \$60,000 surplus. In this scenario, the Town tax rate is calculated to be \$0.03646 and the Highway tax rate \$0.3332. Greg wanted to provide an option for the Selectboard to consider based on where the FY'18 and FY'17 highway budgets ended up at the end of their fiscal year. Under this scenario, property owners with an assessed value of \$200,000 would pay an additional \$50 in property taxes.

After some discussion, the Board felt the tax rate should be set at the rate based on the information that was presented to the voters at Town Meeting.

Greg noted that when the proposed budget with the anticipated tax rate was presented to the voters, the amount that needs to be raised by taxes for the Veterans' Exemption and the Farm Stabilization Exemption was not included. The amount to be raised by taxes for the exemptions is \$14,872.79 or \$0.062 per \$100 of assessed value. This is known as the Local Agreement tax rate.

Grant Thomas made a motion to set the town tax rate at \$0.3396, the highway tax rate at \$0.3332 and the local agreement tax rate at \$0.0062, seconded by Julia Andrews. Motion passed: 3-0.

The State set the residential education tax rate at \$1.4934 and the non-residential tax rate at \$1.6081. The residential tax rate is \$0.0001 higher than the FY'18 rate and the non-residential is \$0.081 higher.

When the education tax rates are added to the town, highway and local agreement rates, the total residential tax rate becomes \$2.1724 and the non-residential becomes \$2.2871.

DOG HEARING

Donna Goodheart was present to discuss a dog bite she received from a dog owned by Hally Yandow. Donna explained she was walking down her driveway, which is shared by Hally. She saw the dog, who appeared to be very excited. When Hally's dog Zeus came to greet Donna, he bit her breaking the skin. Donna advised that this has never happened before. Hally has apologized to Donna and the dog has been fine toward Donna since the incident.

Hally advised that Zeus has had some health problems. After the bite, she discussed the incident with her veterinarian. Based on the dog's health problems, Hally and the veterinarian decided to have the dog euthanized.

Given that Hally decided to have Zeus euthanized, there is no action to be taken by the Board. The Board expressed their gratitude to Donna that she has recovered from the incident and their condolences to Hally.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Hope, Chair
Selectboard

Nanette Rogers
Town Administrator