

DRAFT Minutes for SELECTBOARD MEETING
Fiscal Committee
March 26, 2014

PRESENT: Mo Lavanway, Maureen Harvey, Amy Scharf, Kym Andrews, Mark Morse

Maureen called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Maureen presented an analysis of the Grand List and how taxpayers would be affected by a tax increase in order to switch to an 18-month budget. In this analysis 139 properties have Real Estate Value under 100,000, 231 properties are 100,000 to 200,000, 191 properties are 200,000 to 200,000 and the remaining 136 properties are over 300,000. The Town Rate for 6-months ranges from approximately \$131 to \$568 for the majority of the properties (under 300,000).

Kym presented an analysis of expenditures for the past three years divided out in January through June and July through December segments. It was determined this information is not yet needed. We are not asking taxpayers to approve the budgets for 2015 at this time. This analysis will be used when preparing the budget for the 2015 Town Meeting.

Maureen proposed a Special Town Meeting in the fall to review a 6-month budget for January through June 2015 and request a tax bill of town taxes only to be due and payable in February 2015. Mark was opposed to this.

Mark proposed presenting an 18-month budget at the next regular Town Meeting in March 2015, with an 18-month tax bill due and payable in October 2015.

Maureen expressed her concerns over a tax payer on a tight budget being able to pay an 18-month budget all at once.

Discussion ensued over a 6-month budget versus an 18-month budget and when it would be due and payable. After lengthy discussion it was agreed the Fiscal Committee would present to the taxpayers of Duxbury on May 10th, 2014, a request to present an 18-month budget at the next regular Town Meeting in March of 2015 with the taxes for that 18-month budget all due and payable in October 2015. Mark explained by the taxpayers approving or denying this request at the upcoming Special Town Meeting in

May they will be aware and able to plan ahead for the increased or no change tax bill for 2015 (depending on approval or denying of fiscal year change).

It was also discussed it is important to point out to taxpayers the increase in the 2015 tax bill to cover an 18-month budget only is an increase for the town tax rate, not the school tax rate, as the school tax rate is already on a fiscal year budget. The increase in the tax bills would be approximately a 15% increase for the 2015 tax bills during this initial switchover to a fiscal year budget.

Maureen made the motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Seconded by Mo, all in favor.

Submitted by Kym Andrews 3/31/14.

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