

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 11/15/2016
Aquinnah Town Hall

Members present: Chairman Juli Vanderhoop, Jim Newman, Gary Haley

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Angela Cywinski, Assessor, DPW Director Jay Smalley, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, Kathy Newman

The meeting began at 6:30 pm.

-1st on the agenda was a public hearing to set the residential tax rate. Juli read the public hearing notice. Angela went through her handout and the options available to them. Historically the town has approved a residential factor of 1, which doesn't shift the tax burden anywhere else (Commercial, Open Space, Small commercial exemption), etc.). There was discussion about the rate going from \$5.35 to \$5.51. Angela talked about MGL Ch. 200 to shift the tax burden from residential to commercial. There was discussion about how a shift of the tax burden cannot be accomplished because there is no district. Open Space tax shift was discussed. Residential exemption was talked about. Angela showed the costs associated with it and what she would have to do to create an artificial threshold in order to exempt the year round residents from the seasonal homeowners. Residential exemptions can go up to 35%.

She said the residential rate still needs to be set and asked that the meeting be continued to next week.

Jim made a motion to continue the hearing to Tuesday, November 22 @ 6:00 pm. Gary seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Next on the agenda was appointment approval of Macey Dunbar and Liz Witham to the MA Local Cultural Council.

-Juli made a motion to appoint Macey Dunbar and Liz Witham as Aquinnah representatives to the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Gary seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Juli asked if there was anything else to come before the board. Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-The meeting ended at 6:56 pm