TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE AND BOOKFIELD, CT DEC 12 2017

## Senior Tax Abatement Ad Hoc Committee Town Hall Brookfield, CT 06804

TOWN CLERK

Amended Minutes of Meeting of December 3, 2017 7:00 pm, Room 135, Town Hall

Present: Chair Betsy McIlvaine, Alice Carolan, Loretta Donovan, Jeff Kass. Absent: Jen Barczak, Mark Ferry, Maura Mangan, Dan Walker.

Mrs. McIlvaine called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

- 1. Public Comment: none.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of November 2, 2017: motion to approve made by Mrs. McIlvaine, seconded by Mr. Kass, approved unanimously.

  Approval of minutes of November 17, 2017: motion to approve made by Mrs. McIlvaine, seconded by Mr. Kass, approved unanimously.
- 3. Assumptions and Tentative Recommendations: Assumptions:
  - a. The senior population is growing and more people may be eligible for tax abatement.
  - b. The town's grand list is growing.
  - c. The State may eliminate its subsidy to senior taxes.

## Tentative recommendations

- a. increase cap on money available for senior tax abatement. Currently 1% of Grand List. Unless we increase money available, more people may apply and receive less than currently receive.
- b. Offset income by cost of medical expenses, as Newtown does.
- c. Develop a sliding scale that reduces abatement if income exceeds limit in given year.
- d. Consider ways to assist seniors if the State eliminates its subsidy to senior tax relief.
- 4. Income: Mr. Kass presented a possible reduction plan if, in a given year, income exceeds our income limit. We will discuss plan further.

Example:

Income of \$50,000 or less Income of \$50,001 - \$52,000 Income of \$52,001 - \$54,000 Income of \$54,001 - \$56,000 Income of \$56,001 - \$58,000 Income \$58,001 and above Tax deferral is \$2000 Tax deferral is \$1600 Tax deferral is \$1200 Tax deferral is \$800 Tax deferral iOS \$400 No tax deferral

- 5. Housing Data Profile: Mrs. Donovan presented documents from Partnership for Strong Communities, which reflect our declining school population and increasing senior population.
- 6. Public comment: None.
- 7. Meetings: **Next meeting is January 19, 2018 at 2:00pm**. No meetings on December 22, 2017 or January 4, 2018. Mrs. Carolan will inform town clerk of our 2018 meeting schedule. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Minutes provided by Alice Carolan