

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting of November 15, 2022
Final MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by the Chairman.

PRESENT: Chair Chris Bashaw; Ellie Alessio, Laurie Szwed, Select Board Members
Absent: Glenn Coppelman and Chuck Hart, Select Board Members

BOARD BUSINESS:

Tax Rate

The Board reviewed a chart of scenarios for applying fund balance to lessen the tax impact (see chart, attached). They calculated the impact of each tax rate on a specific property that had an assessment increase of 63%, and also on properties assessed at \$400,000, for comparison purposes. The percentage of total increase over the 2022 rate was also looked at. The minimum amount of fund balance to retain recommended by the Department of Revenue was considered; the decision was made to retain a lower amount to lessen the tax impact.

MOTION: by Selectwoman Alessio, to appropriate \$990,000 out of the fund balance to set the 2023 Town tax rate at 3.62 per thousand (total tax rate \$15.78).

SECOND: by Selectman Bashaw

All in favor

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Goddard said that he understands the psychological effect of reducing the rate as much as possible, and the position the Board is in. However, he said he agreed with a comment made to the effect that the board will get flack whatever they do. He said he doesn't have a crystal ball about what will happen in the future, but from a fiscal conservative standpoint he would have preferred more fund balance was preserved.

Chuck Margosian asked where the valuation came from and was told that the assessor set them based on sales. There was a discussion of this, and how best to educate the public; information will be published on the Town website, on social media, and in the Carriage Towne News.

Mr. Margosian noted that the percentage of inflation is based on the prior year, but that it is much higher if you look back prior to Covid -19. He said that on the national level, fewer people are looking for jobs, and that current trends will impact next year.

MOTION: by Selectman Bashaw, to adopt the official tax rate \$15.78 per thousand.

SECOND: by Selectwoman Alessio

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM

Respectfully submitted:

Susan H. Ayer, Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

TAX RATE SCENARIOS
2023

2022			2023											
			Total Fund Balance											
From Fund Balance	\$	990,000	\$	-	\$	429,147	\$	481,647	\$	534,147	\$	654,147	\$	689,147
Fund Balance Retained	\$	1,006,790	\$	1,936,128	\$	1,506,981	\$	1,454,481	\$	1,401,981	\$	1,281,981	\$	1,246,981
		4.04%				6.04%		5.83%		5.62%		5.14%		5.00%
			Recommended Minimum Fund Balance Retained by DRA is \$1,246,981 = 5% of general operating expenditure of \$24,939,614											
			Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change
Municipal		4.64	4.30	-0.34	3.99	-0.65	3.95	-0.69	3.91	-0.73	3.83	-0.81	3.80	-0.84
County		0.90	0.61	-0.29	0.61	-0.29	0.61	-0.29	0.61	-0.29	0.61	-0.29	0.61	-0.29
Local Ed		15.75	10.34	-5.41	10.34	-5.41	10.34	-5.41	10.34	-5.41	10.34	-5.41	10.34	-5.41
State Ed		1.42	1.21	-0.21	1.21	-0.21	1.21	-0.21	1.21	-0.21	1.21	-0.21	1.21	-0.21
Total Tax Rate		22.71	16.46	-6.25	16.15	-6.56	16.11	-6.60	16.07	-6.64	15.99	-6.72	15.96	-6.75
Assessed Property Values					\$ amount to be raised		2022		2023		Increase		%	
2022 Assessed Value	\$868,086,353				Municipal	\$	4,027,814	\$	5,865,889	26%	\$	1,838,075	45.6%	
2023 Assessed Value	\$1,365,510,246				County	\$	782,306	\$	838,484	4%	\$	56,178	7.2%	
Change in Assessed Value	\$497,423,893				Local Education	\$	13,673,844	\$	14,119,743	63%	\$	445,899	3.3%	
	57.3%				State Education	\$	1,167,949	\$	1,576,784	7%	\$	408,835	35.0%	
						\$	19,651,913	\$	22,400,900		\$	2,748,987	14.0%	

GO TO DRA WEBSITE TO CALCULATE PERCENTAGE

Paula's house as an example

8,491.39	new tax bill	16.07 tax rate	331,700.00	old assessed value
7,536.22	old tax bill		528,400.00	new assessed value
955.17	change			
			0.63	percentage change

House assessed at 400,000:
15.99 rate = \$6,396 tax bill (annual)
16.07 rate = \$6,428 tax bill
16.11 rate = \$6,444 tax bill

2021			2022											
From Fund Balance	\$	817,500	\$	-	\$	765,000	\$	817,500	\$	870,000	\$ 990,000		\$ 1,025,000	
Fund Balance Retained	\$	955,702	\$	1,996,790	\$	1,231,790	\$	1,179,290	\$	1,126,790	\$ 1,006,790		\$ 971,790	
		4.42%				5.70%		5.46%		5.21%	4.66%		4.50%	
			Recommended Minimum Fund Balance Retained by DRA is \$1,163,497 = 5% of general operating expenditure of \$23,269,948											
			Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change
Municipal		4.62	5.78	1.16	4.90	0.28	4.84	0.22	4.78	0.16	4.64	0.02	4.60	-0.02
County		0.92	0.90	-0.02	0.90	-0.02	0.90	-0.02	0.90	-0.02	0.90	-0.02	0.90	-0.02
Local Ed		13.80	15.75	1.95	15.75	1.95	15.75	1.95	15.75	1.95	15.75	1.95	15.75	1.95
State Ed		1.94	1.42	-0.52	1.42	-0.52	1.42	-0.52	1.42	-0.52	1.42	-0.52	1.42	-0.52
Total Tax Rate		21.28	23.85	2.57	22.97	1.69	22.91	1.63	22.85	1.57	22.71	1.43	22.67	1.39
Assessed Property Values														
2021 Assessed Value	\$	859,637,238			\$ amount to be raised		2021		2022		Increase		%	
2022 Assessed Value	\$	868,086,353			Municipal		\$	3,975,014	\$	5,017,432	24%	\$	1,042,418	26.2%
Change in Assessed Value	\$	8,449,115			County		\$	787,875	\$	782,306	4%	\$	(5,569)	-0.7%
		1.0%			Local Education		\$	11,862,286	\$	13,673,844	66%	\$	1,811,558	15.3%
					State Education		\$	1,585,463	\$	1,167,949	6%	\$	(417,514)	-26.3%
							\$	18,210,638	\$	20,641,531		\$	2,430,893	13.3%

84.775

5017432
870000

2020			2021											
From Fund Balance	\$	840,000	\$	-	\$	765,000	\$	817,500	\$	870,000	\$	990,000	\$	1,025,000
Fund Balance Retained	\$	975,514	\$	1,773,202	\$	1,008,202	\$	955,702	\$	903,202	\$	783,202	\$	748,202
		4.62%				4.77%		4.52%		4.28%		3.71%		3.54%
Recommended Minimum Fund Balance Retained by DRA is \$1,080,815 = 5% of general operating expenditure of \$21,616,304														
			Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change	Rate	Change
Municipal	3.88		5.57	1.69	4.68	0.80	4.62	0.74	4.56	0.68	4.42	0.54	4.38	0.50
County	0.90		0.92	0.02	0.92	0.02	0.92	0.02	0.92	0.02	0.92	0.02	0.92	0.02
Local Ed	14.16		13.80	-0.36	13.80	-0.36	13.80	-0.36	13.80	-0.36	13.80	-0.36	13.80	-0.36
State Ed	1.94		1.94	0.00	1.94	0.00	1.94	0.00	1.94	0.00	1.94	0.00	1.94	0.00
Total Tax Rate	20.88		22.23	1.35	21.34	0.46	21.28	0.40	21.22	0.34	21.08	0.20	21.04	0.16
Assessed Property Values														
2020 Assessed Value	\$849,502,794			\$ amount to be raised		2020		2021		Increase		%		
2021 Assessed Value	\$859,637,238			Municipal		\$	4,130,682	\$	3,975,014	\$	(155,668)	-3.8%		
Change in Assessed Value	\$10,134,444			County		\$	765,926	\$	787,875	\$	21,949	2.9%		
1.2%				Local Education		\$	12,030,621	\$	11,862,286	\$	(168,335)	-1.4%		
				State Education		\$	1,570,449	\$	1,585,463	\$	15,014	1.0%		
						\$	18,497,678	\$	18,210,638	\$	(287,040)	-1.6%		