

## Select Board Meeting

November 28, 2022

In attendance: David Dufresne, Chair; Rich Eichacker, Vice-chair; Derick Veliz, Clerk; James Ferrera, Town Administrator; Karen Dusty, Administrative Assistant

**Call Meeting to order:** 7:15PM

### Pledge of Allegiance

1. **The Warren Selectboard will conduct the tax classification hearing on Monday, November 28, 2022, at 7:15 PM in the Shepard Municipal Building, 48 High Street, Warren. At the hearing the Selectboard will consider tax policy options including (1) whether to have a single or split tax rate and (2) whether to allow an open space discount, a residential exemption, and a small commercial exemption.** Kathy Czub was the only one attending from the Board of Assessors.

**Option 1A Single rate VS. Option 1B Split Rate:** Mr. Ferrera went over the paperwork for the board. The selectboard looked at the past years and discussed the difference between a single rate and a split rate. It was decided that a single rate would be better for the town. It will help the businesses in town stay and not take have a larger tax rate. The single tax rate would be \$15.80. This is a \$.24 increase from last year. Ms. Soltys said, "When our valuation of our home goes up then usually the tax rate goes down." Mr. Ferrera responded by saying it is unfortunate that both the valuation of the homes went up and the tax rate went up just a small amount. Mr. Dufresne stated that the town does not determine the value of the homes. Mr. Ferrera said that at the Town Meeting he made the statement that with all the increases the residents need to expect their taxes to go up \$500-\$800. After further discussion Mr. Eichacker made a motion to adopt the single rate Option 1A of \$15.80 for the tax rate for the year 2024. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Veliz AIF Pass unanimously

**Option 2 Open Space Discount:** There is no land classified as open space in the Town of Warren. No Vote required.

**Option 3 Residential Exemption:** Mr. Eichacker made a motion not to adopt the option 3 Residential Exemption. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Veliz AIF Passed unanimously

**Option 4 Small Commercial Exemption:** Mr. Dufresne stated that typically we do not adopt this one because it is adding more of the burden onto the larger commercial companies, and we need to keep as many commercial companies as possible. Mr. Eichacker would like to see the data of how many companies in town that we have that would fit into this category. It was decided that it would not be worth adopting this option. Mr. Eichacker made a motion to not adopt Option 4, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Veliz, AIF Passed unanimously

**Adjourn:** Mr. Eichacker made a motion to close the tax hearing. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Veliz AIF Closed the tax hearing at 7:48 pm. Mr. Eichacker made a motion to adjourn the tax hearing meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Veliz AIF Adjourned the tax hearing 7:49 pm

Respectfully submitted by  
Karen Dusty, Administrative Assistant

  
Derick Veliz, Clerk