

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.
SALISBURY TOWN HALL – COLCHESTER AUDITORIUM
5 BEACH ROAD, SALISBURY, MA 01952**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donna Abdulla, Chairperson; Wilma McDonald, Chuck Takesian, Freeman Condon, Ronalee Ray-Parrott

ALSO PRESENT: Neil Harrington, Town Manager; Cheryl Gorniewicz, Director of Assessing; Edward Gagnon, Chairman Board of Assessors; and Sherry Volpone, Deputy Assessor

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Abdulla called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

II. Tax Classification Public Hearing

Chairman Abdulla stated that this is a Public Hearing for Tax Classification; and that pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this public hearing of the Town of Salisbury's Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but the public can listen to and view this meeting while in progress by tuning in to Salisbury Community Television (SCTV) Channel 12 or via Facebook Live through SCTVMC. Members of the public attending this meeting virtually will be allowed to make comments if they wish to do so, during the portion of the hearing designated for public comment, by joining the Zoom meeting at www.zoom.us. The **meeting ID is 983-9625-8796** and the meeting password is **356579** which will also be displayed on SCTV's Facebook page and local channel 12

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; by roll call vote, unanimously voted to open the Public Hearing at 5:02 PM.

Ms. Gorniewicz, Director of Assessing, provided a Tax Rate Classification Hearing summary for FY2021 to the Selectmen. Ms. Gorniewicz gave a PowerPoint presentation on the four issues which the Board would be required to vote on as part of the requirements for setting the tax rate for this fiscal year; namely, whether to adopt an Open Space Discount, a Residential Exemption, and the Small Commercial Exemption, and setting the Tax Rate Factor. She said this is the standard process and nothing has changed from last year. A copy of this presentation is on file in the Selectmen's office.

Following Ms. Gorniewicz's presentation, Chairman Abdulla asked for comments from the public and there were none. The Zoom meeting was checked for members of the public wishing to comment, and there were none.

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman Takesian; by roll call vote, unanimously voted to close the Public Hearing at 5:35 PM.

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III. Vote re: Adoption of an Open Space Discount

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Condon; by roll call vote, unanimously voted NOT to adopt an Open Space Discount for FY2021.

IV. Vote re: Adoption of a Residential Exemption

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; by roll call vote, unanimously voted NOT to adopt a Residential Exemption for FY2021.

V. Vote re: Adoption of a Small Commercial Exemption

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; by roll call vote, unanimously voted NOT to adopt the Small Commercial Exemption for FY2021.

VI. Vote re: Adoption of a Tax Rate Factor


Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Condon; by roll call vote unanimously voted to set a single Tax Rate Factor of 1.00 for FY2021.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Takesian; by roll call vote, unanimously voted to adjourn at 5:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:
Sherry Volpone, Deputy Assessor

Approved: _____


Chuck Takesian, Clerk